

To: TennCare Contracted Primary Care Providers  
From: Stephen Smith, Director of TennCare  
Date: November 13, 2020  
**Subject: CMS Targeted Payments to PCPs**

Dear TennCare Primary Care Providers,

Thank you for your continued commitment to providing quality health care to our TennCare members during the COVID-19 pandemic. We recognize the challenges many primary care providers face due to the COVID-19 emergency, including the financial pressures for your practices because of reduced patient utilization. With Governor Lee's approval and direction, TennCare began working in June with CMS to secure targeted payments, and we are very pleased to report we have received approval from CMS for approximately \$12.4 million in state and federal funding to be distributed to TennCare primary care providers.

The approved \$12.4 million in state and federal funding represents a portion of the total PCP claims paid to TennCare's managed care organizations (MCOs) during a set period prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. Each TennCare MCO will review the PCP payments made through June 2020 to its PCPs for services performed during January 2020 and February 2020, and those PCPs will receive payment equal to 28.51% of the claims paid for services performed during January 2020 and February 2020.

Each MCO will be posting communication to its Provider Website concerning:

- How to know if I am eligible for COVID-19 Primary Care Provider (PCP) targeted payments?
- How to know if I am included in the MCO's PCP network?
- If I am eligible, do I have to do anything to obtain these funds?
- What mechanism will be used to issue the COVID-19 PCP targeted payments?
- What is the timeline for issuing the COVID-19 PCP targeted payments?

If you are a contracted primary care provider with one of TennCare's MCO's, determined eligible to receive these targeted payments, then you do not need to do anything additional at this time. Each MCO will provide payment directly to each of its network primary care providers as determined by the MCO. The leadership at Amerigroup, BlueCare, and UnitedHealthcare Community Plan are committed to partnering in this effort, and we will work as quickly as possible with our MCOs to provide these funds to eligible providers.

We are grateful for your continued partnership and thank you for the continuity of care you are offering to our members. For more information on TennCare' response during this COVID-19 pandemic, please visit: <https://www.tn.gov/tenncare/information-statistics/tenncare-information-about-coronavirus.html>



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## CMS COVID-19 Targeted Payments to PCPs

The following are BlueCare Tennessee answers for questions mentioned in the Division of TennCare memo issued Nov. 13, 2020.

### **How will I know if I'm eligible for COVID-19 Primary Care Provider (PCP) targeted payment?**

You're eligible for a payment if you had members assigned to you under your BlueCare and/or TennCareSelect PCP agreement and you were reimbursed for claims with dates of service in January and/or February 2020.

### **Do I need to do anything to obtain the payment?**

No, there's nothing you need to do. We'll mail payments to eligible providers automatically.

### **How will I receive this payment?**

We'll mail a check to the payee address we have on file. You'll receive one check based on provider ID with payments for each line of business (BlueCare/TennCareSelect) that applies to you.

### **When will I receive my payment?**

Our plan is to mail checks within the next few weeks.

### **How were payments calculated?**

Payments were calculated equal to 28.51% of the claims paid for evaluation and management services performed during January 2020 and February 2020. Calculations were made based on claims processed as of June 2020.

### **Will these payments show on a remit?**

No, these payments are done outside of the claims system so they will not appear on a remit, and we won't adjust claims as part of this process.

### **How will I identify these payments?**

We'll mail the checks with a cover letter so you can identify it as a targeted payment. If you have questions, please call Customer Service at:

**BlueCare:** 1-800-468-9736

**TennCareSelect:** 1-800-276-1978