

Working Together in Response to COVID-19
CARES Act Resource Guide

This resource guide outlines our understanding of the information in the CARES Act as of May 19, 2020. Information and resources are rapidly evolving on this legislation and on Phase 4 of legislative relief efforts. Please visit [cms.gov](https://www.cms.gov) or [sba.gov](https://www.sba.gov) for the latest updates, program requirements and additional details.

Working together is the only way we beat a pandemic. At AmerisourceBergen, we recognize the financial risk and economic uncertainty our practices are experiencing all across the U.S. We are united in our responsibility to create healthier futures for the practices we serve - working together to beat the COVID-19 pandemic and minimize the operational and economic effects on practices. Below is an overview of how we are fighting alongside you.



Understanding the CARES Act

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act allocated \$350 billion to help small businesses sustain and keep workers employed amid the pandemic and economic downturn.



Expanded telehealth services in Medicare



The CARES Act (Sec. 3703) eliminates the requirement in Phase 2/Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2020 that limits the Medicare telehealth expansion authority during the COVID-19 emergency period to situations where the physician or other professional has treated the patient in the past three years.

Temporary suspension of Medicare sequester cuts



The CARES Act (Sec. 3709) temporarily lifts the Medicare sequester from May 1 through December 31, 2020. AmerisourceBergen Government Affairs along with our Specialty Physician Services leadership will continue to advocate for permanent repeal of Medicare sequestration cuts.

Paycheck Protection Program for Small Businesses



The CARES Act (Sec. 1103) provides significant relief for small businesses of 500 or fewer employees of up to \$10 million.

It specifies allowable uses of the loan to include payroll support, such as employee salaries, paid sick or medical leave, insurance premiums, and mortgage, rent, and utility payments. The loan would have a maximum interest rate of one percent. To encourage keeping employees or rehiring those laid off it provides a process by which borrowers are eligible for loan forgiveness on payroll costs, interest payment on any mortgage incurred. The covered period during which expenses can be forgiven extends from February 15, 2020 to June 30, 2020.

<https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/coronavirus-relief-options/paycheck-protection-program>

Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs)



The CARES Act (Sec. 1110) injects \$10 billion dollars into the already established EIDL option. Loans are limited to agricultural businesses only at this time.

Tax relief and tax credits



The CARES Act (Sec. 2301) establishes a fully refundable tax credit, tied to the payment of employee wages, against the employer's share of Social Security taxes. The CARES Act (Sec. 2302) allows employers (and self-employed individuals) to defer payment of the 6.2 percent employer-side Social Security payroll tax, effective for wages paid between the date of enactment and December 31, 2020.

Expansion of the Medicare Accelerated & Advance Payments Program



This program was canceled on April 24.