



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona

DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Sent on Behalf of DES/DDD

TEMPORARY INCENTIVE RATES AND PAYMENTS

Target Audience - Qualified Vendors

Transmittal Date - 08/28/2020

As communicated in the [July 24, 2020, vendor announcement](#), the Division extended the timeframe for the use of temporary incentive rate adjustments until August 31, 2020. Vendors will no longer be able to bill using those temporary incentive rate adjustments effective September 1, 2020.

In lieu of rate adjustments, vendors will be eligible for potential lump-sum incentive payments, starting with the sixth round of surveys. These surveys will be released the week of September 14, 2020, via vendor announcement. Qualified Vendors must respond to these surveys in order to be eligible for the potential lump sum incentive payment. The Division will use the data gleaned from surveys along with an evaluation of the areas of the network where utilization has been impacted to determine any potential lump sum payments that may be issued to address COVID-19 related expenses. The Division will maintain the issuance of increased rates to vendors providing services to members who have recently tested positive for COVID-19.

As the COVID-19 pandemic has evolved since March 2020, there have been varying degrees of utilization across the services provided within the DDD network. The Division continues to actively monitor service delivery and availability to ensure essential services continue to be accessible to members. Through the use of frequent vendor surveys and increased communication within the community, the Division has developed an in-depth understanding of the impact COVID-19 has had on vendors. The results of these surveys have been a critical element in determining how best to implement the various initiatives (incentive payments, rate increases, and targeted COVID-19 rates) to ensure effective use of available resources.

In the past month, DDD has sent out frequent and targeted communications encouraging qualified vendors to apply for the [CARES Act Provider Relief Fund \(PRF\)](#), which outlines the distribution of \$175 billion in funds across the nation to hospitals and healthcare providers on the front lines of the COVID-19 response. Applications are accepted through August 28, 2020, and if approved, providers would be eligible to receive a general distribution payment equal to 2% of their total patient care revenue in 2019 or 2020.

In September 2020, the additional DDD funding will consist of lump sum incentive payments and COVID-19 positive rates only.

Please contact DDDBusinessOperationsComments@azdes.gov with any questions or comments.