

# COVID-19 Testing, Treatment and Vaccination

## Coverage Options for the Uninsured

### HRSA COVID-19 Uninsured Program

Health care providers that have tested or treated uninsured individuals for COVID-19 may be eligible for claims reimbursement through a program established by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

The Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA), an agency of HHS, administers the Uninsured Program and accepts claims from providers that tested and treated uninsured individuals for COVID-19 on or after February 4, 2020.

### Provider Reimbursement

Eligible providers may seek reimbursement, at Medicare rates, for COVID-19 testing, testing-related visits, treatment and vaccine administration for uninsured individuals with a COVID-19 diagnosis, per HRSA guidance. An uninsured individual is one who did not have any health care coverage at the time services were rendered. Steps for enrollment and reimbursement include:

- Enrolling as a provider participant.
- Checking patient eligibility. This includes verifying and attesting that a patient does not have Washington Apple Health (Medicaid), Medicare, Qualified Health Plan (QHP), employer-sponsored plan, or other federal health care coverage, such as Tricare.
  - Confirmation of immigration status is not required for claims reimbursement.
  - A Social Security Number may be requested but is not required to submit a claim.
- Submitting patient information and claims electronically via the HRSA web portal.
- Agreeing to the program terms and conditions, including not balance billing patients and refunding any payments patients may have made related to the testing and treatment of COVID-19.

### Other Options for the Uninsured

Uninsured individuals may apply for health care coverage through [Washington Healthplanfinder](#) or [Washington Connection](#). If they are not eligible for Apple Health, other free or low-cost options may be available, including Qualified Health Plans (QHP).

### HRSA Uninsured program versus Alien Emergency Medical (AEM)

Individuals applying for AEM must meet Apple Health program requirements such as residency and income limits. While AEM may cover COVID-19 testing and treatment, it is limited to medically necessary emergencies, such as acute hospitalizations. The Uninsured Program reimburses providers at Medicare rates and covers additional services including but not limited to, skilled nursing facilities, and durable medical equipment.

### Resources

- [Claims program overview](#)
- [Frequently asked questions](#)
- [HRSA COVID-19 uninsured portal user guide](#)
- [Health Care Authority COVID-19 information](#)
- [Patient Fact Sheet](#)