

UPDATE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)



Stay informed. Take precautions. Stay safe.

Dear Members,

We are sharing Argentum's recent updates below, as they include more details on provider relief funding, along with news on advocacy to prioritize assisted living for vaccines and testing.



To: Argentum Owner/Operator Member CEOs, Argentum Industry Partner Member CEOs, Argentum Board of Directors, Argentum State Partners

From: James Balda, Argentum President & CEO

Re: HHS Announces Private Pay Relief Funding—Additional Details

As we shared with you yesterday evening, HHS formally [announced](#) a private pay distribution from the CARES Act provider relief funds for licensed assisted living providers. As anticipated based on recent discussions, the distribution model mirrors that of the Medicaid distribution previously announced and will total 2% of annual gross revenue for private pay providers that submit an application and are validated by HHS.

Private pay providers can submit an application by visiting hhs.gov/providerrelief and the deadline for applications is September 13, which is firm at the moment.

Please note: If you submitted your data into the Trade Association Portal a few weeks ago, you still need to complete the HHS application process. However, HHS has already validated your TIN number(s), so your application will be expedited.

To assist with the process, we've compiled [FAQs](#) and encourage you to review them when submitting your application. Additionally, we are offering an [upcoming webinar](#) in partnership with ASHA on **Tuesday, September 8 from 12-1pm ET** on the private pay application process and encourage you to attend and/or share the registration link with those in your company who will be responsible for submitting an application. Should you have any questions not

addressed here or in the FAQs, please email us at HHSproviderfund@argentum.org and we will address them as soon as possible.

It is important to note that we are continuing discussions with HHS on the inclusion of assisted living providers in a future general distribution that would be based upon lost revenue and increased expenses. While we are still fighting for this additional funding, advocating for vaccine priority for residents and staff, and making the case for reasonable liability protections, this announcement from HHS offers a long-awaited resolution and provides significant support for the industry.

While it has been a long and winding road to reach this point, your partnership, commitment, and participation has been essential and invaluable. Special thanks to those members and association partners who contributed to the process from taking phone calls with legislators and members of the Administration to supporting grassroots advocacy efforts at every level to providing financial and strategic support through lobbyists and consultants, all while managing the operations of your own companies during COVID-19. We thank you and we appreciate your partnership.

James R. Balda
President & CEO

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To: Argentum Owner/Operator Member CEOs, Argentum Industry Partner
Member CEOs, Argentum Board of Directors, Argentum State Partners

From: James Balda, Argentum President & CEO

Re: The Latest on Vaccines & Testing for Senior Living

Yesterday, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine released a [115-page discussion draft](#) regarding allocations of COVID-19 vaccines. We are pleased to note that both senior living residents and employees are covered in the draft under Phase 1a and 1b of the vaccine allocation phased approach ([see p. 58-59](#)). While this is very welcomed news, we know there's still work to be done to ensure residents and employees are also included in the final plan implemented by HHS and the CDC. We are in conversations with both groups to educate them on what a distribution needs to look like among senior living communities.

Additionally, Admiral Brett Giroir, M.D., the assistant secretary for health at HHS, has shared that the federal government intends to prioritize assisted living in the distribution of point-of-care COVID-19 antigen tests from Abbott

Laboratories, cleared for emergency use by the FDA last week. For months, we have been advocating for priority access to testing for the industry; we are pleased to see this critical need recognized by HHS and that assisted living has been prioritized for these rapid tests. We are working to gather more information on the process and methodology behind the plan.

We'll keep you posted as we learn more.

James R. Balda
President & CEO

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**The information provided in this COVID 19 update is solely for general informational purposes to assist in understanding the evolving guidance regarding the current COVID 19 public health threat. It is not intended to be a primary public health or medical resource, but is provided as a clearinghouse for or compilation of various guidance issued by official and related sources.*

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