## Overview

On April 2, 2020, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) established the [COVID-19 Telehealth Program](https://www.fcc.gov/covid-19-telehealth-program-frequently-asked-questions-faqs), which makes $200 million in CARES Act funding available to eligible nonprofit and public health care providers to provide telehealth services to patients in their homes or mobile locations. Funds are available to reimburse eligible expenses for devices, telecommunications and information services.

Eligibility: Nonprofit and public health care providers in both rural or non-rural areas, defined under the categories in section 254(h)(7)(B) of the 1996 Act:

(1) post-secondary educational institutions offering health care instruction, teaching hospitals, and medical schools;

(2) community health centers or health centers providing health care to migrants;

(3) local health departments or agencies;

(4) community mental health centers;

(5) not-for-profit hospitals;

(6) rural health clinics;

(7) skilled nursing facilities; or

(8) consortia of health care providers consisting of one or more entities falling into the first seven categories.

Eligible Expenses: Direct costs for telecommunications, information services, and connected devices necessary to deliver telehealth services. This includes smartphones and tablets for both patients and providers. For a list of examples of eligible expenses, [see FAQ #14](https://www.fcc.gov/covid-19-telehealth-program-frequently-asked-questions-faqs). Personnel, IT, administrative, and training costs are *NOT* eligible.

Timeline: Application opened 4/13/20, can apply for reimbursement for eligible services and devices purchased on or after March 13, 2020.

Application Process: Application instructions can be found [here](https://www.fcc.gov/covid-19-telehealth-program). Submission of application and supporting documentation is through an online system.

## What should supportive housing providers do?

* If you are an eligible healthcare provider – apply to the program to get reimbursed for what you need to deliver services via telehealth.
* If you are not an eligible healthcare provider – work with your tenant’s healthcare providers to get your tenants the devices they need to access services via telehealth. These devices will also help you better connect with your tenants to delivery care coordination, case management and tenancy supports.