MEMBER CONNECTIONS
Special COVID-19 Edition

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SBA COVID-19 Loans Available to Physician Practices

A special federal loan program through the U.S. Small Business Administration could provide help to physician practices that have been financially battered by the COVID-19 pandemic. The program is part of the $2-trillion Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act signed into law last week.

The program will provide loans of up to $10 million each to help cover payroll and overhead costs, and includes expanded loan-forgiveness criteria. Physician practices with up to 500 employees may qualify. Learn more and apply through this link to the SBA.

In addition, the CARES Act creates a $100 billion fund of direct financial support to hospitals, physician practices, and other health care providers. This support is for the costs of treating COVID-19 patients as well as to ease the financial impact on those who lose revenue due to reductions in other services as a result of the pandemic. The exact eligibility criteria and application process are not yet defined, pending implementation. The American Medical Association and other health care organizations sought this program.

Learn more about the loan program and other provisions of the CARES Act in this summary from the AMA.

Kansas Stay-At-Home Order Issued; Spanish Flyers Available

On Saturday, Kansas Gov. Laura Kelly issued a statewide stay-at-home order to prevent the spread of COVID-19. KCMS has a supply of Spanish-language flyers on the order. If you would like some for your office, please contact Emily Whalen at ewhalen@kcmedicine.org.

Federal Restrictions on Telemedicine Eased During COVID-19

In response to COVID-19, the federal government has eased many restrictions on telemedicine, including expanding Medicare coverage of telemedicine, changing HIPAA restrictions, and more. Here is some useful guidance from the law firm Lashly & Baer on the temporary rule changes regarding telemedicine during COVID-19.

Community Donations Available to Hospitals, Practices

Goodwill, with 14 Kansas City-area locations, has offered to donate sanitized shirts to health care providers to use as gowns or smocks. They also have several hundred scrubs available. In addition, several local efforts are underway to produce homemade protective masks. If you or your organization could use any of these donations, please contact Emily
Whalen at KCMS, ewhalen@kcmedicine.org.

Follow KCMS Social Media for the Latest COVID-19 News

The Medical Society is regularly posting updates of COVID-19 news of interest to Kansas City-area physicians on Facebook and Twitter. Check our pages frequently. We update as relevant news becomes available.

www.kcmedicine.org

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