

Section 1011: Fact Sheet

Federal Reimbursement of Emergency Health Services Furnished to Undocumented Aliens

Additional Funding Available

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) wants to inform and remind hospitals, physicians, and ambulance services that funds are available for certain emergency health services provided to undocumented aliens. Section 1011 of the Medicare Modernization Act of 2003 (MMA) provides **\$250 million each year** for Fiscal Years (FYs) 2005 - 2008 for payments to eligible providers for emergency services furnished to undocumented and other specified aliens. The first Section 1011 payment to providers was issued in February 2006 and totaled nearly \$25.5 million. Additionally, as of May 1, 2006, more than 9,000 provider enrollment applications have been approved from across the United States.

Program Eligibility Requirements

Which Providers Are Eligible for This Program?

The providers eligible to receive the payment include hospitals, physicians, and ambulance service providers. Indian Health Service facilities and Medicare Critical Access Hospitals are also considered eligible providers. For purposes of the Section 1011 Program, providers do **not** have to be enrolled in the Medicare Program.

Which Services Are Reimbursed Under the Section 1011 Program?

Services rendered for the following types of patients are eligible for reimbursement:

- Undocumented aliens;
- Aliens who have been paroled into a United States port of entry for the purpose of receiving eligible services; and
- Mexican citizens permitted to enter the United States on a laser visa, issued in accordance with the requirements of regulations prescribed under the Immigration and Nationality Act.

The covered services are the same as those required by the Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act (EMTALA), as well as related hospital inpatient and outpatient services. Related ambulance services are also covered. Payments under Section 1011 are only provided for services that were not otherwise reimbursed (through insurance or otherwise). For specific information on EMTALA services, please see the Additional Resources section of this Fact Sheet.

Program Enrollment Requirements

How Do Providers Enroll in the Program?

Providers may enroll in the Section 1011 Program by submitting an application to TrailBlazer Health Enterprises, LLC, the national contractor for the Section 1011 Program. All program enrollments are processed through TrailBlazer. For further information or to access the Section 1011 enrollment application, visit the TrailBlazer website at www.trailblazerhealth.com/Section1011/Enrollment.aspx or contact the TrailBlazer Section 1011 Customer Service Call Center at (866) 860-1011.

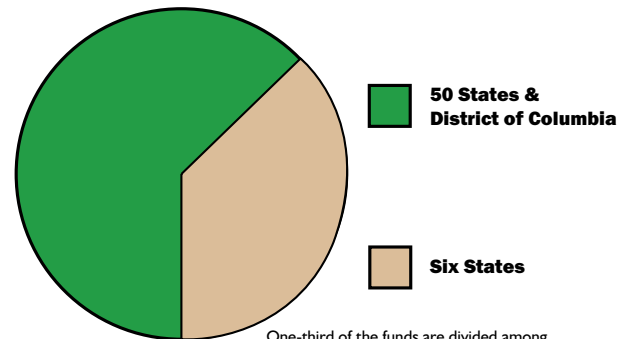
NOTE: Section 1011 is **not** administered by regular Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs), Fiscal Intermediaries (FIs), or Carriers. Therefore, providers should **not** submit Section 1011 enrollment applications or requests for payment to their regular MACs, FIs, or Carriers. Contact TrailBlazer Health Enterprises, LLC as indicated above for further instruction.

Funding Allocations to Providers for Emergency Health Services Furnished to Undocumented Aliens

How Will the Section 1011 Funds Be Allocated?

Section 1011 funds are allocated by state, according to the pie chart below.

Two-thirds of the funds are divided among all 50 states and the District of Columbia, based on their relative percentage of undocumented aliens.



One-third of the funds are divided among the six states with the largest number of undocumented aliens for each FY.

State Allocations for Section 1011

Additional information regarding FY 2005 and FY 2006 State Allocations may be located on the web at www.cms.hhs.gov/UndocAliens/04_state_alloc.asp on the CMS website.

Additional Resources

The following resources provide more information on the Section 1011 Program:

Services Furnished to Undocumented Aliens CMS Web Page

For additional information regarding Section 1011 of the MMA and CMS' policy for the implementation and administration of this program, visit the Services Furnished to Undocumented Aliens web page at www.cms.hhs.gov/UndocAliens on the CMS website.

Emergency Medical Treatment & Labor Act (EMTALA)

For additional information regarding the Emergency Medical Treatment & Labor Act (EMTALA) visit www.cms.hhs.gov/EMTALA on the CMS website.

Medicare Learning Network (MLN)

The Medicare Learning Network (MLN) is the brand name for official CMS educational products and information for Medicare fee-for-service providers. For additional information visit the Medicare Learning Network's web page at www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNGenInfo on the CMS website.

How to Enroll/Designated Contractor Information

To learn more about the Section 1011 Program, or to enroll as a provider, visit the Trailblazer website at www.trailblazerhealth.com/section1011 on the web. TrailBlazer can also be contacted directly by telephone at (866) 860-1011.

This Fact Sheet was current at the time it was published or uploaded onto the web. Medicare policy changes frequently so links to the source documents have been provided within the document for your reference.

This Fact Sheet was prepared as a tool to assist providers and is not intended to grant rights or impose obligations. Although every reasonable effort has been made to assure the accuracy of the information within these pages, the ultimate responsibility for the correct submission of claims and response to any remittance advice lies with the provider of services. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) employees, agents, and staff make no representation, warranty, or guarantee that this compilation of Medicare information is error-free and will bear no responsibility or liability for the results or consequences of the use of this guide. This publication is a general summary that explains certain aspects of the Medicare Program, but is not a legal document. The official Medicare Program provisions are contained in the relevant laws, regulations, and rulings.