

Transition from COVID-19 Alternative Payment Arrangement (APA) to Provider Bridge Payments

Per [Bulletin 21-11](#) (released September 1, 2021), the COVID-19 Alternative Payment Arrangement (APA), which has been available to providers since April 2020, will be ending on December 31, 2021. To support our provider community during this transition back to a Fee-For-Service (FFS)/claims-based funding mechanism, providers who are currently on the COVID-19 APA are offered a Bridge Payment, the details of which are outlined below.

The Bridge Payments will be available through the entirety of the 2022 calendar year and calculated based on the total dollar amount of claims submitted¹ monthly compared to the amount of the COVID-19 APA monthly payments that were received (as of the payment for December 2021).² Each month, providers will bill their claims and be paid fee-for-service. If a provider does not achieve 100% of their APA amount in claims submissions in a given month of service, they will be eligible to receive a Bridge Payment equal to their prior COVID-19 APA amount (see chart below). Calculations will reset each month. Providers will, however, be required to achieve a minimum of 25% of their claims when compared to their COVID-19 APA to be eligible for their monthly Bridge Payment. The payment providers are eligible for is as follows:

<i>Month of Service</i>	<i>Month of Bridge Payment</i>	<i>Max Percent of APA</i>	<i>Payment Date</i>
January	March	100%	3/16/2022
February	April	100%	4/13/2022
March	May	100%	5/11/2022
April	June	95%	6/15/2022
May	July	90%	7/13/2022
June	August	85%	8/10/2022
July	September	80%	9/14/2022
August	October	75%	10/12/2022
September	November	70%	11/9/2022
October	December	65%	12/14/2022




¹ For the purposes of this Bridge Payment, claims will be paid at the fee-for-service rate.

² This does not include those claims that require Third Party Liability (TPL) coordination.

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<i>Month of Service</i>	<i>Month of Bridge Payment</i>	<i>Max Percent of APA</i>	<i>Payment Date</i>
November	January	65%	1/11/2023
December	February	65%	2/15/2023

Examples of payment:

-  **Provider A** submits claims and is paid for services in January 2022 that equal \$9,000. Their COVID-19 APA amount paid in December 2021 (for service in November 2021) was \$10,000. This provider will then receive payment from CBH for an additional \$1,000 in March 2022. The provider will continue to bill claims. When they exceed \$10,000, they will be paid fee-for-service over the \$10,000.
-  **Provider B** submits claims and is paid for services for month of service, May 2022, that equal \$70,000. Their COVID-19 APA amount paid in December 2021 (for service in November 2021) was \$100,000. This provider will then receive payment from CBH for \$20,000 or 90% of the APA amount in July 2022. They will continue to bill claims. If they exceed \$90,000, they will be reimbursed on a fee-for-service basis.
-  **Provider C** submits claims for services June 2022 that equal \$25,000, and still has claims remaining to submit for dates of service in June 2022. Their COVID-19 APA amount paid in December 2021 (for service in November 2021) was \$25,000. Once \$25,000 was achieved for Provider C in June 2022, they will be able to continue to submit claims and be paid on the amount identified on their contract rate. They will not receive a Bridge Payment from CBH for this month because the bridge payment amount was 85% of the APA, but will collect reimbursement via their FFS rates. This provider is eligible for a Bridge Payment the following month if they do not bill in excess of 80% of the APA.

On January 12, 2022, at 12 p.m., CBH will hold a webinar to ensure understanding of the Bridge Payment model and answer any provider questions. Registration information for the webinar has been shared via CBH Provider Relations Representatives.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership and commitment during this challenging time. If you have any questions, please contact your Provider Relations Representative.