



Budget-Pended Medicaid Payments Frequently Asked Questions

QUESTION	RESPONSE
Why are you suspending Medicaid payments?	Alaska Medicaid is not suspending payments. At the end of the fiscal (budget) year, many states run low on funding and must enter into a budget relief period. Alaska Medicaid is currently experiencing a budget relief cycle, which we have experienced in prior years. This means we are closely analyzing Medicaid funding and reallocating as needed.
Did this happen because of Medicaid expansion?	No, this is not related to Medicaid expansion.
I thought the current year was fully funded. Did this happen because the Alaska Legislature is still in session?	No, this is not related to the regular legislative session, special sessions, or the state fiscal year 2017 budget.
Does this apply to all provider types? If not, which providers will be paid and which ones will have their claims pended? Care coordination providers? Assisted living homes? IHS providers?	All providers will be paid. If any payments are held due to budget relief, they will be paid immediately beginning in July when the new fiscal year begins.
How long will I have to go without receiving payment for my claims?	All claims will be paid within federally required timeframes and any claims affected by budget relief will be paid during the first cycle when the new fiscal year starts July 1.
When payments resume, will they be paid in full, or at a reduced amount?	All claims will be paid under standard processing rules.
Should we continue to submit claims, or should we wait until after the first of the new fiscal year?	Please continue to submit claims. We are paying claims, and cannot do so unless claims are submitted.
Medicaid is the only revenue for my practice/business, and I won't be able to meet payroll or other financial obligations if my payments are pended for 2 weeks. What do I do?	Contact the Division of Health Care Services at 907.334.2400 if this situation applies to your practice or business. Any assistance given will be subject to 100% recoupment effective the first payment cycle of July and claims will be processed and paid as usual.
Will this happen next fiscal year?	We don't expect that we will have a budget shortfall situation in any year, but if we do, all claims will be paid within required timeframes.
The letter stated that Alaska Medicaid will remain in full compliance with federal payment timeliness standards. Where are these standards located?	Federal timeliness standards are defined in the Code of Federal Regulations (42 CFR 447.45). To access the CFR, go to http://www.ecfr.gov