New FCC Telehealth Programs

COVID-19 Telehealth Program

- Program Description
 - \$200 million fund, no more than \$1 million to single applicant, to assist providers in response to the public health emergency to purchase and provide telecommunications services, information services, and devices necessary to provide critical connected care services- only connected medical devices are eligible for coverage.
 - o Program is not limited to treatment of coronavirus patients. Funds may be used to "prevent, prepare for, and respond to" COVID-19.
 - o Preferential targeted funding to areas experiencing significant impacts and areas with low-income population, health care provider shortages, rural hospital closures and limited broadband/internet access.
- Eligible Providers
 - (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
- Preparing to Apply: Prior to the application opening, applicants can take the following steps to prepare:
 - Obtain an FCC Registration Number (FRN) here: https://apps.fcc.gov/cores/userLogin.do
 - o Obtain an eligibility determination from the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) here: https://www.usac.org/rural-health-care/resources/forms/
 - o Register with System for Award Management here: https://www.sam.gov/SAM/
- Applications: Opened April 13, 2020 on a rolling basis
 - o Application are available here: https://www.fcc.gov/covid-19-telehealth-program
 - Completed applications and supporting documentation can be submitted by emailing: TelehealthApplicationSupport@fcc.gov
 - o Further information including instructions and required documents is available here: https://www.fcc.gov/covid-19-telehealth-program

Connected Care PILOT Program

- Program Description
 - Three-year \$100 million pilot program to support access to connected care services for low-income Americans and Veterans.
 - o Focused on treating public health epidemics, opioid dependency, mental health conditions, high-risk pregnancy and chronic or recurring conditions.
 - o Rural and non-rural applicants are eligible to receive funding.
 - o Funding will cover 85% of the cost of eligible services and equipment.
 - o Eligible service and equipment include patient internet access, provider broadband data connectivity, certain network equipment, and other connectivity information services.
- Eligible Providers
 - o Same as COVID-19 Telehealth Program (see above). Preference for providers with telehealth experience.
- Applications: Date to begin applying is TBD
 - o Submit FCC eligibility form 460 to the Universal Services Administrative Company.
 - Submit electronically to the FCC via ECFS under <u>WC Docket No. 18-213</u>. Send a courtesy copy via email to <u>ConnCarePltProg@fcc.gov</u>. Reference the docket and address to the Commission's Secretary.
 - o Application details on page 19899 of Federal Register Notice.
 - o Applications will be due the later of 45 days from the effective date of the Pilot Program rules or July 31, 2020.