



CMS Snapshot

August 10-17, 2023

Delivered to you by the Partner Relations Group in the Office of Communications

All releases below are from 2pm Thursday, August 10 through 2pm Thursday, August 17, 2023

News Releases

*August 10- [The Biden-Harris Administration Announces \\$100 Million to Grow the Nursing Workforce](#). Today, the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, announced awards of more than \$100 million to train more nurses and grow the nursing workforce. These investments will address the increasing demand for registered nurses, nurse practitioners, certified nurse midwives, and nurse faculty.

*August 11- [HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra Declares Public Health Emergency for Hawaii in Response to Wildfires](#). Today, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Xavier Becerra declared a [Public Health Emergency \(PHE\)](#) for the state of Hawaii to address the health impacts of the wildfires. The declaration follows [President Biden's major disaster declaration](#) and gives the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' (CMS) health care providers and suppliers greater flexibility in meeting emergency health needs of Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries.

*August 11- [The Biden-Harris Administration Awards More Than \\$88 Million in Grants that Safeguard Youth Mental Health and Expand Access to Treatment for Substance Use Disorders](#). The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), has recently awarded more than \$88 million in its continuing effort to safeguard the nation's behavioral health. The grant programs serve a wide array of needs – ranging from efforts to develop and support school-based mental health programs and services, to multiple grant programs that expand access to substance use disorder (SUD) treatments.

*August 12- [CMS Announces Resources and Flexibilities to Assist with Public Health Emergency in Hawaii Due to Recent Wildfires](#). The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced today additional resources and flexibilities available in response to the recent wildfires in the State of Hawaii. CMS is working closely with Hawaii to put these flexibilities in

place to ensure those affected by these wildfires have access to the care they need – when they need it most.

*August 14- [HHS Announces 2023 LEAP in Health IT Awardees Focused on Advanced FHIR® Capabilities, Data Quality Improvements for USCDI Data Elements](#). The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) today announced two awards totaling \$2 million under the [Leading Edge Acceleration Projects in Health Information Technology](#) (LEAP in Health IT) funding opportunity. LEAP in Health IT awardees seek to create methods and tools to improve care delivery, advance research capabilities, and address emerging challenges related to interoperable health IT.

*August 16- [HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra Issues Statement on Fifth Circuit Mifepristone Ruling](#). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Xavier Becerra released the following statement on the Fifth Circuit's ruling on mifepristone: "Today's decision undermines our nation's entire system of drug approval by overriding the scientific, evidence-based decision-making of the FDA. This decision threatens Americans' right to access the medications they need and, if it stands, would have a devastating impact on women's health by restricting their access to reproductive health care.

*August 16- [On the First Anniversary of the Inflation Reduction Act, Millions of Medicare Enrollees See Savings on Health Care Costs](#). One year ago today, on August 16, 2022, President Biden signed into law landmark legislation to lower health care costs for millions of Americans, known as the Inflation Reduction Act. This historic law extends Marketplace affordability, caps the cost of insulin at \$35 per month for people with Medicare, and improves access to affordable prescription drugs for millions of Americans.

*August 17- [Biden-Harris Administration Launches SchoolSafety.gov Awareness Campaign to Support Schools with Safety Resources](#). Today, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), in partnership with the U.S. Departments of Education (ED), Health and Human Services (HHS), and Justice (DOJ), launched a public awareness campaign to highlight federal school safety resources and evidence-based practices available through [SchoolSafety.gov](#). The initiative is one of several new actions the Biden-Harris Administration is taking to support safer schools and communities.

Fact Sheets

*August 16- [Anniversary of the Inflation Reduction Act: Update on CMS Implementation](#). The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 was signed into law on August 16, 2022. The new law provides meaningful financial relief for millions of people with Medicare by improving access to affordable treatments and strengthening the Medicare Program both now and in the long run. The law makes improvements to Medicare by expanding benefits, lowering drug costs, keeping prescription drug premiums stable, and improving the strength of the Medicare program.

Blogs

*August 4- [Our back-to-school checklist has to include vaccine conversations](#). By: [Rachel Levine M.D.](#), *Assistant Secretary for Health (ASH)*. I've always loved the back-to-school season. It's full of excitement, whether about a new lunchbox, a fresh supply of crayons, or the mandatory "first day of school" picture. It's also full of promise – a new grade, new things to learn, and seeing school friends again. But that excitement and promise relies on a healthy child, a healthy classroom, and a healthy community. That's why, as a doctor, I remind parents that being up to date on vaccines needs to be part of their to-do list.

*August 10- [Report life changes to the Marketplace](#). When life changes, your health coverage and saving options may change too. If you've had a change, like you got married or moved to a new address, let the Marketplace know.