



PPS State of Affairs

With information changing by the day, it is difficult to keep abreast of the many topics impacting the private practitioner within the COVID-19 arena. Albeit not all-inclusive, this document is meant to serve as a living guide displaying the most current information on evolving topics, and reflects the input of several key experts, namely PPS lobbyist Alpha Lillstrom Cheng, Rob Worth of the PPS Board of Directors, Mark Reitz of the PPS Government Affairs Committee, and COVID Advisory Committee member Kristen Wilson. While not meant to serve as legal or financial advice, the intent of this publication is to provide guidance for navigating the murky waters that lie ahead and quell anxieties about the volume of information that remains unknown. When updates are made to this document, PPS will highlight the newest information in red to allow for efficient use.

Date of release: April 12, 2021

The **Public Health Emergency (PHE) has been extended through April 21, 2021**. **HHS has indicated that it plans to renew this extension over and over again through the rest of 2021**.

This means that PTs and PTAs in private practice will continue to have access to the temporary PHE-related Medicare regulatory waivers and new rules that afford providers flexibility to respond to COVID-19 pandemic, including telehealth coverage.

The [COVID relief bill](#), (*Taxpayer Certainty and Disaster Tax Relief Act of 2020*), enacted December 27, 2020 made a number of changes to existing relief programs. **The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, enacted March 11, 2021 made some additional changes**. Those legislative changes are noted in the relevant sections. Regulatory updates and guidance is forthcoming, and will be included in the relevant sections once it is available.

President Biden has released a 200 page National Strategy for the COVID-19 Response and Pandemic Preparedness: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/National-Strategy-for-the-COVID-19-Response-and-Pandemic-Preparedness.pdf>

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