

## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION (FCC) – Funding Opportunity \*\*

The FCC has announced a recent funding opportunity related to its COVID-19 Telehealth and Connected Care Pilot Programs.

**About the COVID-19 Telehealth Program:** This \$200 million Program supports health care providers responding to the COVID-19 pandemic by providing eligible health care providers support to purchase telecommunications services, information services, and devices necessary to enable the provision of telemedicine services during this emergency period. It will provide selected applicants with full funding for these eligible telehealth services and devices. In order to receive funding, eligible health care providers must submit an application to the Commission for this program, and the Commission would award funds to selected applicants on a rolling basis until the funds are exhausted or until the current pandemic has ended.

**About the Connected Care Pilot Program:** This three-year Pilot Program will provide universal service support to help defray health care providers' qualifying costs of providing connected care services. It will target funding to eligible health care providers, with a primary focus on pilot projects that primarily benefit low-income or veteran patients. The Pilot Program will make available up to \$100 million, which is separate from the budgets of the existing Universal Service Fund (USF) programs and the COVID-19 Telehealth Program. The Pilot Program will provide funding for selected pilot projects to cover 85% of the eligible costs of broadband connectivity, network equipment, and information services necessary to provide connected care services to the intended patient population. In order to participate, eligible health care providers must submit an application to the Commission for the Pilot Program, and the Commission will announce the selected pilot projects.

Attached is an overview of both programs and supportive documents to help you gauge your eligibility. These resources were developed by the Connected Health Initiative, which the AMA is a member of. It should be noted that only select "health care providers" are eligible for funding. **In this context, the applicable statute defines a health care provider to mean:**

- post-secondary educational institutions offering health care instruction, teaching hospitals, and medical schools;
- community health centers or health centers providing health care to migrants;
- local health departments or agencies;
- community mental health centers;
- not-for-profit hospitals;
- rural health clinics;
- skilled nursing facilities (as defined in [section 395i-3\(a\) of title 42](#)); and
- consortia of [health care providers](#) consisting of one or more entities described in clauses (i) through (vii).