



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Human Services

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**Ref: Information Memo
Communication Technology Announcement**

Date: June 1, 2020

TO: Nursing Facility Providers

FROM: Safety, Oversight, and Quality

SUBJECT: CMP Funding Opportunity - Communication Technology

The State of Oregon recently increased the amount of Emergency Reserve funds required by CMS within Civil Money Penalty (CMP) Funds Program. This change allows Oregon to now participate in providing Nursing Facilities with up to \$3,000 in Communication Technology purchases. This equipment is intended to facilitate virtual visitation and telehealth visits for our nursing home residents.

While our office has already received several applications from Oregon Nursing Facilities, we want to ensure all NF providers are aware of this opportunity, the process involved and the anticipated timeline.

- The communication technology grants are intended to allow nursing home residents to engage in virtual social and telehealth visits.
- Facilities may request up to \$3,000 for communication technology. Any application that includes a request of greater than \$3,000 must be reviewed and approved by CMS before determination.
- The communication devices include, but are not limited to, iPads, tablets, headphones and protective coverings.
- The devices are to be shared among residents and must be cleaned and disinfected between resident uses with an EPA-approved disinfectant.

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To apply, please use the [COVID-19 Application Template](#) and include a cover letter that addresses all additional CMS requirements including:

- the facilities' average daily census,
 - the device's brand name and model,
 - the name of the disinfectant that will be used to sanitize the devices;
 - a statement that the devices and accessories will be used for both virtual social and telehealth visits.
- If your facility has already submitted an application, please provide a brief cover letter including these details; it will be added to your existing application on file.
 - Please note we are anticipating a quick turnaround time in order to be responsive to COVID-19 related communication needs. **Please submit all required materials by Monday June 15, 2020.**
 - **Submission packets or questions should be submitted to:** NF.licensing@dhsosha.state.or.us, Attention: Cathy Orias