The Biden-Harris Administration is providing free access to COVID-19 vaccines for every adult living in the United States. Accordingly, the Health Resources and Services Administration’s (HRSA) COVID-19 Coverage Assistance Fund (CAF) will cover the costs of administering COVID-19 vaccines to patients whose health insurance doesn’t cover vaccine administration fees, or does but typically has patient cost-sharing. While patients cannot be billed directly for COVID-19 vaccine fees, costs to health care providers on the front lines for administering COVID-19 vaccines to underinsured patients will can now be fully covered through CAF, subject to available funding. As vaccination efforts accelerate, patients will increasingly gain access to COVID-19 vaccines at locations near where they live with providers they trust.

Definition of Individual
Providers are eligible for claims reimbursement if they have administered Food and Drug Administration (FDA) authorized COVID-19 vaccines under an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) or FDA-licensed COVID-19 vaccines under a Biologics License Application (BLA) to individuals whose health plan does not cover vaccine administration fees, or does but typically has patient cost-sharing.

Electronic Claims Submission
For EDI claim submissions to CAF, claims need to be submitted with the individual identified as Subscriber to include primary payer information, including prior payments.

Individual as Subscriber—when the individual has received the COVID-19 vaccine, the claim is submitted with the individual represented as the Subscriber.

This guidance is specific to the X12 claim submission processes impacted by the Fund. This is not intended to encompass all the X12 TR3 transactional guide elements. This Fact Sheet also does not provide guidance on claim billing and coding procedures. All X12 standards and requirements will apply to the Fund’s claim submission process unless otherwise noted below.

Clearinghouse Payer Setup
For setup of the program new payer, please use “COVID-19 Coverage Assistance Fund” as the payer name and EDI Payer ID 99999-0AQS. NO PAPER CLAIMS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

For a complete Clearinghouse EDI setup guide and a complete listing of connectivity with clearinghouses/vendors visit: CAF Claim Submission Companion Guide.

Collection of Race and Ethnicity Data
As a part of the effort to understand the vaccination rates among various communities, HRSA is requesting that patient race and ethnicity data be included, when available, with claims submitted for payment to the CAF. Accordingly, HRSA has defined guidelines for the submission as follows:

Race/ethnicity data should be placed in a loop 2300 K3 segment with the following structure used for data element K301. An example of properly coded K3 segment with race/ethnicity data using code R9 (OTHER RACE):

K3*B1R9

For more details in the K301 character positon visit: CAF Claim Submission Companion Guide.