



ILLINOIS HOSPITAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

The Illinois Hospital Assessment Program was established in 2003 to help ensure low-income patients have access to health care services. The program is funded through a special tax on Illinois hospitals, which is then matched by the state's Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) and redistributed to hospitals. Currently, the program provides a combined \$3.8 billion in critical funding to Illinois hospitals that care for a disproportionate number of Medicaid, low-income, and uninsured patients.

The current program is set to end - or "sunset" - in state law on December 31, 2022. For the program to continue, it must be reauthorized by the Illinois General Assembly during the 2022 Spring Session.



UnityPoint Health supports the continuation of the Illinois Hospital Assessment Program. It is a vital funding source for ensuring access to health care for all patients and is critical for hospitals in Illinois, as the state continues to have some of the lowest Medicaid provider reimbursement rates in America.

POLICY RECOMMENDATION: Enact legislation that reauthorizes the Illinois Hospital Assessment Program, effective January 1, 2023. The legislation should ensure that the total amount of program funds available to Illinois hospitals is maximized through the federal upper payment limit (UPL) and redistributed in an equitable manner to ensure access for the most vulnerable Illinoisians.

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