

**PENNSYLVANIA TRAUMA SYSTEMS STABILIZATION ACT**  
**Annual Report**  
**Fiscal Year 2020-2021**

**PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION**

Act 15 of 2004, “The Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Stabilization Act” (Act 15), established an annual Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) payment to Pennsylvania hospitals accredited by the Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation (PTSF) as Level I, Level II, or Level III Trauma Centers (Trauma Payment). Act 15 also established qualification criteria for Level III Trauma Centers and provided a funding distribution methodology for the Trauma Payment.

Act 84 of 2010 (Act 84) reestablished the Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Stabilization Act under the Human Services Code (formerly the Public Welfare Code). Act 84 revised the definition of “Trauma Center” to include certain out-of-state hospitals with Trauma Centers that provide services to Pennsylvania Medical Assistance (MA) beneficiaries, and to provide up to four (4) years of funding to hospitals pursuing Level III accreditation. Prior to disbursement, Act 84 requires a commitment from qualified Trauma Centers to use the Trauma Payment funds on the development and provision of trauma services. Act 84 requires each Trauma Center receiving Trauma Payment funds to provide the Department of Human Services (DHS) with a report accounting for Trauma Payment funds expenditures and detailing how the Trauma Payment funds have improved access to trauma care for Pennsylvania citizens. Act 84 did not change the distribution methodology set forth in Act 15.

Act 54 of 2019 (Act 54) established new qualification criteria for Level IV Trauma Centers located in rural counties as defined by the Center for Rural Pennsylvania, and revised the maximum payment for Level II Trauma Centers as no greater than 50% of the average Statewide annual payment to a Level I or Level II trauma center.

**BENEFIT TO THE COMMONWEALTH**

The Trauma Payment benefits Pennsylvania citizens by improving access to readily available and coordinated trauma care. The direct beneficiaries are Pennsylvania hospitals that have received, or are seeking, accreditation as Level I, Level II, Level III, or Level IV Trauma Centers.

Hospitals report that the Trauma Payment funding enables them to provide the specialized care required for traumatically injured patients. Trauma surgeons, neurosurgeons, orthopedic surgeons, oral/maxillofacial and plastic surgeons, and other physician specialists and emergency room personnel are essential to providing patient optimal outcomes.

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-2021 hospitals identified the following areas where funding has improved access to, or enhanced the quality of, trauma care for injured patients:

- Assist with underwriting staffing costs and ongoing staff training and development opportunities, including dues and fees, annual trainings, hands-on evidence-based learning courses, as well as ongoing participation in local, state, and national conferences.
- Support continuous community prevention and outreach programs designed to provide primary, secondary, and tertiary trauma prevention and awareness opportunities and training materials. Programs include ThinkFirst, Healthy Steps for Older Adults, STOP the BLEED, and Matter of Balance. Additionally, community outreach efforts include Gun Violence Task Force initiatives, courses on ATV, bicycle/helmet, and sports safety, senior fall prevention, motorcycle helmet law support efforts, and drunk driving and distracted driving awareness.
- Support ongoing education of EMS and participation on EMS committees and EMS trauma case reviews designed to offer feedback and performance reviews for improved patient contacts.
- Funding supports expedited EMS services including international patient transportation, LifeLion helicopter transport, and JeffSTAT transport.
- Offset facility enhancement costs, including upgrades to ED trauma bays and costs associated with specialized centers, such as the Einstein Simulation Center and TJUH Regional Spinal Cord Injury Center. Funding also provides operating room and ICU enhancements necessary to assist high levels of trauma patients, especially those entering with short or no pre-notification time, as well as equipment upgrades and new equipment such as diagnostic point of care equipment, ultrasound machines, TEG analyzers, and blood vending machines.
- Aid in COVID-19 Pandemic-related expenditures such as vaccine clinics, PPE protection for first responders, educational alterations to support remote outreach, and facility enhancements and equipment purchases for treatment of the increased number of patients.
- Aid in supporting specialized pediatric trauma patient and family care. Efforts include child abuse experts, child life specialists, pediatric surgeons with surgery subspecialties, car seat distribution and education, regional pediatric-specific conferences, and community outreach efforts including ongoing updates to videos, websites, and educational materials.

The Trauma Payment helps promote greater financial stability of qualified Trauma Centers. Pennsylvania citizens benefit from access to quality trauma care.

## **TRAUMA CENTER PAYMENTS**

In FY 2020-2021, the Pennsylvania state budget appropriated \$8.656 million for Trauma Center funding. As required by Act 84, DHS submitted a State Plan Amendment (SPA) to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). On May 24, 2021, Pennsylvania received notification that CMS approved SPA 4.19A p. 21c, effective February 28, 2021, which provided federal matching funds for Trauma Payments. The federal financial participation (FFP) increased the total available funding to approximately \$18.109 million.

In FY 2020-2021, DHS distributed \$18,108,786.61 in Trauma Payments to forty-one (41) hospitals – \$8,656,000.00 in state funds and \$9,452,786.61 in federal funds. In FY 2020-2021, nineteen (19) Level I Trauma Centers, fourteen (14) Level II Trauma Centers, one (1) Level III and seven (7) Level IV Trauma Centers qualified for payment.

As required by Act 54, DHS initially distributed ninety- percent (90%) of funding (\$16,297,907.95) to Level I and Level II Trauma Centers. DHS initially distributed the remaining ten percent (10%) of funding (\$1,810,878.66) to Level III Trauma Centers.

As required by Act 54, DHS distributed fifty percent (50%) of the total funding for Level I and Level II Trauma Centers (\$8,148,953.98) equally among Level I and Level II Trauma Centers. DHS distributed the remaining fifty percent (50%) of the total funding based on each Level I and Level II Trauma Center's percentage of MA and uninsured trauma cases and patient days compared to the statewide total number of MA and uninsured trauma cases and patient days for all Level I and Level II Trauma Centers.

As required by Act 54, DHS distributed fifty percent (50%) of the total funding for Level III Trauma Centers (\$905,439.33) equally among all Level III Trauma Centers. As required by Act 54, DHS distributed the remaining fifty percent (50%) of the total funding based on each Level III Trauma Center's percentage of MA and uninsured trauma cases and patient days compared to the statewide total number of MA and uninsured trauma cases and patient days for all Level III Trauma Centers.

As required by Act 54, DHS distributed the remaining funding after paying Level III Trauma Centers, \$1,563,940.66, to Level IV Trauma Centers. Per the State Plan, DHS distributed fifty percent (50%) of the total funding for Level IV Trauma Centers (\$781,970.33) equally among all Level IV Trauma Centers. DHS distributed the remaining fifty percent (50%) of the total funding based on each Level IV Trauma Center's percentage of MA and uninsured trauma cases and patient days for all Level IV Trauma Centers.

### **Level I and Level II Centers Data Sourcing**

DHS utilized Calendar Year (CY) 2019 PTSF data to calculate each Level I and Level II Trauma Center payment.

## **Level III and Level IV Centers Data Sourcing<sup>1</sup>**

DHS utilized CY 2019 PTSF data to calculate each Level III and Level IV Trauma Center payment, except for Fulton County Medical Center and St. Luke's Hospital Monroe Campus. DHS utilized FY 2019 Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council (PHC4) data to calculate these payments.

### **Cap on Level III Payments**

Act 54 requires that payment to each Level III Trauma Center may not be greater than fifty percent (50%) of the average statewide annual payment to Level I & Level II Trauma Centers. In FY 2020-2021, DHS capped payments for Level III Trauma Centers at \$246,938.00.

### **Cap on Level IV Payments**

Per the approved State Plan, DHS capped payments to Level IV Trauma Centers, using the same cap formula as Level III, at \$246,938.00 and distributed the remaining \$234,068.40 in funding to Level I & II Trauma Centers using the same distribution formula as was used in the initial payment calculation for Level I & II Trauma Centers.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

DHS requests continued funding for the Trauma Program at the current level. Continued funding provides stability for the program and offers continuity for services that Pennsylvania citizens rely upon.

## **ATTACHMENT**

FY 2020-2021 Trauma Annual Report Spreadsheet

---

<sup>1</sup> PTSF data is unavailable for a newly accredited hospitals' first year of accreditation. Therefore, DHS uses PHC4 data for those hospitals due to new accreditation at the time of calculation.

**PENNSYLVANIA TRAUMA SYSTEMS STABILIZATION ACT  
ANNUAL REPORT  
FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021**

Hospital	Level	Total Trauma Visits**	Total Medical Assistance & Self Pay Trauma		State Share Payment	Federal Share Payment	Total Payment
			Visits** (Included in Total Trauma Visits)				
ABINGTON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	II	1,478	205		\$163,846.69	\$178,928.81	\$342,775.50
ALBERT EINSTEIN MEDICAL CENTER	I	988	579		\$264,429.89	\$288,770.71	\$553,200.60
ARIA HEALTH HOSPITAL FRANKFORD	II	1,565	666		\$323,893.08	\$353,707.50	\$677,600.58
CHILDRENS HOSPITAL OF PHILADELPHIA	I	746	308		\$177,082.77	\$193,383.27	\$370,466.04
CONEMAUGH MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER	I	1,096	294		\$180,256.54	\$196,849.20	\$377,105.74
CONEMAUGH MINERS	IV	3	0		\$53,397.40	\$58,312.65	\$111,710.05
CROZER-CHESTER MEDICAL CENTER	II	1,414	596		\$274,669.07	\$299,952.41	\$574,621.48
FULTON COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER	IV	106	21		\$88,578.83	\$96,732.52	\$185,311.35
GEISINGER COMMUNITY MEDICAL CENTER	II	993	217		\$174,175.35	\$190,208.22	\$364,383.57
GEISINGER MEDICAL CENTER	I	2,086	633		\$264,123.31	\$288,435.91	\$552,559.22
GEISINGER WYOMING VALLEY MEDICAL CENTER	II	982	289		\$182,945.57	\$199,785.75	\$382,731.32
GROVE CITY MEDICAL CENTER	IV	260	50		\$118,036.36	\$128,901.64	\$246,938.00
HOLY SPIRIT HOSPITAL	II	1,088	273		\$179,611.20	\$196,144.44	\$375,755.64
LANCASTER GENERAL HOSPITAL	II	1,720	452		\$231,137.43	\$252,413.67	\$483,551.10
LEHIGH VALLEY HOSPITAL	I	4,057	1,106		\$413,055.93	\$451,077.82	\$864,133.75
LEHIGH VALLEY HOSPITAL POCONO	III	757	182		\$118,036.36	\$128,901.64	\$246,938.00
MAIN LINE HOSPITAL LANKENAU	II	814	186		\$148,201.13	\$161,843.07	\$310,044.20
PAOLI MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	II	1,221	198		\$160,728.21	\$175,523.27	\$336,251.48
PENN PRESBYTERIAN MEDICAL CENTER	I	1,566	740		\$341,016.14	\$372,406.75	\$713,422.89
READING HOSPITAL	I	1,700	237		\$175,690.75	\$191,863.13	\$367,553.88
ROBERT PACKER HOSPITAL	II	707	158		\$153,682.52	\$167,829.02	\$321,511.54
ST CHRISTOPHERS HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN	I	466	398		\$184,297.34	\$201,261.94	\$385,559.28
ST LUKES HOSP OF BETHLEHEM	I	2,227	530		\$229,152.29	\$250,245.81	\$479,398.10
ST LUKES HOSPITAL MONROE CAMPUS	IV	93	3		\$69,556.31	\$75,958.98	\$145,515.29
ST LUKES MINERS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	IV	224	57		\$118,036.36	\$128,901.64	\$246,938.00
ST MARY MEDICAL CENTER	II	982	64		\$134,130.86	\$146,477.63	\$280,608.49
TEMPLE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL INC	I	1,861	1,221		\$485,362.76	\$530,040.50	\$1,015,403.26
THE MILTON S HERSHEY MEDICAL CENTER	I	1,779	506		\$250,972.43	\$274,074.49	\$525,046.92
THOMAS JEFFERSON UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL	I	1,479	555		\$310,957.45	\$339,581.15	\$650,538.60
TROY COMMUNITY HOSPITAL	IV	76	14		\$70,037.31	\$76,484.26	\$146,521.57
UPMC ALTOONA	II	1,216	398		\$193,169.43	\$210,950.72	\$404,120.15
UPMC CHILDRENS HOSPITAL OF PITTSBURGH	I	921	564		\$185,573.88	\$202,656.00	\$388,229.88
UPMC HAMOT	II	1,711	426		\$218,164.49	\$238,246.57	\$456,411.06
UPMC MERCY	I	2,263	651		\$295,656.35	\$322,871.58	\$618,527.93
UPMC PRESBYTERIAN SHADYSIDE	I	3,700	1,168		\$457,463.65	\$499,573.28	\$957,036.93
WAYNE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	IV	270	55		\$118,036.36	\$128,901.64	\$246,938.00
WEST PENN-ALLEGHENY GENERAL HOSPITAL	I	2,805	578		\$269,577.34	\$294,392.00	\$563,969.34
WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS INC	I	3,914	1,007		\$347,653.11	\$379,654.65	\$727,307.76
WESTERN PENN HOSP-FORBES REGIONAL CAMPUS	II	921	209		\$168,255.21	\$183,743.14	\$351,998.35
WILKES BARRE GENERAL HOSPITAL	II	436	120		\$141,416.71	\$154,434.15	\$295,850.86
YORK HOSPITAL	I	1,819	397		\$221,935.83	\$242,365.08	\$464,300.91
	41	54,510	16,311		\$8,656,000.00	\$9,452,786.61	\$18,108,786.61

\*\* Source of Data:

2019 Data from Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation

2019 Data from Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council