



2025

Legislative Agenda

Background:

Colorado’s hospitals are committed to providing safe, high-quality, affordable and accessible health care to patients. More than 70% of hospitals struggle to remain financially sustainable as they face strong headwinds in the health care market and heavy regulatory burdens from the nearly 450 laws passed impacting hospitals by the General Assembly since 2019.

Medicaid Optimization and Accountability

CHASE Program: Maximize Federal Funding

The Hospital Provider Fee (aka CHASE) program provides coverage for 662,000 Coloradans by drawing down billions in federal funds, while also supporting and stabilizing hospitals statewide.

Colorado has an opportunity to optimize this program through accessing \$150+ million per year **with no new investment from the state’s budget.**



\$150+ Million in Funding

RAC Audits: Improve Efficiency and Decrease Provider Burden

Colorado’s RAC audits are the most aggressive in the country. Instead, Colorado should “restore factory settings on this program” to ensure audits are **warranted, effective, and efficient.**

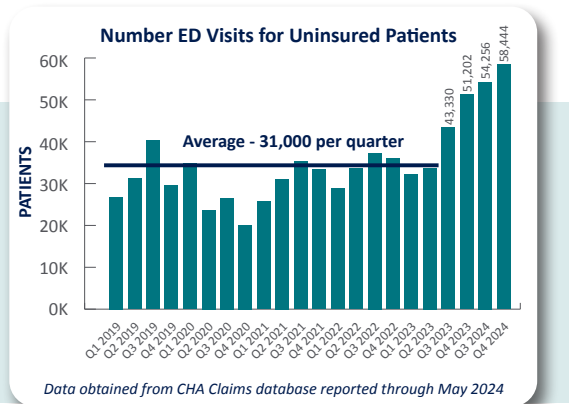
A recent report from the Office of the State Auditor confirmed significant operational and oversight issues with Colorado’s Medicaid RAC audits, **including potential misuse of the General Fund.**



Medicaid Enrollment: Correct Colorado’s Coverage Trajectory

Declines in Medicaid coverage are putting Colorado’s patients and health care safety net at risk. Colorado ranks **worst in the country**, and hospital ED visits among uninsured are up 50% – over 18,000 more uninsured patients every quarter than before or during the pandemic.

Colorado must take action to improve coverage and secure the safety net.



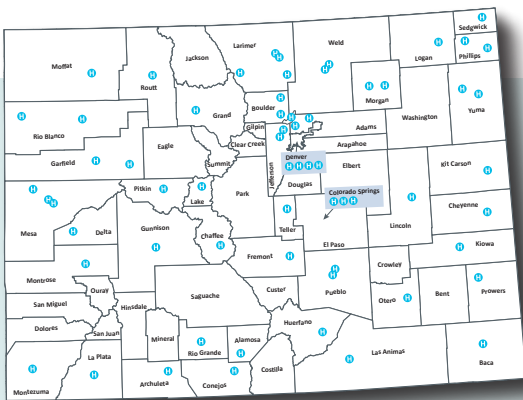
Hospital Sustainability and Patient Care

Facility Fees: Protect Access Throughout the State

Facility fees support patient care teams in hospital outpatient clinics.

More people have access to convenient preventive and specialized care in clinics paid through facility fees, improving quality and keeping patients out of more expensive settings like the emergency room and hospital inpatient departments.

A ban or limitations on facility fees would devastate the health care ecosystem in Colorado.



340B Program: Safeguard Availability of Life-Saving Treatment

Congress created the 340B program to support safety net providers in providing life-saving and affordable medicines and a broad range of health services to low income, uninsured, and underserved patients.

Colorado has nearly 70 hospitals that participate in the 340B program, 89% of which operate below a sustainable margin. In recent years, pharmaceutical companies have acted unilaterally to restrict this program, jeopardizing its purpose. **These abuses must be stopped.**

Rural Health: Strengthen Facilities and Communities

Rural hospitals are the economic engines of their communities and are constantly forced to do more with less. 85% of Colorado's rural hospitals provide care without sustainable operating margins.

Your zip code should not determine your health. By providing support for rural hospitals, Colorado can ensure that our rural health care system is strong, available, and sustainable.



Support Colorado hospitals and our patients:

- Protect access to care and ensure hospitals' sustainability and vitality to provide care close to home
- Protect against harmful legislation that would damage Colorado's health care ecosystem or create undue regulatory burden

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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