

+ Protecting Medicaid

Illinois receives less Federal Funds per Medicaid Beneficiary than any other state in the U.S. Illinois also has one of the lowest Medicaid matching rates in the country. It is critical to protect Medicaid funding from drastic cuts and harmful reforms that impact all patients' access to health care and to fight for equitable funding for our state.

+ Improving MCO oversight

The transition to Medicaid Managed Care Organizations in Illinois has not come without challenges. Hospitals have experienced questions about observation status, increase in denials, faced a complicated, often slow credentialing process for physicians, and have had to add staff to deal with MCO contracts among other operational issues. Increased MCO oversight is essential to ensure transparency, accuracy and accountability.

+ Developing the next iteration of hospital assessments

The way hospitals are paid, also known as hospital assessments, is set to sunset in June 2018. We must protect Medicaid funding for hospital services that leverages as much federal money as possible and provide a stable and gradual transition of static payments for our safety net hospitals, those hospitals that provide care to low-income and uninsured people without concern for their ability to pay.

+ Monitoring challenges to tax-exempt status

Illinois uses the property tax exemption to encourage and enable non-profit organizations to spend and invest more on giving back to their communities. It is crucial to protect tax exempt status for hospitals in order to continue to provide services and community benefits to vulnerable populations across the state.

+ Expanding telehealth as a valid and appropriately reimbursed method of care delivery

Telehealth must be expanded to help meet Illinois' patient needs. Telehealth is an effective way to provide needed health care services to people in medically underserved areas. It is vitally important that we reduce the barriers that prevent individuals from seeking the care they need.