



Lower Lights

Christian Health Center

What is a sliding fee scale?

It is a fee of \$10 - \$50 that is based on a patient's income. It covers services given during a visit at the health center.

Who can get it?

Anyone can get it, **even patients with insurance requiring co-pay and deductibles**, if your household annual income is below 200% the federal poverty level. For example, a family of four will qualify for a sliding fee of \$20 if their income is \$22,051 - \$29,327 per year. If that family's income is less than \$20,050 they qualify for a \$10 sliding fee. By federal guidelines anyone with an income above 200% the federal poverty level cannot get a sliding fee.

Why do we have it?

We are able to provide a sliding fee because we are federally qualified to do so. This is one way we carry out our mission of turning no one away because of their income or lack of insurance. This is what the health center exists for.

How does it work?

- The fee is due any time you see a provider. So if you saw both a doctor and a counselor in one visit, you would pay the fee twice. Other providers are nurse practitioners and dieticians.
- Let us know if you think that you may be able to get Medicaid or Medicare. We have patient advocates who can help you.
- **In order to start the sliding fee program:**
 - **You should**
 - Fill out a short form
 - Bring your assigned fee to each visit
 - Bring proof of income to your first visit or within 60 days of your first visit
 - Pay stubs or letter from Employer
 - Tax returns (including those for self-employment)
 - Social Security Award Letter (Disability included)
 - Child support
 - Alimony
 - If you truly have no income, you must sign a legally binding waiver.

- **We should**
 - Tell you your fee based on your income
 - Turn no one away due to their inability to pay
- **To keep getting a sliding fee:**
 - **You should**
 - Bring new proof of income yearly or when there is a change to household size or income
 - **We should**
 - Remind you if your fee plan is about to expire
- **If you do not provide new proof of income and your fee expires you are responsible for the full charge of your visit.**
- **All patient sliding fees expire every June 30th and must be renewed every July 1st.**

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