

Clinic Sliding Fee Discount, Business Services

Policy Statement

To make available discount clinic services to those in need.

Policy Interpretation and Implementation

This program is designed to provide free or discounted clinic care to those who have no means, or limited-means, to pay for their medical services (uninsured or underinsured). In addition to quality, healthcare, patients are entitled to financial counseling by someone who can understand and offer possible solutions for those who cannot pay in full. The Financial Counselor's role is that of patient advocate, that is, one who works with the patient and/or guarantor to find reasonable payment alternatives.

Mountain Communities Healthcare District (MCHD) will offer a Sliding Fee Discount to all who are unable to pay for clinic services. MCHD will base program eligibility on a person's ability to pay and will not discriminate on the basis of age, gender, race, creed, disability or national origin.

The Federal Poverty Guidelines, <http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty>, are used in creating and annually updating the sliding fee schedule (SFS) to determine eligibility.

PROCEDURE:

Processes and procedures described in the MCHD Uncompensated and Discount Care Policy will be followed to comply with this policy.

No one is refused service at the clinics because of lack of financial means to pay.

Record keeping:

Information related to Sliding Fee Discount decisions will be maintained and preserved in a centralized confidential file, in an effort to preserve the dignity of those receiving free or discounted care. A log will kept on a password protected computer system with the applicant's names, account number, dates of coverage, and percent of coverage. Denials will also be recorded.