

ASHLEY COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE POLICY (FAP) SUMMARY

Ashley County Medical Center (ACMC) is a not for profit Critical Access Hospital (CAH) existing to promote good health and provide quality healthcare with a qualified staff in a caring and compassionate manner. ACMC is committed to providing emergency care and medically necessary services to patients regardless of their ability to pay. Through our financial assistance program, we offer discounted charges for services to eligible patients that may cover all or part of their bill. The program reduces the patient bill based on income and family size. The reduction is based on a sliding fee scale. Those who are eligible for financial assistance will not be charged more than amounts generally billed for emergency and other medically necessary care.

Eligibility for financial assistance of up to 100% will be considered for a person whose individual or family income is not more than 225% of the current Federal Poverty Guideline (FPG) of the United States Department of Health and Human Services. The qualifying amount of assistance is based on a sliding fee scale which is explained in the 'NOTICE OF AVILABILITY OF UNCOMPENSATED SERVICES' of ACMC's Financial Assistance Policy.

In order to determine if a patient is eligible for assistance, an application must be completed by the patient or guarantor. Upon completion, the application and related material will be reviewed for a decision by the Financial Counseling Supervisor. A decision letter will be issued to the applicant within ten (10) business days of receipt of a completed application. Until ACMC has made reasonable efforts to determine eligibility, we will refrain from initiating extraordinary collection activities.

If an application is denied, ACMC will resume normal collection activity. If satisfactory payment arrangements aren't made and kept by the patient and/or guarantor, ACMC may begin extraordinary collection actions, which may include the following;

- Turning a patient account over to an outside collection agency;
- Filing suit against the individual;
- Placing a lien or foreclosing on patient property;
- Garnishing wages;
- Seizing a bank account or other patient property; or
- Reporting to consumer credit reporting agencies or bureaus.

For more information about how to apply for ACMC's Financial Assistance, please call the Financial Counseling Supervisor at 870-364-0505. You can find a copy of our Financial Assistance Policy and Guidelines, as well as an Application for Assistance, online at www.acmconline.org or pick up a copy in the Financial Counseling or Admissions' offices, or at ACMC's Emergency Room registration desk. If you would like a copy mailed to you at no charge, please call 870-364-0505. These documents are also available in Spanish.