

Financial Assistance Policy

At CHI, creating healthier communities and advocating for the poor and vulnerable is both our mission and our passion. One way that we do this is through our CHI Financial Assistance program, where we reduce the costs of a patient's medical bills based on their financial need.

How we can help

We offer free care for emergency, or other medically-necessary, services for our patients who have:

- An annual family income that is less than or equal to 300% of the federal poverty level, as determined by guidelines published annually by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (FPL);
- Cooperated with efforts to exhaust all other payment options; and
- Completed a program application, and provided supporting documentation to verify income.

NOTE: In some cases, patients may be awarded the financial assistance without a formal application. Details are outlined in the Financial Assistance Policy.

Fees Charged Patients Eligible for Financial Assistance

Patients eligible for financial assistance will not be expected to pay more for emergency or other medically necessary care than the amounts generally billed to individuals who have insurance covering such care.

Ready to take the next step?

Complete the application and submit it to Main Admitting.

The Financial Assistance Policy, application and this summary are available at <http://www.chifranciscan.org/Billing-and-Finances/Financial-Assistance-and-Discounts/>, in English and Spanish. To receive a free copy of these documents by mail or in person, to receive help completing the application, or to request a free copy of these documents translated into a language not described, please contact:

Catholic Health Initiatives
St Joseph Medical Center
Eligibility and Enrollment Services
Financial Assistance Center P.O. Box 660872 Dallas, TX 75266-0872
844-286-5546

These documents are also available in the Emergency Room, if any, and admissions areas of the hospital.

Charity Care/Financial Assistance Application Form Instructions

This is an application for financial assistance (also known as charity care) at CHI Franciscan Health.

Washington State requires all hospitals to provide financial assistance to people and families who meet certain income requirements. You may qualify for free care based on your family size and income, even if you have health insurance. Financial assistance is provided to those with an annual family income that is less than or equal to 300% of the federal poverty level, as determined by guidelines published annually by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Link to guidelines: <https://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty-guidelines>
Link to Policy: <https://www.chifranciscan.org/Billing-and-Finances/Financial-Assistance-and-Discounts/>

What does financial assistance cover? The hospital financial assistance covers appropriate hospital-based services provided by CHI Franciscan Health depending upon your eligibility. Financial assistance may not cover all health care costs, including services provided by other organizations.

If you have questions or need help completing this application: Visit the Eligibility and Enrollment Services office at your hospital, or call 844-286-5546. You may obtain help for any reason, including disability and language assistance.

In order for your application to be processed, you must:

- Provide us information about your family**
Fill in the number of family members in your household (family includes people related by birth, marriage, or adoption who live together)
- Provide us information about your family's gross monthly income (income before taxes and deductions)**
- Provide documentation for family income**
- Attach additional information if needed**
- Sign and date the form**

Note: You do not have to provide a Social Security number to apply for financial assistance. If you provide us with your Social Security number it will help speed up processing of your application. Social Security numbers are used to verify information provided to us. If you do not have a Social Security number, please mark "not applicable" or "NA."

Mail or fax completed application with all documentation to the address below. Be sure to keep a copy for yourself.

St. Joseph Medical Center
1717 South J Street
MS 10-30
Tacoma, WA 98405
Fax (253) 396-6746

To submit your completed application in person, visit the Eligibility and Enrollment Services Department at your local CHI Franciscan Health facility.

We will notify you of the final determination of eligibility and appeal rights, if applicable, within 14 calendar days of receiving a complete financial assistance application, including documentation of income.

By submitting a financial assistance application, you give your consent for us to make necessary inquiries to confirm financial obligations and information.

Charity Care/Financial Assistance Application Form – confidential

Please fill out all information completely. If it does not apply, write "NA." Attach additional pages if needed.

SCREENING INFORMATION

Do you need an interpreter? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <i>If Yes, list preferred language:</i>
Has the patient applied for Medicaid? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <i>May be required to apply before being considered for financial assistance</i>
Does the patient receive state public services such as TANF, Basic Food, or WIC? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Is the patient currently homeless? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Is the patient's medical care need related to a car accident or work injury? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

PLEASE NOTE

- We cannot guarantee that you will qualify for financial assistance, even if you apply.
- Once you send in your application, we may check all the information and may ask for additional information or proof of income.
- Within 14 calendar days after we receive your completed application and documentation, we will notify you if you qualify for assistance.

PATIENT AND APPLICANT INFORMATION

Patient first name	Patient middle name	Patient last name
<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Other (may specify _____)	Birth Date	Patient Social Security Number (optional*) <small><i>*optional, but needed for more generous assistance above state law requirements</i></small>
Person Responsible for Paying Bill	Relationship to Patient	Birth Date Social Security Number (optional*) <small><i>*optional, but needed for more generous assistance above state law requirements</i></small>
Mailing Address _____ _____ City State Zip Code		Main contact number(s) () _____ () _____ Email Address: _____
Employment status of person responsible for paying bill <input type="checkbox"/> Employed (date of hire: _____) <input type="checkbox"/> Unemployed (how long unemployed: _____) <input type="checkbox"/> Self-Employed <input type="checkbox"/> Student <input type="checkbox"/> Disabled <input type="checkbox"/> Retired <input type="checkbox"/> Other (_____)		

FAMILY INFORMATION

List family members in your household, including you. "Family" includes people related by birth, marriage, or adoption who live together.

FAMILY SIZE _____

Attach additional page if needed

Name	Date of Birth	Relationship to Patient	If 18 years old or older: Employer(s) name or source of income	If 18 years old or older: Total gross monthly income (before taxes):	Also applying for financial assistance?
					Yes / No
					Yes / No
					Yes / No
					Yes / No

All adult family members' income must be disclosed. Sources of income include, for example:

- Wages - Unemployment - Self-employment - Worker's compensation - Disability - SSI - Child/spousal support
- Work study programs (students) - Pension - Retirement account distributions - Other (*please explain* _____)

Charity Care/Financial Assistance Application Form – confidential

INCOME INFORMATION

REMEMBER: *You must include proof of income with your application.*

You must provide information on your family's income. Income verification is required to determine financial assistance. All family members 18 years old or older must disclose their income. If you cannot provide documentation, you may submit a written signed statement describing your income. Please provide proof for every identified source of income.

Examples of proof of income include:

- A "W-2" withholding statement; or
- Current pay stubs (1 month); or
- Last year's income tax return, including schedules if applicable; or
- Written, signed statements from employers or others; or
- Approval/denial of eligibility for Medicaid and/or state-funded medical assistance; or
- Approval/denial of eligibility for unemployment compensation.

If you have no proof of income or no income, please attach an additional page with an explanation.

EXPENSE INFORMATION

We use this information to get a more complete picture of your financial situation.

Monthly Household Expenses:

Rent/mortgage \$ _____	Medical expenses \$ _____
Insurance Premiums \$ _____	Utilities \$ _____
Other Debt/Expenses \$ _____	<i>(child support, loans, medications, other)</i>

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please attach an additional page if there is other information about your current financial situation that you would like us to know, such as a financial hardship, excessive medical expenses, seasonal or temporary income, or personal loss.

ACCOUNT NUMBER(S)

Account number(s): _____

PATIENT AGREEMENT

I understand that CHI Franciscan Health may verify information by reviewing credit information and obtaining information from other sources to assist in determining eligibility for financial assistance or payment plans.

I affirm that the above information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand if the financial information I give is determined to be false, the result may be denial of financial assistance, and I may be responsible for and expected to pay for services provided.

Signature of Person Applying

Date

2019 Federal Poverty Limits Guidelines

ANNUAL 2019 Poverty Guidelines for the 48 Contiguous States and the District of Columbia

Household/Family Size	Poverty Guideline	300% of base
1	\$12,490	\$37,470
2	\$16,910	\$50,730
3	\$21,330	\$63,990
4	\$25,750	\$77,250
5	\$30,170	\$90,510
6	\$34,590	\$103,290
7	\$39,010	\$117,030
8	\$43,430	\$130,290
9	\$47,850	\$143,550
10	\$52,270	\$156,810

*For families/households with more than 10 persons, add \$4,420 for each additional person.

MONTHLY 2018 Poverty Guidelines for the 48 Contiguous States and the District of Columbia

Household/Family Size	Poverty Guideline	300% of base
1	\$1,041	\$3,123
2	\$1,409	\$4,227
3	\$1,777	\$5,331
4	\$2,146	\$6,438
5	\$2,514	\$7,542
6	\$2,882	\$8,646
7	\$3,251	\$9,753
8	\$3,619	\$10,857
9	\$3,987	\$11,961
10	\$4,356	\$13,068

*For families/households with more than 10 persons, add \$368 for each additional person.