

EASTERN REGIONAL SURGICAL CENTER FINANCIAL HARDSHIP-CHARITY DISCOUNTS

Statement of Policy:

For all payers, including self-pay, a patient may request a Financial Hardship-Charity Discount, Financial need and any discount must be verified and documented. Facilities may deem Medicare beneficiaries or medically indigent when such individuals have also been determined eligible for Medicaid ad either categorically or medically needy individuals. If a facility wishes to offer a financial hardship or charity discount to a patient with Medicare benefits and the patient also qualifies for Medicaid, additional effort to determine financial hardship is not necessary with proof of Medicaid eligibility. The documented proof of Medicaid eligibility must be retained in the patient's chart as a permanent document.

These discounts do not apply to cosmetic procedures.

The Eastern Regional Surgical Center policy for financial hardship-charity discounts is as follows:

- A. Patients below 125% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines (FPG) will be billed for services rendered.
 - B. Patients above 125% but less than or equal to 150% of the FPG will be responsible for 5% of billed charges plus the cost of the implant, if applicable.
 - C. Patients above 150% but less than or equal to 175% of the FPG will be responsible for 10% of billed charges plus the cost of the implant, if applicable.
 - D. Patients above 175% but less than or equal to 185% of the FPG will be responsible for 15% of billed charges plus the cost of the implant, if applicable.
 - E. Patients above 185% but less than or equal to 200% of the FPG will be responsible for 20% of billed charges plus the cost of the implant, if applicable.
 - F. Patients above 200% but less than or equal to 235% of the FPG will be responsible for 25% of billed charges plus the cost of the implant, if applicable.
 - G. Patients above 235% of the FPG will be responsible for 30% off billed charges plus the cost of the implant, if applicable.
-

The Health and Human Services guidelines are updated annually and can be located at <http://www.aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/index.shtml>. They are typically published in February.