

Shriners Hospitals for Children – Summary of Financial Assistance

How to get help to pay your bill

Shriners Hospitals for Children (SHC) is a 501(c)3 Non-Profit Charity Organization. SHC is committed to providing care to children with neuromusculoskeletal conditions, burn injuries and certain other special healthcare needs regardless of the families' ability to pay. You can ask for help with your bill at any time during your hospital stay or billing process.

Qualifying for Help

The granting of financial assistance under the SHC Charity Care program shall be determined on the financial need of each individual patient, and shall not be impacted by a patient's age, gender, race, social or immigrant status, sexual orientation or religious affiliation, as long as the patient falls within the age and scope of care provided by SHC.

Financial need will be determined in accordance with procedures that involve an individual assessment of financial need; and may

- Include an application process, in which the patient or the patient's guardian are required to cooperate and supply personal, financial and other information and documentation relevant to making a determination of financial need;
- Include reasonable efforts by SHC to explore appropriate alternative sources of payment and coverage from public and private payment programs, and to assist patients to apply for such programs; and
- Take into account the patient's or patient's guardian's annual income and family size as determined in reference to Federal Poverty Levels (FPL) in effect at the time of the determination. Family income is at or below 400% of the FPL are eligible to receive 100% discount under SHC's Charity Care Program

Presumptive Financial Assistance Eligibility

In some cases, adequate information may be provided by the patient, their guardian or through other sources, which could provide sufficient evidence to approve the patient for Financial Assistance without going through a formal application process. Presumptive eligibility may be determined on the basis of individual life circumstances that may include:

- State-funded prescription programs;
- Homeless or received care from a homeless clinic;
- Participation in Women, Infants and Children programs (WIC);
- Food stamp eligibility;
- Free/reduced/discounted school lunch program eligibility;
- Eligibility for other state or local assistance programs that are unfunded (e.g. Medicaid spend-down)
- Low income/subsidized housing is provided as a valid address; or
- Patient's parent is deceased with no known estate.

Shrine Assistance Program:

Even if your family income exceeds 400% of the FPL, you may be considered on a case-by-case basis for financial assistance under the SHC Shrine Assistance Program.

Applying for Help

You can apply for help with your bill and/or obtain a copy of our Financial Assistance Policy and Financial Assistance Application Form by speaking with the hospital financial counselor. For more information please visit the Shriners Hospitals for Children website at www.shrinershospitalsforchildren.org