

Winston Medical Center
Financial Assistance Program

POLICY:

- The Financial Assistance Program (FAP) for Winston Medical Center (WMC) is designed for eligible participants to receive a discount on services provided.
- It is the policy of WMC that no patient seeking medical services that can be provided by WMC shall be denied access to those services based solely on an inability to pay.
- Under the FAP, WMC will discount medical services provided based on the patient's, or their responsible party's, ability to pay.
- WMC reserves the right to establish and amend at any time:
 1. The criteria for eligibility for the FAP
 2. The procedure for submitting an application for coverage under the FAP
 3. The criteria for the approval of any submitted application
- WMC reserves the right to investigate and inquire as to the accuracy of the information documented in the application in order to make a determination of the patient's, or responsible party's, ability to pay.
- The ability to pay and status determination is to be made by the Revenue Cycle Director (Hospital), or Practice Manager (Clinics), as appropriate, and approved by the Chief Financial Officer. Adjustments to accounts at a rate greater than that on the Notice of Availability of Financial Assistance Program will be considered on a case by case basis by the Chief Executive Officer of WMC.
- In the event of the patient's death, WMC reserves the right to pursue all possible claims against the decedent's estate or against any other person or entity having a legal obligation to pay for the decedent's medical services, to recover the remaining amounts owed WMC.
- Discounts will only apply to the private pay or cash balance, after any and all insurance has paid. Patients or the responsible party may apply for the FAP on balances as a result of deductibles, coinsurance or non-covered services.

- According to the CMS Reimbursement Manual (CMS PUB 15.1), patients who are covered under the Medicaid program either as primary or secondary are deemed to be indigent.

BASIS FOR THE POLICY:

- FAP eligibility is determined in part by formulas based on the U.S. Federal Poverty Guidelines, as published and updated periodically in the Federal Register.
- The discounted/sliding fee schedule applies only to amounts assessed to the patient and not to the amounts paid by third party payors.
- The content and implementation of this policy is nondiscriminatory and uniformly applied to all persons seeking medical services at WMC.

NOTE: Winston Medical Center (WMC), as noted in this policy, is meant to include hospital and clinic operations only.