

Texas Nonprofit Hospitals *
Part II
Summary of Current Hospital Charity Care Policy and Community Benefits
for Inclusion in DSHS Charity Care Manual as Required
by Texas Health and Safety Code, § 311.0461**
2015

Facility Identification (FID): 2130125 (Enter 7-digit FID# from attached hospital listing)***	
Name of Hospital: EAST TEXAS MEDICAL CENTER ATHENS	County: HENDERSO N
Mailing Address: 2000 S PALESTINE ATHENS, TX 75751	
Physical Address if different from above: _____	
Effective Date of the current policy: 11/01/2009	
Date of Scheduled Revision of this policy: 02/01/2014	
How often do you revise your charity care policy? ANNUALLY/AS NEEDED	

Provide the following information on the office and contact person(s) processing requests for charity care.

Name of the office/department: BUSINESS OFFICE

Mailing Address: PO BOX 7000 TYLER TX 75711

Contact Person: JOE MALISZEWSKI Title: DIRECTOR,
BUSINESS SERVICES

Phone: (903) 531-8358 Fax: (903) 535-6102 E-Mail TY_MALJ@ETMC.ORG

Person completing this form if different from above:

Name: KAREN PARKS Phone: (903) 676-1173

* This summary form is to be completed by each **nonprofit** hospital. Hospitals in a system must report on an individual hospital basis. Public hospitals, for-profit hospitals participating in the Medicaid disproportionate share hospital program and exempt hospitals are not required to complete this form. This form is only available in PDF format at DSHS web site: www.dshs.state.tx.us/chs/hosp under 2015 Annual Statement of Community Benefits Standard.

** The information in the manual will be made available for public use. Please report most current information on the charity care policy and community benefits provided by the hospital.

*** The list is also available on DSHS web site: www.dshs.state.tx.us/chs/hosp/.

I. Charity Care Policy:

1. Include your hospital’s Charity Care Mission statement in the space below.

BY VIRTUE OF OUR EXEMPTION FROM FEDERAL AND STATE TAXES AND AS A PART OF OUR MISSION TO SERVE THE HEALTH CARE NEEDS OF OUR COMMUNITY, ETMC WILL PROVIDE CHARITY CARE TO PATIENTS WHO MEET THE CRITERIA OF OUR POLICY AND DO NOT HAVE THE FINANCIAL MEANS TO PAY FOR HOSPITAL SERVICES

2. Provide the following information regarding your hospital’s current charity care policy.

a. Provide definition of the term **charity care** for your hospital.

IN AND OUT PATIENT MEDICAL TREATMENT AND DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES FOR UNINSURED OR UNDERINSURED PATIENTS WHO CANNOT AFFORD TO PAY FOR THE CARE ACCORDING TO THE GUIDELINES OF OUR POLICY

b. What percentage of the federal poverty guidelines is financial eligibility based upon? Check one.

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- 1. 100%
- 2. <133%
- 3. <150%
- 4. <200%
- 5. Other, specify _____

c. Is eligibility based upon net or gross income? Check one.

d. Does your hospital have a charity care policy for the Medically Indigent?

YES

NO IF yes, provide the definition of the term **Medically Indigent**.

A PATIENT WHOSE UNPAID HOSPITAL CHARGES EXCEED THEIR ABILITY TO PAY AND WHOSE REMAINING BILL WILL RESULT IN NO OBLIGATION OR A DISCOUNTED OBLIGATION TO PAY FOR THE SERVICES RENDERED, BASED ON THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA SET FORTH IN OUR POLICYs

e. Does your hospital use an Assets test to determine eligibility for charity care?

YES NO

If yes, please briefly summarize method.

f. Whose income and resources are considered for income and/or assets eligibility determination?

- 1. Single parent and children
- 2. Mother, Father and Children
- 3. All family members
- 4. All household members

5. Other, please explain

ALL ADULTS LEGALLY FINANCIALLY RESPONSIBLE _____

g. What is included in your definition of income from the list below? Check all that apply.

- 1. Wages and salaries before deductions
- 2. Self-employment income
- 3. Social security benefits
- 4. Pensions and retirement benefits
- 5. Unemployment compensation
- 6. Strike benefits from union funds
- 7. Worker's compensation
- 8. Veteran's payments
- 9. Public assistance payments
- 10. Training stipends
- 11. Alimony
- 12. Child support
- 13. Military family allotments
- 14. Income from dividends, interest, rents, royalties
- 15. Regular insurance or annuity payments
- 16. Income from estates and trusts

- 17. Support from an absent family member or someone not living in the household
- 18. Lottery winnings
- 19. Other,
specify _____

3. Does application for charity care require completion of a form? YES NO

If YES,

a. **Please attach a copy of the charity care application form.**

b. How does a patient request an application form? Check all that apply.

- 1. By telephone
- 2. In person
- 3. Other,
please specify MAIL, ETMC WEBSITE

c. Are charity care application forms available in places other than the hospital?

YES NO If, YES, please provide name and address of the place.

d. Is the application form available in language(s) other than English?

YES NO

If yes, please check

Spanish Other, please specify _____

4. When evaluating a charity care application,

a. How is the information verified by the hospital?

1. The hospital independently verifies information with third party evidence (W2, pay stubs)
2. The hospital uses patient self-declaration
3. The hospital uses independent verification and patient self-declaration

b. What documents does your hospital use/require to verify income, expenses, and assets?
Check all that apply.

1. W2-form
2. Wage and earning statement
3. Pay check remittance
4. Worker's compensation
5. Unemployment compensation determination letters
6. Income tax returns
7. Statement from employer
8. Social security statement of earnings
9. Bank statements
10. Copy of checks
11. Living expenses
12. Long term notes
13. Copy of bills
14. Mortgage statements
15. Document of assets
16. Documents of sources of income
17. Telephone verification of gross income with the employer
18. Proof of participation in gov't assistance programs such as Medicaid
19. Signed affidavit or attestation by patient
20. Veterans benefit statement

21. Other, please specify _____

5. When is a patient determined to be a charity care patient? Check all that apply.

- a. At the time of admission
- b. During hospital stay
- c. At discharge
- d. After discharge

e. Other, please specify _____

6. How much of the bill will your hospital cover under the charity care policy?

- a. 100%
- b. A specified amount/percentage based on the patient's financial situation
- c. A minimum or maximum dollar or percentage amount established by the hospital
- d. Other, please specify _____

7. Is there a charge for processing an application/request for charity care assistance?

YES NO

8. How many days does it take for your hospital to complete the eligibility determination process? 30
DAYS FROM RESOLUTION OF ALL THIED PARTY INSURANCE AND/OR FUNDING
ELIGIBILITY EFFORTS

9. How long does the eligibility last before the patient will need to reapply? Check one.

- a. Per admission
- b. Less than six months
- c. One year

d. Other, specify 6 MONTHS

10. How does the hospital notify the patient about their eligibility for charity care?

Check all that apply?

- a. In person
- b. By telephone
- c. By correspondence

ELIMINATE BILLING FOR PATIENTS
RECEIVING 100% CHARITY
ASSISTANCE, FOR PATIENTS
RECEIVING PARTIAL ASSISTANCE A
BILLING STATEMENT REFLECTING
THE BALANCE AFTER CHARITY IS
SENT TO THE CUSTOMER

d. Other, specify SENT TO THE CUSTOMER

11. Are all services provided by your hospital available to charity care patients?

YES NO

If NO, please list services not covered for charity care patients (e.g. transplant services, ER services, other outpatient services, physician's fees). COSMETIC PROCEDURES, TRANSPLANT SERVICES, OUTPATIENT CHEMO THERAPY, CRNA SERVICES, OTHER SCHEDULED ELECTIVE SERVICES

12. Does your hospital pay for charity care services provided at hospitals owned by others?

YES NO

II. Community Benefits Projects/Activities:

Provide information on name, brief description (3 lines), target population or purpose (3 lines) for each of the community benefits projects/activities CURRENTLY being undertaken by your hospital (example: diabetes awareness).

- (1) Emergency Care-Maintain medical staff composition and call coverage necessary to sustain trauma centers: all service area population
- (2) Cardiac Care- Reduce mortality rates and improve outcomes for patients with cardiovascular disease: persons with cardiac disease
- (3) Access to Care-Increase primary care providers in rural communities; rural populations

Additional Information:

Use this space if more space is required for comments or to elaborate on any of the information supplied on this form. Please refer to the response by question and item number.

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NOTE: This is the fourteenth year the charity care and community benefits form is being used for collecting the information required under Texas Health and Safety Code, § 311.0461. If you have any suggestions or questions, please include them in the space below or contact Dwayne Collins, Center for Health Statistics, Texas Department of State Health Services at (512) 776-7261 or fax: (512) 776-7344 or E-mail: dwayne.collins@dshs.state.tx.us.

Name of Hospital: _____ City: _____

Contact Name: _____ Phone: _____

Suggestions/questions: