

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**
2019

Facility Identification (FID): 2010243 (Enter 7-digit FID# from attached hospital listing)***

Name of Hospital: Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital **County:** HARRIS

Mailing Address: "4401 Garth Road, Baytown, Texas 77521"

Physical Address if different from above: _____

Effective Date of the current policy: 1/1/2020

Date of Scheduled Revision of this policy: 1/1/2023

How often do you revise your charity care policy? biennial

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

Name of the office/department: Patient Access

Mailing Address: "4401 Garth Road, Baytown, Texas 77521"

Primary Contact: Melissa Roca Primary Title: "Director, Finance"

Primary Phone: (281) 276-8540 Primary Fax: (281) 420-8852

Person completing this form if different from above:

Name: Esmerelda Gonzalez Title: "Director, Patient Access"

Phone: (281) 420-8630 Fax: (281) 420-8672

Second Person completing this form if different from above:

Name: _____ Title: _____

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.texas.gov/chs/hosp under 2019 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.texas.gov/chs/hosp/.

I. Charity Care Policy:

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

"Houston Methodist Baytown will provide free hospital care to patients based on established guidelines for the financially and medically indigent and approve and deny applicants. The hospital will comply with all Federal and State regulations. Qualifying criteria will be established and periodically published, utilizing the Federal Poverty Guidelines that are published in the Federal Register each year."

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

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

Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital will provide free hospital care to patients through the Financial Assistance Program based on established guidelines for the financially and medically indigent. Uncompensated medical services will be provided to qualifying individuals without charges for the financially indigent and at a charge less than our usual customary fees for medically indigent patients.

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**.

"Definition of term Medically indigent: Persons who do not have health insurance and who are not eligible for other health care coverage, such as Medicaid, Medicare, or private health insurance or those incapable, mentally or physically, to perform certain acts in consideration with the position of financial level. Lack of capacity: financial, physical, as well as mental can be considered with verification Texas does not allow all people access to Medicaid, even in cases of extreme poverty, if no minor children are present in the home and they have not proven they are disabled. These people have no recourse to government provided healthcare and must rely on charitable health programs."

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

YES NO If yes, please briefly summarize method. Medically indigent qualification is determined when the annual gross income is between 201% - 400% of the Federal Poverty guidelines.

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 _____

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 "via physician's office, mail, or fax"

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.

Houston Methodist Hospital Centralized Business Office, "Fin. Assistance Unit, 701 S. Fry Road, Katy, Texas 77450 "

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

YES NO

If yes, please check

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 prior to service/admission

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? "One day, provided all supporting documents are present, but 14 days are allowed for the client to provide information"

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 _____

10. How does the hospital notify the patient about their eligibility for charity care? Check all that apply.
Check all that apply?

- a. In person
- b. By telephone
- c. By correspondence
- d. Other, specify _____

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 or elective procedures

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).

"Over the decades, Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital's service to the community has grown through the development of programs and an expansion of our network of community partners. In all that we do, we exercise the I CARE values of integrity, compassion, accountability, respect and excellence. Through the hospital's strong community outreach program, education, prevention and wellness information is provided on cancer, diabetes, stroke, cardiovascular disease and other health related issues. Serving a three county region that includes East Harris, Liberty and Chambers counties, Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital and its community partners are able to serve residents with varying resources to improve the overall health of the service area. For more information on community benefits, please visit: <https://www.houstonmethodist.org/about-us/community-benefits/>"

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 eighteen 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.texas.gov.

Name of Hospital: _____ City: _____

Contact Name: _____ Phone: _____

Suggestions/questions: