

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**
2024**

Facility Identification (FID): 2011960 (Enter 7-digit FID# from attached hospital listing)***

Name of Hospital: Houston Methodist Hospital **County:** Harris

Mailing Address: 6565 Fanin St. Houston TX 77030

Physical Address if different from above: _____

Effective Date of the current policy: _____

Date of Scheduled Revision of this policy: _____

How often do you revise your charity care policy? Every three years or as needed

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

Name of the office/department: Patient Access Services & Financial Services

Mailing Address: 6565 Fannin Street Houston, TX 77030

Contact Person: Na Toshia Joseph Title: Director Patient Access Services

Phone: (346)238-5816 Fax: _____

Person completing this form if different from above:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

*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 2024 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: <http://www.dshs.texas.gov/chs/hosp/>

I. Charity Care Policy:

1.

Houston Methodist (HM) is committed to providing financial assistance to persons who have healthcare needs and are otherwise unable to pay for medically necessary care, including emergency care as defined herein, based on their individual financial situation. Consistent with HM subjective to deliver high quality, cost effective healthcare, HM strives to ensure that those in need are not prevented from receiving necessary health care services. HM will provide, without discrimination, care for emergency medical conditions regardless of a patient's ability to pay.

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

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

Financial Assistance: Healthcare services provided by HM hospitals without charge or at a discount to patients approved for Financial Assistance.

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

4

1. 100%

4. <200%

2. <133%

5.

Other, specify _____

3. <150%

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**.

Threshold #1 - A patient whose Family Income is between 201% and 500% of the FPL. Threshold #2 - A patient whose Family Income is greater than 500% of the FPL and whose Account Balance is greater than 10% of their Family Income.

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

YES NO If yes, please briefly summarize method. Earnings, unemployment compensation, workers compensation, Social Security, Supplemental Security Income, public assistance, veterans payments, survivor benefits, pension or retirement income, interest and dividends (excluding capital gains or losses), rents, royalties, income from estates, trusts, educational assistance, alimony, child support, assistance from outside the household, and other miscellaneous sources; Noncash benefits (such as food stamps and housing subsidies) do not count; o If a person lives with a family, includes the income of all family members. Non-relatives, such as a housemate, do not count.

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 _____

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 1 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. Paycheck 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 elective services.

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 Generally billed (AGB)

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? Up to 30 days per policy

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).

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). Please see PDF that was sent via email.

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. The type of documents requested to confirm income, and eligibility is determined by the patient's application and what they have available. We try to minimize how much we ask from the patient to make the application process easy but stay compliant with what is required for determining edibility.



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NOTE: This is the twenty-third 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: