## CLINICAL SLIDING FEE SCHEDULE

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#### Sliding Fee Schedule Requirement

Offering a Sliding Fee Schedule for Qualifying Patients is a Requirement





HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (HHS) HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (HRSA)

OTHER PASS-THROUGH GRANTS



#### HRSA Sliding Fee Program Requirements

Authority Section 330(k)(3)(G) of the PHS Act; 42 CFR 51c.303(f), 42 CFR 51c.303(g), 42 CFR 51c.303(u), 42 CFR 56.303(f), 42 CFR 56.303(g), and 42 CFR 56.303(u)

- The health center must operate in a manner such that no patient shall be denied service due to an individual's inability to pay.
- The health center must prepare a schedule of fees or payments for the provision of its services consistent with locally prevailing rates or charges and designed to cover its reasonable costs of operation and must prepare a corresponding schedule of discounts [sliding fee discount schedule (SFDS)] to be applied to the payment of such fees or payments, by which discounts are adjusted on the basis of the patient's ability to pay.



#### HRSA Sliding Fee Program Requirements

Authority Section 330(k)(3)(G) of the PHS Act; 42 CFR 51c.303(f), 42 CFR 51c.303(g), 42 CFR 51c.303(u), 42 CFR 56.303(f), 42 CFR 56.303(g), and 42 CFR 56.303(u)

- The health center must establish systems for [sliding fee] eligibility determination. (SNCHC: FPG, Family Size and Annual Income)
- The health center's schedule of discounts must provide for:
  - A full discount to individuals and families with annual incomes at or below those set forth in the most recent <u>Federal Poverty Guidelines (FPG)</u> [100% of the FPG], except that nominal charges for service may be collected from such individuals and families where imposition of such fees is consistent with project goals; and
  - No <u>sliding fee discount</u> to individuals and families with annual incomes greater than twice those set forth in such Guidelines [200% of the FPG].
    - Title X Family Planning and Ryan White have higher thresholds.



#### HRSA Billing & Collection Requirements

Authority Section 330(k)(3)(E), (F), and (G) of the PHS Act; and 42 CFR 51c.303(e), (f), and (g) and 42 CFR 56.303(e), (f), and (g)

- The health center must assure that any fees or payments required by the center for health care services will be reduced or waived in order to assure that no patient will be denied such services due to an individual's inability to pay for such services.
- The health center must make and continue to make every reasonable effort to secure payment for services from patients, in accordance with health center fee schedules and the corresponding schedule of discounts
  - \$53,423.73 collected from payments initiated through statements in CY24 (FQHC & PPC).
    - 34% increase in collection compared to CY23.



## Sliding Fee Program in Action

- Patients are eligible to be placed on the Sliding Fee Discount Schedule based on their annual income and family size;
- Based on a patient's placement on the schedule, a sliding fee charge is created and billed to the patient at the point of care;
- Patients are asked to make a payment;
- Patient either make a full payment, partial payment or no payment;
- ALL patients are seen regardless of their ability to pay;
- Patients with outstanding payment balances are sent a billing statement with a request to pay;
- •Any outstanding payment balances after 12 months are written off as bad debt;
- Patients are <u>NOT</u> sent to collections to recover outstanding payments.
- Patients receive personalized support from the health center's onsite partners to screen for insurance eligibility and for assistance with submitting applications to enroll in Medicaid.



# Support to Patients Who Do Not Qualify for the SFDS

- Point of Care Discount of 50% to patients who do not qualify for the SFDS and are charged the full fee and make their payment at the time of their visit.
  - Primary Care and Sexual Health patients with incomes greater than 200% of the FPL
  - <u>Family Planning</u> patients with incomes at or above 251% of the FLP
  - <u>Ryan White</u> patients with incomes at or above 400% of the FLP
- Intent:
  - Remove access barriers for patients who may forgo receiving care based on the communicated full charges.
  - Increase participation among uninsured patients paying for their services.
- Complements the Sliding Fee Discount schedule.



## Sliding Fee Discount Schedule Analysis

Determine if the Nominal and Sliding Fee charges are <u>comparable with the</u> <u>local prevailing market</u>.

 Comparative analysis of Nominal and Sliding Fee charges among Nevada FQHCs

Assess if the Nominal and Sliding Fee charges present a financial barrier to accessing care.

• Patient surveys

\$4.878 million in sliding fee write offs in CY2024





# Market Study of Fees for FQHCs in Nevada

Six (6) Health Centers queried in March 2025. They include:

- All for Health, Health for All
- Firstmed Health & Wellness
- First Person Care Clinic
- Hope Christian Health Center
- Nevada Health Centers
- Canyonlands Healthcare



### Market Study of Fees for FQHCs in Nevada

FQHC	*SNCHC	Α	В	С	D	E	F
Lowest Slide Scale Fee	\$0-20	\$0	\$0	\$35	\$40	\$35	\$10
Highest Slide Scale Fee	\$55	Must come in to discover rate.	Must come in to discover rate.	\$90	\$70	\$95	\$50
Full Price Fee	\$200	\$100	\$120	\$100	\$200	Ala Carte- billed after visit	Ala Carte- billed after visit

\* Charges include office visit and basic labs



Sliding Fee Program Patient Survey -2025 (103 Surveys)				
	%			
1. Are you enrolled or enrolling in the sliding fee discount program?				
a. Yes, enrolled	32%			
b. Yes, enrolling	11%			
c. No, not enrolled/enrolling	18%			
d. No, not interested in the program	9%			
e. No, have health insurance	30%			
2. If so, do you think the fees are reasonable for the services provided by SNCHC?				
a. Strongly Agree	41%			
b. Agree	34%			
c. Neutral	23%			
d. Disagree	2%			
e. Strongly Disagree	0%			
3. Does the sliding scale fee make it easier to access services at the health center?				
a. Yes	95%			
b. No	5%			
4. Have you ever cancelled an appointment due to lack of funds to pay the discounted fee?				
a. Yes	16%			
b. No	84%			
5. Would you refer others to the Health Center knowing we have a sliding fee discount program				
available?				
a. Strongly Agree	56%			
b. Agree	32%			
c. Neutral	9%			
d. Disagree	3%			
e. Strongly Disagree	0%			

# **Sliding Fee** Program Patient Survey Results



#### Primary Care Sliding Fee Schedule

Income % of the Federal Poverty Level	100% or below	101%- 150%	151%-175%	176%-199%	200%+
Program Code	PO	P1	P2	P3	P4
Slide Discount %	Nominal Fee	82.5%	77.5%	72.5%	0%
Provider Visit Fees	\$20	\$35	\$45	\$55	\$200
Nurse Visit ONLY Fees	\$4	\$7	\$9	\$11	\$40



#### Sexual and Reproductive Health Sliding Fee Schedule

Income % of the Federal Poverty Level	100% or below	101%-150%	151%-175%	176%-199%	200%+
Program Code	PO	P1	P2	P3	P4
Slide Discount %	Nominal Fee	82.5%	77.5%	72.5%	0%
Provider Visit Fees	\$20	\$35	\$45	\$55	\$200
Nurse Visit ONLY Fees	\$4	\$7	\$9	\$11	\$40



### Family Planning Sliding Fee Schedule

Income % of the Federal Poverty Level	100% or below	101%- 150%	151%- 175%	176%- 199%	200%- 250%	251%+
Program Code	PO	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5
Slide Discount %	Nominal Fee	82.5%	77.5%	72.5%	70%	0%
Provider Visit Fees	\$0	\$35	\$45	\$55	\$60	\$200
Nurse Visit ONLY Fees	\$0	\$7	\$9	\$11	\$12	\$40



#### Ryan White Sliding Fee Schedule

Income % of the Federal Poverty Level	100% or below	101%- 150%	151%- 175%	176%- 199%	200%- 300%	301- 399% +	400% +
Program Code	PO	P1	P2	P3	P4		
Slide Discount %	Nominal Fee	82.5%	77.5%	72.5%	0%	0%	0%
Provider Visit Fees	\$0	\$35	\$45	\$55	\$200	\$200	\$200
Nurse Visit ONLY Fees	\$0	\$7	\$9	\$11	\$40	\$40	\$40
No charges beyond% of pt.'s gross annual income	0%	5%	5%	5%	7%	10%	N/A



#### Pharmacy Sliding Fee Schedule

Income % of the Federal Poverty Level	100% or below	101%- 150%	151%-175%	176%-200%	200%+
Program Code	PO	P1	P2	P3	P4
Medications (up to 30-day supply)	\$7	\$12	\$17	\$22	Full cost/\$22
Insulin (vial/pen)	\$10	\$10	\$10	\$10	\$10
Diabetic supplies	\$10	\$10	\$10	\$10	\$10
Glucose Meter	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20





## THANK YOU QUESTIONS?

