

## SOUTHERN COOS HEALTH DISTRICT

### Policy on Uncompensated Financial Assistance

This policy recognizes that not all patients are financially able to pay full charges for services offered through the District. Our objective is to offer all patients an opportunity to face their financial responsibility to the District without forcing them into bankruptcy or imposing a lifetime burden upon their financial status.

Uncompensated care will be provided to any patient demonstrating, through appropriate documentation, an inability to pay for care. Only that portion of service for which the patient is financially responsible will be classified as uncompensated service.

Uncompensated care will be provided to patients who request consideration and whose family income falls at or below 100% of current Federal Poverty Guidelines. Patients requesting such consideration must:

1. Complete, sign and date a financial statement on forms to be provided by the District.
2. Sign and date a Consent & Authorization form giving Southern Coos Hospital permission to obtain information regarding verification of income.
3. Provide proof of income by submission of:
  - \* Family IRS Form 1040s for the most current tax year
  - \* Three months copies of paycheck stubs
  - \* Copy of SSI, Social Security or Unemployment award letter.
  - \* Three months bank statements showing direct deposits.
  - \* Name and phone number of case worker (if receiving food stamps or public assistance).
  - \* Letter explaining current situation and why financial assistance is being requested.
  - \* Letters from individual who may be providing financial help and a letter from source outside the household who can verify current situation.
  - \* Or other appropriate means.
4. Allow the District to verify other information, at its expense, such as may be obtained from credit reporting agencies or other sources.

Once a financial assessment has been completed, patients meeting the above criteria can be considered for uncompensated care write-off and submitted for approval in accordance with the District's credit and collections policies.