

Hospital Sliding-Scale Care

Some Maine hospitals will charge you less if you qualify.

Who can get Sliding-Scale Hospital Care?

Some hospitals in Maine give Sliding-Scale Care to individuals and families who make too much money to get Free Care. **Look at the chart on the back page to see who can get Free Care and Sliding-Scale care, and where to get it.** You have a right to “medically necessary” care at ANY hospital in Maine, even if you can’t pay for it. Depending on your household income, you could get that care free of charge, or on a sliding-scale.

What services can I get?

Usually, Sliding-Scale Care at hospitals is for “medically necessary” inpatient and outpatient hospital services. Some hospitals provide other services as well. To find out what your hospital covers, you can contact them and ask about their Free Care or Sliding Scale program—they might transfer you to patient financial services or billing. If it looks like you may not qualify because of income, call our HelpLine at 1-800-965-7476. There may be other options that can help.

How do I apply?

Call the hospital and ask for the hospital’s Free or Sliding-Scale program. They will talk to you about the program, and can help you fill out an application.

What if they deny my application?

If your application is denied, the hospital will give you a denial letter. If you believe you should have been accepted, you can appeal. To appeal, you must request an administrative fair hearing within 60 days of the date of the denial letter. You can request your hearing:

- **In writing:** Maine Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Licensing and Regulatory Services

11 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0011
- **By phone:** 207-287-9216.

Whether the denial is correct or not, there may be other programs to help. Call the Consumer Assistance HelpLine at 1-800-965-7476 for other ideas for help with health care costs.

How do they calculate income?

The hospital may ask you for proof of household income (like check stubs or tax returns). The hospital must look at income over the past 12 months OR the past 3 months. You may qualify if your income is under the limit for EITHER time period. If you do not qualify one way, you may qualify the other way!

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Consumer Assistance HelpLine:
1-800-965-7476
www.maine cahc.org

**PO Box 2490
Augusta, ME
04338-2490**



Over Income? Even if you think you are over income for Sliding-Scale Care, payment plans or discount programs may be options for you. Ask your hospital or call the Consumer Assistance HelpLine for guidance at 1-800-965-7476.

For these programs, some asset guidelines may also apply. But, even if you have assets or if you are slightly over the income guidelines, it doesn't hurt to call! Sometimes hospitals are able to work something out, depending on the circumstances.

2016 Income Guidelines*	Hospital Guidelines
Single people with incomes at or less than \$1,485 a month (\$2,003 a month for a family of two; add \$520 a month for each additional family member)	<— By law, medically necessary FREE CARE is available at ALL Maine Hospitals for people under these income levels
Single people with incomes at or less than \$1,980 a month (\$2,670 a month for a family of two; add \$694 a month for each additional family member)	Downeast Community Hospital Northern Maine Medical Center Houlton Regional Hospital Cary Medical Center <i>*for Houlton and Cary, income can be slightly higher</i>
Single people with incomes at or less than \$2,227 a month (\$3,003 a month for a family of two; add \$780 a month for each additional family member)	Calais Regional Hospital Franklin Memorial Hospital Goodall Hospital Maine General Medical Center Maine Medical Center Miles Memorial Hospital Penobscot Bay Medical Center Penobscot Valley Hospital Southern Maine Medical Center Spring Harbor Hospital St. Andrew's Hospital Stephen's Memorial Hospital Waldo County General Hospital
Single people with incomes at or less than \$2,475 a month (\$3,338 a month for a family of two; add \$867 a month for each additional family member)	Acadia Hospital Aroostook Medical Center Blue Hill Memorial Hospital Charles A. Dean Memorial Hospital Eastern Maine Medical Center Inland Hospital Maine Coast Memorial Hospital Mercy Hospital Mount Desert Island Hospital Sebasticook Valley Hospital
Single people with incomes at or less than \$2,970 a month (\$4,005 a month for a family of two; add \$1,041 a month for each additional family member)	Mayo Regional Hospital
Single people with incomes at or less than \$3,316 a month (\$4,472 a month for a family of two; add \$1,162 a month for each additional family member)	Redington-Fairview General Hospital
Single people with incomes at or less than \$3,960 a month (\$5,340 a month for a family of two; add \$1,388 a month for each additional family member)	Mid Coast Hospital Millinocket Regional Hospital St. Joseph's Hospital
Hospitals that determine discount amounts on a case by case basis.	Bridgton Hospital New England Rehab Rumford Community Hospital St. Mary's Regional Medical

*Figures based on reported 2016 eligibility levels. Some hospitals may be in the process of changing their guidelines. Call your hospital's billing department to check your eligibility.