

# PLAIN LANGUAGE SUMMARY OF HOSPITAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE POLICY (FAP)



Trinity Health is committed to providing financial assistance to persons who have health care needs and are uninsured, underinsured, ineligible for a government healthcare benefit program or otherwise unable to pay for their care based on their individual financial situation and are within Trinity Health's established guidelines for eligibility and availability of resources.

## A. Financial Assistance Guidelines

- Applicants for Trinity Health's Financial Assistance Program must be U.S. citizen or permanent resident residing in North Dakota or Northeastern Montana and have received care at a Trinity Health facility.
- Financial assistance is available for an episode of care that has occurred within the last 240 days.
- Eligibility is determined after reviewing an applicant's financial circumstances, as discussed below.
- All alternative payer resources, including governmental payers (i.e., Medicaid, IHS, etc.), must be exhausted prior to applying for financial assistance.

## B. Required Documentation for Trinity Health financial assistance:

To be considered complete, a submitted application must include the following:

- Completed and Signed Financial Assistance application.
- One proof of (unexpired) Photo identification for all applicants over 18
- One proof of North Dakota / Northeastern Montana residency
- Approval/Denial letter from Medicaid if applicable.
- Copies of most recent Federal Tax Return (Form 1040 or equivalent), including all schedules
- Two months of complete bank statements, both checking and savings accounts
- Proof of household income, if applicable: examples include the two most recent pay stubs, pension and retirement benefits, Social Security benefits, unemployment compensation, Workers Compensation, Veteran's benefits, etc.
- Proof of income from dividends, interest, rents, royalties, annuity payments, estates, trusts, inheritance proceeds and student aid not subject to repayment.
- Gifts: to include donations from churches, family members and other organizations

If an individual has no source of income, a letter of hardship and/or a letter of support will be accepted. Other documentation may be requested by Trinity Health to verify information on the Financial Assistance application.

## C. Program Qualifications

Financial assistance will be given to an individual if their household annual gross income (AGI) meets the following criteria. Annual Gross Income includes the annual income of the individual and all immediate family members who reside with them.

- An individual is not eligible for financial assistance if they have countable assets (i.e., saving accounts, checking accounts, stocks, bonds, or similar assets) greater than \$2000.00. The limit is \$4000, for a couple.
- An individual is not eligible for financial assistance if their household's combined Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) greater than 275% of Federal Poverty Guidelines (FPG).
- An individual with AGI and countable assets below these thresholds qualifies for 100% financial assistance.

An individual who qualifies for financial assistance will not be required to pay more for emergency medical care and other medically necessary care than the amounts generally billed to individuals who have insurance covering such care.

## D. Accessing/Applying for the Financial Assistance Policy (FAP)

- Copies of the Financial Assistance Policy and application are available online at Financial Assistance - Trinity Health.
- Copies of these documents are also available in Trinity Health's Emergency Room and all admissions areas.
- All documents are provided free of charge.
- To obtain copies of these documents, in person or by mail, ask questions, receive assistance with completing a financial assistance application, or submit a completed Financial Assistance Application contact Trinity Health's Patient Financial Services Dept through the following methods:
  - A. Phone: 701-857-5105
  - B. Email: [bsfincounselors@trinityhealth.org](mailto:bsfincounselors@trinityhealth.org)
  - C. In Person: Trinity Business Services, 2305 37th Ave SW Minot, ND 58701