

Hospital Discounted Care Newsletter



COLORADO

Department of Health Care
Policy & Financing

Introduction

This newsletter provides information and updates on the implementation of [House Bill \(HB\) 21-1198](#), Health Care Billing Requirements for Indigent Patients, otherwise known as Hospital Discounted Care. Low-income patients who aren't enrolled in Health First Colorado or Child Health Plan *Plus* (CHP+) will be given the opportunity to apply for financial assistance or charity care programs at the health care facility where they receive care.

Please visit our [Hospital Discounted Care webpage](#) for more information.

Hospital Discounted Care Updates

Information on Facility Websites

As mandated in HB21-1198, facilities must have both the English and Spanish versions of the Patient's Rights and a copy of the Uniform Application (English only) available on their website, with a link to the information located on the facility's main landing page. A PDF version of the Uniform Application is on the [Hospital Discounted Care website](#) for providers to use in lieu of the Excel version, although the Excel version may be used as well. Facilities are reminded that patients should not be filling out applications themselves. These documents must be hosted on the facility's website and not linked directly to the Department's website. Any changes made to either the Patient's Rights or the Uniform Application will be announced via the Hospital Discounted Care newsletter so that facilities may update as necessary.

Update to SFY23 Hospital Discounted Care Outpatient Rates

An error was found with the Outpatient Service Rates that were effective Sept. 1, 2022. It included rates for laboratory services that were already covered within the Clinical Diagnostic Laboratory Rates. The Outpatient Service Rates have been updated to address this and are now online as of Sept. 8, 2022. No changes have been made to the Inpatient Service Rates, Clinical Diagnostic Laboratory Service Rates, and Professional Service Rates. [All Hospital Discounted Care rates are online.](#)

Contact the Department by email at the Hospital Discounted Care inbox hcpf_HospDiscountCare@state.co.us with any questions regarding these rates.

\$0 Procedure Codes and Modifiers

Hospital Discounted Care directs the Department to set outpatient, inpatient, and professional base rates for all CPT codes or facilities based on the greater of either Medicaid rates or Medicare rates. Any CPT code that is

assigned a \$0 rate has neither a Medicaid or Medicare set rate. Hospital Discounted Care does not set rates for CPT code modifiers.

Hospital Discounted Care outpatient rates will need to be applied if a facility's outpatient department is billing the patient. If the patient is being billed separately by the licensed health care professional, the professional rate would be applied.

Office Hours

The Department is holding office hours every Wednesday at 9 a.m. No registration is required. The Zoom link and call in information are available on the [Hospital Discounted Care website](#). Office hours will continue to be held at least through the end of September, with additional dates added if requested.

Stay Informed

Sign up for the Hospital Discount Care newsletter to stay informed about the implementation of HB 21-1198.

[Sign up for our newsletter.](#)



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