



Policy and/or Procedure:

Indigent Policy

Effective Date: June 2008

Purpose:

To provide quality health care to all members of our community. Calhoun Liberty Hospital is committed to treating all patients the same with dignity, respect, and compassion. The hospital will provide discounts to uninsured and insured patients with demonstrated and verified financial need.

Policy:

It is the policy of Calhoun Liberty Hospital to provide without discrimination, care for emergency medical conditions to all individuals regardless of their ability to pay. The facility shall establish a standard to determine the financial status of its patients for the purposes of identifying those in need of Indigent/Charity healthcare.

Definition:

Patients whose income and family size place them at or below the Federal Poverty Guidelines Level will be eligible to receive Indigent/Charity Care.

Procedure:

The patient will be required to complete an application for the Indigent Care Program. The patient will have 30 days to complete and return the application to the Business Office. The application may be used for a period of 90 days at which if subsequent care is needed, the patient will be required to complete a new application for consideration. Upon receipt of the application the Hospital's Financial Counselor will screen all patients. The Financial Counselor will verify all possible sources of income including SSI, Disability Benefits, and Child Support, members of the household, expenses, employment and determine by entering the patient's information into the Charity/Indigent Calculator to confirm the amount of discount on the patient's bill. In the event the patient does not return the application within the 30 day time period it will not be the responsibility of Calhoun Liberty Hospital to pursue the application.