

# HealthPort

## HealthPort Sliding Fee and Ability to Pay Policy

HealthPort offers Sliding Fee Scale billing options for anyone who does not have insurance or whose insurance does not cover services at our agency. Sliding fee scale billing options might reduce the cost of services to clients in order to make services more affordable. Sliding fee scale billing is available for services like visits with agency providers but does not cover things like medications or laboratory results. HealthPort does encourage anyone who is eligible to consider using healthcare insurance, since it will help cover other services that the sliding fee scale does not.

HealthPort clients are offered treatment regardless of sex, race, color, age, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, political affiliation, state of residency, or how you choose to pay for care.

Any individual interested in sliding fee scale billing will be asked to provide income information in order to determine the level of patient responsibility of payment. Income verification will be completed annually for clients using sliding fee scale billing. Any individual who does not supply income information will be responsible for 100% of their bill.

HealthPort utilizes the sliding fee scale guidance from the Maryland Public Behavioral Health Authority to include a billing option for those individuals who might otherwise be eligible for Medicaid. The sliding fee scale is available on the agency website, at treatment locations, as well as available by request.

Clients will receive copies of all consents to treat, financial disclosures, and termination policies upon enrollment. Clients will be offered the opportunity to have these documents explained or read to them as needed.

To use the sliding fee scale, a person's annual income will be calculated, either using tax statements or a month's worth of income statements. Next, the attached table will be referenced to determine the eligibility for sliding fee scale billing based on the number of persons in a household and the annual income a household earns. A household counts as anyone you would file on your taxes, such as a spouse, children, or other dependents. Next, each person will either have a flat rate or a percentage of the original cost of any services they receive. This information will be reviewed with you by a member of our staff so you will be familiar with what your bill might be.

Sliding fee scale agreements will be renewed every year with current income information and the current sliding fee scale for that period.