



Looking for affordable Medical Care?

Sweet Medical Center (SMC) is a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) and receives federal funding to help offset the cost of providing quality health care services to patients on a sliding scale. Eligibility for the sliding fee discount is determined by documented annual income and family/household size. Patients with a documented annual income of 200% or below the federal poverty level are eligible for a sliding fee discount on all SMC services.

Who are we helping?

No matter your age or family situation you may qualify. Here are some ways we can help:

- **Do you have health insurance through an employer with high deductibles?**
Perhaps your insurance does not cover doctor's office visits. We can assist by applying our sliding fee scale to your office deductibles or co-pays. All of our patients are eligible for our discount pharmacy program (340B). That means your prescriptions may cost less when you are our patient!
- **Do you have Medicare coverage?**
We can assist by applying our sliding fee scale to your co-insurance amounts and co-pay.
- **Are you without health insurance?**
We can assist you by applying our sliding fee scale to your office charges. We can also help you apply for the Affordable Care Act (Marketplace/Obama Care) insurance.
- **Does the discount apply to other services?**
The sliding fee discount only applies to the services provided by SMC practices in both Chinook and Harlem.
- **What else do I need to know?**
 - This is not an insurance program
 - There are no premiums to pay
 - Your only cost is your part of the service fee after the sliding fee discount has been applied to your charges.
 - You have to keep your eligibility current by submitting the needed forms prior to the eligibility end date
 - Payment plans are available for balances that are due



Sweet Medical Center
Health Assistance Program (HAP)

How to Read the Income Chart:

At the far left side of the page, look at the column labeled "Family Size". Put your finger on the number that tells how many people live in your household. Slide your finger to the right until you reach the box that includes the total income of everyone in your household. Now slide your finger up to the top of that column, and you'll see where you fall on the sliding scale which is represented as a flat fee. The flat fee associated with your income category and family size represents the full amount you will pay for each visit to SMC. If the charges happen to be less than the flat fee, you will pay the lesser charges. Please note that if you have insurance, your visits will first be processed through your insurance and the balance after insurance has paid will be adjusted accordingly.

How do I qualify?

To qualify for the sliding fee/health assistance program, you need to provide proof of your "household" gross annual income. A "household" includes legal children, a civil union partner or married spouse, and legal dependents. Annual gross income includes salary, unemployment benefits, disability or social security benefits, investment income or other sources of income that support the household. You should bring proof of all of the household income for yourself and everyone in your household. The following documents can be used for proof of income:

- Most recent tax return
- 2-3 most recent pay stubs from employer, no older than three months
- Most recent W-2 OR 1099
- Letter from employer stating cash earnings that is signed by your employer or supervisor
- Letter from the Social Security Administration documenting your SSI or SSDI benefits
- Letter from the Social Security Administration documenting that you are ineligible for government benefits
- Letter detailing unemployment benefits from your state unemployment office
- Military leave and earnings statement
- Notarized letter stating you have no source of income signed by you.

How do I apply?

In addition to providing proof of household income, you also need to complete an application of which you can download on our website, request from SMC Registration in Chinook or Harlem, or by visiting the Health Assistance Program Staff in Chinook.

Benefits of Health Assistance Program

Reduced Medical Fees at Sweet Medical Center: Your medical charges will be determined based on Household Income and Family Size. Deductions will apply to lab work done in house. This includes labs that are drawn at SMC but need to be processed elsewhere. SMC contracts with a company called Pathology Associates Medical Laboratories or PAML for labs that need to be processed outside of the clinic.

DENTAL ASSISTANCE: First, we ask that you make an appointment with one of our healthcare providers. If our provider refers you for dental care, SMC will pay up to \$250 per patient per year for exams, cleanings, fillings, and extractions. You will make all of your arrangements through our HAP office, and we will work with you to set up an appointment with a dentist. A nominal fee of \$15 will be requested with each visit to the dentist.

VISION ASSISTANCE: Funding is limited and services are provided on a first come first serve basis. Certain criteria apply. First, you make an appointment with one of our healthcare providers. If the provider refers you for vision care, SMC will pay up to \$150 per patient per year for annual or treatment eye exams and glasses. You will make all of your arrangements through our HAP office, and we will work with you to set up an appointment with Dr. Obie in Chinook. A nominal fee of \$15 will be requested at your visit. Yearly eye exams are not covered under this assistance.

MENTAL HEALTH ASSISTANCE: First, you make an appointment with one of our healthcare providers. If the refers you for mental health services, we will pay for 8 visits to the Center for Mental Health. There is an option for continued services. You will make all of your arrangements through our HAP office, and we will work with you to set up your appointments. A nominal fee of \$15 will be requested with each mental health visit.

Depending on which category you fall into on the sliding scale, the following options may be available to you:

Pharmacy Assistance- \$12 voucher(s) available every month to assist with medication expense.

Transportation Assistance- \$10 voucher available every month to assist with fuel expense.