



Financial Policy

First Hill Surgery Center (FHSC) is committed to providing the highest level of quality medical care and personal services to our patients. The following information outlines financial responsibilities related to the payment for services rendered. As the patient, you are ultimately responsible for all charges associated with your care regardless of insurance coverage. While our financial counselors are happy to assist, it is your responsibility to ensure that all services rendered are paid in full.

Patient Financial Responsibilities

You, the patient (or the patients' guarantor) are ultimately responsible for all charges associated with your care regardless of insurance coverage. Co-payments and deductibles are a contract responsibility between the patient and their insurance, and these amounts are non-negotiable.

The following steps can help expedite the billing process:

- Provide accurate insurance information and current demographic information; contact the office with any insurance changes prior to the scheduled appointment or procedure
- Ensure an authorization has been obtained if required by your insurance so we can provide treatment, also ensure that this includes any necessary referrals
- Provide any pertinent medical records, including test results and x-rays
- Pay any additional amounts owed when due

Insured Patients

Our Financial Counselors will contact your insurance carrier to verify benefits and eligibility prior to surgery, and will assist you in estimating your costs. We will bill your insurance carrier in a timely manner provided we have current insurance information. Our financial counselors will notify you before surgery if we need to collect a co-insurance or deductible amount prior to surgery. Financial Counselors are available to discuss payment plans and financial assistance as needed.

A pre-payment for facility fees is required for non-emergent procedures at least 3 business days prior to the surgery being performed. Your out-of-pocket estimate will be provided based on your benefits and our fees. You will be asked to make a payment towards this estimate and have a payment arrangement established for the remaining balance prior to your scheduled procedure.

Anesthesia and certain other additional services such as surgical assist fees and pathology charges are billed separately (see below).

Patients without Insurance

We require a minimum payment of 50% of fees 3 business days prior to the surgery, and the remaining balance within 90 days of your first billing statement. We will be happy to provide you with a cost estimate based on our fees.

Anesthesia and certain other additional services such as professional fees and pathology charges are billed separately. You will be given contact information for our anesthesia provider, as they require payment in full prior to your scheduled surgery.

Financial Assistance

Patients can apply for Financial Assistance through an application process. The program offers discounted services for patients that cannot afford care. The program provides assistance in cases where the annual family income is between zero and 400 percent of the federal poverty level.

Financial Counselors will be available to discuss financial assistance for cases as needed. If financial assistance/charity has been approved through your provider's office, please tell the FHSC financial counselors during your initial call together. We will work with that office to coordinate financial services.

Cash Pay and/or Cosmetic Surgery Procedures

Patients will be expected to pay 100% of fees for both facility and professional charges prior to the scheduled surgery.

Anesthesia Services

Anesthesia Services are provided by US Anesthesia Partners and are billed separately from the facility fee. You will receive a bill directly from US Anesthesia Partners for these services.

Lab and/or Pathology Charges

If your surgeon deems it necessary for labs, cultures or specimens you will receive a bill from a separate company for blood work or cultures.

Cancellation Fees

There may be a cancellation fee applied to your account if you cancel a procedure in less than 3 business days from the scheduled date.

Contact Information

Financial Counseling: 206.320.6272 or Shannon.Drennan@m3meridian.com.

Business Office Customer Service: 206.320.7757

The FHSC business office will assign your account to collections if any outstanding balances or payments have not been collected within 90 days of services rendered.

If you are unable to pay your balance when due, you will need to contact our business office to make alternative arrangements. Patients with past due amounts may be denied additional services until the amount is paid or alternative arrangements have been authorized by the business office.

We will not schedule procedures for a patient that has an account that has been turned over to collections, or has a bad debt write-off. The patient must pay any amount due with FHSC or the outside collection agency, or have a payment plan arrangement with the business office, prior to scheduling a procedure.

Our office accepts checks, major credit and debit cards and money orders as forms of payment. We will charge an NSF fee for returned checks.