



Patient Financial Policy

The 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. Our financial counselors are committed to helping you pay for your surgery.

Patient Financial Responsibilities

The patient (or the patient's guarantor) are ultimately responsible for all charges associated with surgical care, regardless of insurance coverage.

The following steps can help expedite the billing process:

- Provide accurate insurance information and current demographic (address, phone number, contacts) information
- Contact FHSC with any insurance changes prior to your scheduled procedure
- If required by your insurance, ensure an authorization and any necessary referrals has been obtained prior to surgery
- Provide any pertinent medical records to your surgeon, including test results and x-rays
- Expect to pay at time of service some or all of the owed amount (the amount can be arranged ahead of time for your convenience)

Co-payments and deductibles vary widely between insurance plans and are a contract responsibility between the patient and their insurance company. These amounts are non-negotiable and FHSC plays no role in determining their amount.

Insured Patients

Our Financial Counselors will contact your insurance carrier to verify benefits and eligibility prior to surgery, and will be able to estimate your costs for FHSC based on procedure codes provided by your surgeon.

- We will bill your insurance carrier in a timely manner based on the information you provided us.
- 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.

Payment of your facility fee is expected prior to surgery and can be made any time prior to the scheduled procedure, or at the time of check-in. Your out-of-pocket estimate will be provided based on your insurance benefits and fees.

Cash Patients (Self-pay, non-covered, uninsured, or cosmetic)

For patients that are without insurance or choosing not to use insurance, we require payment in full which can be made any time prior to the scheduled procedure, or at the time of check-in.

- Patients will be expected to pay 100% of estimated fees for facility, anesthesia, and professional charges, as well as any devices or implants, prior to the scheduled surgery.

- Patients who have insurance but choose to waive the option to bill their insurance will be considered self-pay. You will be asked to sign a waiver that states that you will not bill your insurance for the procedure. Please note: due to timely-filing rules, set forth by the insurance companies, we are unable to bill commercial insurance after surgery if a patient wishes to do so after initially waiving the option.
- You will be given contact information for our anesthesia provider, USAP(see below), as they require payment in full prior to your scheduled surgery.

Motor Vehicle Accident Claims

For patients who are billing their procedure as part of a motor vehicle accident claim, we require a payment of 50% of estimated fees prior to surgery and the remaining balance paid within 60 days of your billing statement.

Financial Assistance

Patients can apply for Financial Assistance.

- This program offers discounted services for patients that cannot afford care.
- Patients must meet specific financial criteria to qualify. Financial Counselors will be available to discuss financial assistance for the cases as needed.
- Expect that this process will take some time and may delay surgical scheduling.

Anesthesia Services

Anesthesia Services are provided by U.S. Anesthesia Partners (USAP) and are billed separately from the facility fee. In general, they are contracted with the same insurance plans as FHSC. You will receive a bill directly from USAP for these services.

Lab Charges

If your surgery requires pathology, labs or cultures you will receive a bill from a separate company for this work.

Contact Information

Financial Counselors

Phone: (206) 320 – 6799

Email: fhsc-financialcounselors@firsthillsurgerycenter.com

Billing Meridian Medical Management

Phone: (206) 860 - 4500

Please Note:

If you are unable to pay your balance when due, please contact Meridian Medical Management at (206) 860 – 4500 to make alternative arrangements.

- your account will be assigned to collections if you don't have a payment plan in place and any outstanding balances or payments have not been collected within 90 days of surgery.
- Patients with past due amounts may be denied additional services, including scheduling future surgery, until the amount is paid or alternative arrangements have been authorized by Meridian Medical Management.

For your convenience, our office accepts cash, checks, major credit and debit cards as forms of payment. You may pay your bill online at FirstHillsSurgeryCenter.com. Please note: We will charge an NSF fee for returned checks.