

# Guide To Health Programs Without Immigrant Status Requirements

To be eligible for the following programs, applicants must be New Jersey residents. New Jersey residents are either people who are currently residing in New Jersey or people who intend to reside in New Jersey. Bills, library cards, or any official documents showing the person's address can be used to document residency. The person can also self-declare that he or she is a New Jersey resident by writing and signing a statement under penalty of perjury. Immigrants who *intend* to reside in the state are New Jersey residents.

These benefits do not require information about the person's immigration status, and receipt of these benefits will not affect a person's ability to obtain a green card in the future.

✓ **Remember**  
Applicants do not need a Social Security Number (SSN) to participate in these programs. SSNs are only required if one is available.

- **New Jersey Supplementary Prenatal Care Program:** Provides prenatal services to immigrant pregnant women who are residing in New Jersey and are ineligible for Medicaid or NJ FamilyCare because of their alien status. Services for this program are limited to outpatient hospital care; physician and certified nurse midwife services; and pharmaceutical, radiological, and clinical laboratory services. Application for this program must be made at the hospital or clinic where services are provided.

- **Medical Emergency Payment Program for Aliens:** Medical emergency services for immigrants who would be eligible for Medicaid, except for their citizen status. An individual must meet all other requirements for Medicaid and be in one of the following categories:

- Pregnant women.
- Children under the age of 19.
- Aged, 65 years or older.
- Between the age of 19 and 65 and permanently disabled. Disability under this category must be determined by the Medical Review Team.

The Medical Emergency Payment Program for Aliens is for the treatment of an emergency medical condition that is of sudden onset and manifested by acute symptoms of sufficient severity (including severe pain) such that the absence of immediate medical attention could reasonably be expected to result in placing the patient's health in serious jeopardy, serious impairment to bodily functions, or serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part. An emergency medical condition includes all labor and delivery services for a pregnant woman.

To apply for this program:

Applicants (except pregnant women) must contact the hospital business office or hospital Social Work staff and obtain a form, which indicates that emergency services were provided, then file an application at the County Board of Social Services.

Pregnant women may file for this program by completing an application for the NJ FamilyCare program. The application including proof of pregnancy must be returned by mail or in person to the County Board of Social Services.

- **Charity Care:** Free or reduced-cost inpatient hospital care for persons below 300 percent Federal Poverty Level (FPL) who are ineligible for Medicaid and not insured

Individual assets must be below \$7,500 and family assets cannot exceed \$15,000. Application for this program must be made at the hospital or clinic where services are provided.

- **Hill-Burton:** In 1946 Congress passed the Hill-Burton Act. It was the nation's major health facility construction program initially designed to provide federal grants to modernize public and nonprofit community health centers and hospitals. In return, facilities agreed to provide free or reduced cost medical services to persons unable to pay who meet financial eligibility criteria. There is also a "community service" obligation that lasts in perpetuity. Please note that the community service obligation is different from the uncompensated care provision. The community service obligation does not require the facility to make non-emergency services available to persons unable to pay for them. It does, however, require the facility to make emergency services available without regard to the person's ability to pay. For more information call 1-800-638-0742.

- **Catastrophic Illness in Children Relief Fund:** Financial assistance for families whose children have experienced an illness or condition that is not fully covered by insurance, public programs, or other sources, such as fundraising. Uncovered medical expenses must exceed 10 percent of family income.

The following incurred expenses will be considered and may be eligible for payment/reimbursement if found reasonable. This list includes, but is not limited to:

- Specialized Pediatric Ambulatory Care
- Addictions/Mental Health Services
- Acute or Specialized hospital care, both in and outpatient
- Physician care in all settings
- Medical equipment or disposable medical supplies
- Pharmaceuticals
- Medically related home modifications and medical transportation
- Home health care
- Experimental medical treatment or pharmaceuticals following special review

For more information call 1-800-335-3863.

- **Women, Infants and Children (WIC):** Nutritional assistance for low- and moderate-income pregnant or breast-feeding women and children under age five who are at nutritional risk.

For more information call 1-800-328-3838.

- **Public Health Departments:** Free immunization and well-child clinics. Call your municipal building or town hall for more details.

- **Meals on Wheels:** Meals for seniors 60 years of age and older. Call your municipal building or town hall for more details.

- **Pharmaceutical Assistance for the Aged and Disabled (PAAD):** Provides subsidized prescription medicine for low-income persons over age 65 who do not have prescription coverage; \$5.00 co-pay per medication.

For more information call 1-800-792-9745.

- **Hearing Aid Assistance to the Aged and Disabled (HAAAD):** Provides \$100 reimbursement to persons eligible for PAAD.  
For more information call 1-800-702-9745.

- **Senior-Dent:** Free or reduced dental services for persons who are eligible for PAAD who do not have dental insurance. "Senior Dent," sponsored by the NJ Dental Association, affords eligible seniors the opportunity of obtaining comprehensive oral health treatment from participating dentists at a minimum courtesy discount of 15 percent.

For more information call 1-800-792-8820. Staff at this number will take your name, address and certain other information and forward it to the NJ Dental Association. The Dental Association will then forward you a list of participating dentists.

- **Federally Qualified Health Centers:** New Jersey has several Federally qualified Health Centers where non-citizens may receive a variety of health services using a sliding-fee scale. A list of these facilities in New Jersey is attached:

## Federally Qualified Health Centers

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**CAMcare Health Corporation  
(Camden County)**

Riverview Towers, 130 Mickle Blvd.  
Camden, NJ 08103

Mark K. Bryant, *President/CEO*  
Sharon Buttress, M.D., *Medical Director*

856-541-3270 Fax: 856-541-4997

**Community Health Care, Inc.  
(Cumberland County)**

105 Manheim Ave., PO Box 597  
Bridgeton, NJ 08302

Gil Walter, *Executive Director*  
Lori Talbot, M.D., *Medical Director*

856-451-4700 Fax: 856-451-0029

**Eric B. Chandler Health Center  
(Middlesex County)**

277 George St.  
New Brunswick, NJ 08901

Rosemary McAndrew, *Executive Director*  
Eric G. Jahn, M.D., *Medical Director*

732-235-6963 Fax: 732-235-6726

**Henry J. Austin Health Center, Inc.  
(Mercer County)**

321 North Warren St.  
Trenton, NJ 08618

Nelson Xavier Cruz, *Executive Director*  
Eric Schwartz, M.D., *Medical Director*

609-989-3599 Fax: 609-695-3532

**Horizon Health Center  
(Hudson County)**

706-714 Bergen Ave.  
Jersey City, NJ 07306

Marilyn W. Bennett, *Executive Director*  
Joan Fritz, M.D., *Medical Director*

201-451-6300 Fax: 201-451-0619

**Jersey City Family Health Center  
(Hudson County)**

935 Garfield Ave.  
Jersey City, NJ 07304

Larry McReynolds, CHE, MHA, LNHA,  
*Executive Director*

Patrick Beaty, M.D., *Medical Director*  
201-946-6457 Fax: 201-946-6489

**Newark Community Health Centers, Inc.  
(Essex County)**

PO Box 1960 (741 Broadway, 07104)  
Newark, NJ 07101

Gerald Belgrave, DDS, *Acting Executive Director*  
Anita Vaughn, M.D., *Medical Director*

973-483-1300 Fax: 973-483-3787

**North Hudson Community Action Corporation  
Health Center  
(Hudson County)**

5301 Broadway  
West New York, NJ 07093

Michael A. Leggiero, *Executive Director*  
Jorge L. Vereas, M.D., *Medical Director*

201-866-9320 Fax: 201-866-7588

**Paterson Community Health Center  
(Passaic County)**

32 Clinton St.  
Paterson, NJ 07522

Mary Gamer, Ph.D., *Chief Executive Officer*  
Peter Brault, M.D., *Medical Director*

973-278-2600 Fax: 973-790-7703

**Plainfield Health Center  
(Union County)**

1700-58 Myrtle Ave.  
Plainfield, NJ 07063-1038

Julane Miller, *President/CEO*  
Susan Walsh, M.D., *Medical Director*

908-753-6401 Fax: 908-753-7570

**Southern Jersey Family Medical Centers  
(Atlantic and Salem Counties)**

860 So. Whitehore Pk., Bldg. A  
Hammonton, NJ 08037

Linda Flake, *CEO*  
Nancy Merle, M.D., *Medical Director*  
609-567-0200 Fax: 609-567-1169

**VNA of Central Jersey Community Health Center  
(Monmouth County)**

572 Cookman Ave  
Asbury Park, NJ 07712

Ellen Toughill, RN, Ph.D., *Executive Director*  
Bryan Roper, M.D., *Medical Director*

732-774-6333 Fax: 732-774-0313

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Reprinted with Permission of the Author. The information presented here has been modified from the booklet, Health Access for Immigrants and Refugees: A Guide to Understanding Eligibility for Health Care in New Jersey, by Helene Tobin. The Access Project and New Jersey Immigration Policy Network: Newark, New Jersey, 2001. Reprints of the 53 page booklet are available for a fee. Contact NJIPN, 972 Broad Street, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, Newark, NJ 07102. Phone 973-622-6448. E-mail: [njipn@njipn.org](mailto:njipn@njipn.org). The Access Project is a national health care initiative funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Annie E. Casey Foundation.



# FACT SHEET



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services • Office for Civil Rights • Washington, D.C. 20201 • (202) 619-0403

## YOUR RIGHTS UNDER THE COMMUNITY SERVICE ASSURANCE PROVISION OF THE HILL-BURTON ACT

### What Is Hill-Burton?

The Hill-Burton Act authorizes assistance to public and other nonprofit medical facilities such as acute care general hospitals, special hospitals, nursing homes, public health centers, and rehabilitation facilities.

The Community Service Assurance under Title VI of the Public Health Service Act requires recipients of Hill-Burton funds to make services provided by the facility available to persons residing in the facility's service area without discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, creed, or any other ground unrelated to the individual's need for the service or the availability of the needed service in the facility. These requirements also apply to persons employed in the service area of the facility if it was funded under Title XVI of the Public Health Service Act. Please note that the community service obligation is different from the uncompensated care provision. The community service obligation does not require the facility to make non-emergency services available to persons unable to pay for them. It does, however, require the facility to make emergency services available without regard to the person's ability to pay.

**There are several basic requirements that every Hill-Burton hospital or other facility must comply with to fulfill the community service obligation:**

- A person residing in the Hill-Burton facility's service area has the right to medical treatment at the facility without regard to race, color, national origin or creed.
- Hill-Burton facilities must participate in the Medicare and Medicaid programs unless they are ineligible to participate.
- Hill-Burton facilities must make arrangements for reimbursement for services with principal State and local third-party payors that provide reimbursement that is not less than the actual cost of the services.
- A Hill-Burton facility must post notices informing the public of its community service obligations in English and Spanish. If 10 percent or more of the households in the service area usually speak a language other than English or Spanish, the facility must translate the notice into that language and post it as well.
- A Hill-Burton facility may not deny emergency services to any person residing in the facility's service area on the grounds that the person is unable to pay for those services.
- A Hill-Burton facility may not adopt patient admissions policies that have the effect of excluding persons on grounds of race, color, national origin, creed or any other ground unrelated to the patient's need for the service or the availability of the needed service.
- The entire U. S. Department of Health and Human Services Hill-Burton regulation can be found at 42 CFR Part 124.

For information on how to file a complaint of discrimination, or to obtain information of a civil rights nature, please contact us. Office for Civil Rights (OCR) employees will make every effort to provide prompt service.

**Hotlines: 1-800-368-1019 (Voice) 1-800-537-7697 (TDD)**

**E-Mail: [ocrmail@hhs.gov](mailto:ocrmail@hhs.gov) Website: <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr>**

(H-29/June 2000)

<http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/hburton.html>

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## **GARANTÍA DE SERVICIOS COMUNITARIOS**

**(Conforme a la Ley Hill-Burton)**

### **LA OFICINA DE DERECHOS CIVILES**

La Oficina de Derechos Civiles (OCR) del Departamento de Salud y Servicios Humanos (HHS) de los Estados Unidos hace cumplir las leyes federales que prohíben la discriminación por parte de los proveedores de servicios humanos y de atención médica que reciben fondos del HHS. Esta hoja informativa trata de sus derechos y de las responsabilidades de dichos proveedores conforme a las disposiciones de la Garantía de Servicios Comunitarios de la Ley Hill-Burton, conocidas formalmente como Artículos VI y XVI de la Ley de Servicios de Salud Pública (PHS).

### **¿QUÉ ES LA LEY HILL-BURTON?**

La Ley Hill-Burton autoriza la asistencia a centros de salud pública y otros establecimientos de servicios médicos sin fines de lucro, tales como hospitales generales de corta estadía, hospitales especiales, asilos de ancianos, y centros de salud pública y de rehabilitación.

La Garantía de Servicios Comunitarios, conforme al Artículo VI de la Ley de Servicios de Salud Pública, requiere que los titulares (las entidades que recibieron fondos Hill-Burton) pongan los servicios que ofrecen al alcance de las personas que residen en sus respectivas áreas de servicio sin discriminarles por su raza, color, país de origen, credo o cualquier otro motivo que no guarde relación con la necesidad que esas personas tengan de recibir los servicios o la disponibilidad de los mismos. En el caso de establecimientos financiados conforme al Artículo XVI de la Ley de Servicios de Salud Pública, los requisitos también se aplican a las personas empleadas en el área de servicio.

Excepción hecha de los servicios de emergencia, un establecimiento puede negar sus servicios a personas que no pueden pagarlos, a menos que éstas tengan derecho a recibir servicios gratuitos al amparo de las disposiciones relativas a servicios sin compensación de la Ley de Hill-Burton. Existen varios requisitos básicos que cada hospital o centro Hill-Burton debe satisfacer para cumplir con la obligación de suministrar servicios comunitarios.

Una persona que reside en el área de servicio del establecimiento de salud tiene derecho a recibir tratamiento médico en el mismo sin importar su raza, color, país de origen o credo.

Un establecimiento Hill-Burton no puede negar servicios de emergencia a ninguna persona que resida en su área de servicio debido a que ésta no pueda pagarlos.

Los establecimientos de Hill-Burton deben participar en los programas de Medicare y Medicaid, a menos que éstos no llenen los requisitos para participar en estos programas federales de reembolso.

Los establecimientos Hill-Burton también tienen que hacer los arreglos para el reembolso de servicios con los principales pagadores estatales y locales que efectúan un reembolso no inferior al costo efectivo de los servicios.

Los establecimientos Hill-Burton no pueden adoptar normas de admisión de pacientes que excluyan a personas debido a su raza, color, país de origen, credo o cualquier otro motivo no relacionado con la necesidad del paciente de recibir los servicios ni con la disponibilidad del servicio requerido.

Los establecimientos Hill-Burton tienen que poner anuncios informando al público sobre sus obligaciones en materia de servicios comunitarios en inglés y español. Si el 10% o más de las familias de sus áreas de servicio hablan principalmente un idioma que no es inglés o español, los establecimientos deben traducir el texto y poner el anuncio en ese idioma.

### **La regulación Hill-Burton del HHS figura en su totalidad en la parte 124, CFR 42.**

### **COMO PRESENTAR UNA QUEJA ANTE LA OCR**

La Oficina de Derechos Civiles es responsable de investigar quejas en el sentido de que hospitales y otros establecimientos de salud Hill-Burton no han cumplido con sus obligaciones en cuanto a la prestación de servicios comunitarios. Toda persona que considere que ha sido objeto de algún acto prohibido por la ley o que se le ha negado un derecho conforme a la Garantía de Servicios Comunitarios de la Ley Hill-Burton, puede presentar una queja ante la OCR. Incluya la siguiente información en su queja por escrito o solicite un formulario de Queja de Discriminación de la OCR:

- Su nombre completo, dirección y número de teléfono. Usted deberá firmar su nombre. (Si presenta una queja en nombre de otra persona, incluya también su nombre, dirección y número de teléfono, e indique su relación con esa persona; por ejemplo, esposo(a), abogado, amigo, etc...)
- El nombre y la dirección de la institución o agencia que usted cree que le ha discriminado.
- Cómo, cuándo y por qué cree usted que fue discriminado.
- Cualquier otra información pertinente.

Envíe la queja a la oficina regional de la OCR que aparece más adelante o bien a la sede de la OCR en Washington, D.C., cuya dirección figura al frente de esta hoja informativa.

Al recibir su queja, el personal de la OCR la examinará a fin de determinar si está amparada por las disposiciones relativas a servicios comunitarios de la Ley Hill-Burton. Si su queja se refiere a cuestiones contempladas en dicha legislación, se iniciará una investigación. Si se determina que hubo discriminación, la OCR negociará con la institución u organización la rectificación voluntaria del acto discriminatorio. De no llegarse a un arreglo satisfactorio, se podrán instituir procedimientos para el cumplimiento de la ley a fin de asegurar que no haya discriminación.

Si las cuestiones que fundamentan su queja no están contempladas en la Ley Hill-Burton, la OCR determinará si está amparada por alguna otra legislación relativa a derechos civiles, cuyo cumplimiento le incumba, (P.ej. el Artículo VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, la Sección 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitación de 1973, etc.). De no estarlo, o si determinamos que su queja no cae dentro de nuestra jurisdicción, la OCR quizá pueda referirla a otra agencia que pueda brindarle la asistencia del caso.

Si desea obtener información adicional acerca de sus derechos civiles conforme a las disposiciones relativas a la Garantía de Servicios Comunitarios de la Ley Hill-Burton, así como sobre otras leyes que la OCR hace cumplir, diríjase a cualquier oficina de la OCR. Si requiere una respuesta inmediata en relación con un problema de derechos civiles, puede llamar a los siguientes números de línea directa:

**En el área de Washington, D.C.,      Fuera de WashinLrton, D.C.**

VOZ: (202) 863-0100                      VOZ: 1-800-368-1019

TDD: (202) 863-0101                      TDD: 1-800-537-7697

Los empleados de la Oficina de Derechos Civiles harán todo lo posible por atenderlo con prontitud.

\* TDD - Dispositivo de telecomunicaciones para sordos

<http://www.hhs.gov/region10/ocr/noneng/spanhbfs.html>