



POLICY	SLIDING FEE	Policy No.	FIN-5
		Board Approval	11.14.14
Contact	Chief Finance Officer	Department	Finance
Purpose	Ensure as a provider of safety net services, Alluma is committed to the essential safety and well-being of all persons experiencing mental health disorders regardless of ability to pay.		

The policy of Alluma:

- As an Essential Community Provider and host of National Health Services Corps sponsored providers, Alluma has a policy that no person will be denied services due to their inability to pay.
- Provide mental health services to those in need of services regardless of the person's ability to pay.
- Alluma offers a sliding fee scale based on poverty guidelines and applicable to individuals falling below 275% of poverty.
- Three categories of discounts apply ranging from a discount of 25% to a full 100% discount.

Standards:

- 1) Eligibility is based on Income and Family Size in comparison to the Federal Poverty Guidelines
- 2) The client or parent/guardian must apply to receive the sliding fee discount on covered services.
 - a. Adolescents who qualify for "confidential" services (i.e. parents are not informed for qualifying clinical reasons) are exempt for the application requirement.
- 3) The sliding fee scale is the payment of last resort; the applicant must be willing to apply for all other applicable County Social Service or public health insurance for which they might be eligible. Alluma staff may assist clients in the application process. Individual private insurance is also billed first where applicable (see note a.).
 - a. An individual has the right to pay for services directly without submission to privately held insurance.
 - b. If an individual chooses not to allow submission of a claim to insurance, for reasons of confidentiality or other reasons, he/she must either pay the full cost or apply to receive an income-based discount based on this policy.
- 4) The Chief Executive Officer may waive requirements 2 and 3 upon receipt of evidence that the person's mental illness is so severe that application for funding is not possible.
- 5) Persons who are in the care of residential or correctional facilities that are responsible for the overall healthcare of their residents are not eligible for the discounted fee. Alluma will assist facility residents or incarcerated persons to secure funding for needed care.
- 6) Persons receiving a non-covered service should not be charged for care and are therefore not eligible to receive a sliding (discounted) fee.
- 7) Persons receiving court-mandated service are responsible for the full cost of service.