



Sawtooth Mountain Clinic Sliding Fee Scale Program

What is Sawtooth Mountain Clinic’s Sliding Fee Scale Program?

The Sliding Fee Scale program is a federal program that permits Sawtooth Mountain Clinic to reduce the normal costs of medical, dental, mental health, and other services for patients who qualify. All patients are encouraged to apply for the Sliding Fee Scale program, whether or not they have insurance and regardless of immigration status. Eligibility for the Sliding Fee Scale program is based on:

- The number of people who live in your household (spouse/partner, children, dependents)
- The amount of money earned by the people in the household

How can the Sliding Fee Scale program help you?

The program reduces your cost for visits to Sawtooth Mountain Clinic, as well as for the following services (see next page for specific service providers):

- Pharmacy
- Lab & X-ray
- Dental
- Vision

The Sliding Fee Scale program also reduces costs for the following **with a referral from your medical provider**:

- Physical Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Mental/Behavioral Health
- Hearing aids
- Initial consultation visit with a specialist

How much will I pay for services if I am on the Sliding Fee Scale program?

How much you pay for services depends on your Sliding Fee Scale patient pay level and what services you have done and can be found on page four. Sawtooth Mountain Clinic staff make the final determination on your level using the information you provide in your application. The following chart will help you determine what level you qualify for in the program:

Family/House hold size	Level A	Level B	Level C	Level D	Patient pays 100% of charge
1	\$0-15,060	15,061-20,783	20,784-25,100	25,101-30,120	30,121+
2	\$0-20,440	20,441-27,253	27,254-34,067	34,068-40,880	40,881+
3	\$0-25,820	25,821-34,487	34,428-43,033	43,034-51,640	51,641+
4	\$0-31,200	31,201-41,600	41,601-52,000	52,001-62,400	62,401+
5	\$0-36,580	36,581-48,773	48,774-60,967	60,968-73,160	73,161+
6	\$0-41,960	41,961-55,947	55,948-69,933	69,934-83,920	83,921+
7	\$0-47,340	47,341-63,120	63,121-78,900	78,901-94,680	94,681+
8	\$0-52,720	52,721-70,293	70,294-87,867	87,868-105,440	105,441+

Family units over 8, add the amount of 5,380 for each person.

How do I apply for the program?

Applying for the Sliding Fee Scale program is easy! Just pick up an application, fill it out, and return it to the clinic with proof of your income. Staff will review your application and determine if you qualify for the program and at what level.

Proof of Income

In order to qualify for the Sliding Fee Scale program, you will need to provide information about your family and your income. The proof of income must be returned to Sawtooth Mountain Clinic within 30 days of submitting the completed application. If you do not provide proof of income, your Sliding Fee Scale eligibility will end. **If you file taxes, we will need a copy of your 1040.** If you do not file taxes, contact the Sliding Fee Scale Program coordinator for assistance.

How long do I stay on the Sliding Fee Scale program once I am approved?

Enrollment in the Sliding Fee Scale program is good from June 1st of a given year to the following May 31st. All participants need to reapply and update their income each spring in order to remain on the program. If you have changes during the year with your household size and/or income coverage, please contact Sawtooth Mountain Clinic and ask to speak to the Sliding Fee Scale Program coordinator.

Once my application is approved, what exactly will the Sliding Scale program cover?

CT Scan: When done at North Shore Health Hospital and ordered by a SMC provider

Consultation (Initial outpatient): When a referral is made by a SMC Provider

Dental: For medically necessary services provided by Grand Marais Family Dentistry

Laboratory tests: At North Shore Health Hospital, must be ordered by a SMC Provider

Mental health/Behavioral Health Services: With a referral from a SMC Provider, visits may be scheduled with Kelly Senty, MS at Steps of Change.

MRI: with Mobile Unit available at North Shore Health Hospital, when ordered by an SMC Provider

Physical and Occupational Therapy: At North Shore Health Hospital or with Becky Stoner, PT at the Grand Marais Wellness Center; PT and OT must be ordered by a SMC Provider.

Prescription drugs: Prescriptions obtained at the Sawtooth Mountain Clinic Pharmacy in Grand Marais and Essentia Health Clinic in Silver Bay are covered when a SMC Provider writes the prescription. **Prescriptions are not covered** if they are written for items available over-the-counter, except for diabetic supplies – these are covered with a written prescription (yearly) from one a SMC provider.

Primary health care services: Must see a provider or nurse at SMC

X-ray and diagnostic tests: At North Shore Health Hospital, must be ordered by a SMC Provider

Vision Care: Basic vision exams up to twice per year as necessary when performed by St. Luke's Ophthalmology Associates. Sliding Fee Scale will **NOT** cover eyeglasses or contact lenses.

Hearing Aid Assistance: For the purchase of hearing aids when arranged through hearing providers visiting SMC; assistance will be reviewed on a case by case basis and must be pre-approved

THE SLIDING FEE SCALE PROGRAM DOES NOT COVER emergency room, cardiac rehab, supplies, IV therapy, in-patient or observation at the hospital, nursing home charges, prescriptions while in the North Shore Health Care Center, or as an in-patient. Cook County North Shore Health Hospital does have a Community Care program available for patients who qualify.

How does billing work?

Sawtooth Mountain Clinic will bill your insurance (if any). After insurance has been processed, you will be responsible for the amount after the Sliding Fee Scale is applied to the total charge. You will then be billed by Sawtooth Mountain Clinic for what you owe. See the Sliding Fee Scale Benefits by Service page for additional details.

The terms and limitations of the Sliding Fee Scale program are subject to change at any time.

If you need translation assistance, interpretive services are available in any language.

**For more information about the Sliding Fee Scale program,
please contact Sawtooth Mountain Clinic at 218-387-2330 and ask for Lynnea Morse.**