



SLIDING FEE SCHEDULE POLICY

Purpose

We believe everyone should get the hearing care they need. We offer lower prices based on your income and family size where you can qualify for reduced services and lower cost on hearing devices. This is called a sliding fee schedule.

Who Can Get Lower Prices?

We have 5 different price levels:

Slide A – For people making 100% or less of the Federal Poverty Guideline

Slide B – For people making 101% to 140% of the Federal Poverty Guideline

Slide C – For people making 141% to 175% of the Federal Poverty Guideline

Slide D – For people making 176% to 200% of the Federal Poverty Guideline

Slide F – For people making more than 200% of the Federal Poverty Guideline (full price, but may get help with hearing device costs only)

The following table gives you an overview of the determination criteria set by the Federal Poverty Guidelines:

Family Size	Slide A	Slide B	Slide C	Slide D	Slide F
1	≤ \$15,650	≤ \$21,910	≤ \$27,388	≤ \$31,300	\$31,301 and over
2	≤ \$21,150	≤ \$29,610	≤ \$37,013	≤ \$42,300	\$42,301 and over
3	≤ \$26,650	≤ \$37,310	≤ \$46,638	≤ \$53,300	\$53,301 and over
4	≤ \$32,150	≤ \$45,010	≤ \$56,263	≤ \$64,300	\$64,301 and over
5	≤ \$37,650	≤ \$52,710	≤ \$65,888	≤ \$75,300	\$75,301 and over
6	≤ \$43,150	≤ \$60,410	≤ \$75,513	≤ \$86,300	\$86,301 and over
7	≤ \$48,650	≤ \$68,110	≤ \$85,138	≤ \$97,300	\$97,301 and over
8	≤ \$54,150	≤ \$75,810	≤ \$94,763	≤ \$108,300	\$108,301 and over



Automatic Approval

You **automatically qualify** if you have a current card or benefit letter for any of these programs:

For Slide A:

- SSI (Supplemental Security Income)
- SNAP (Food Stamps)
- TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families)
- WIC (Women, Infants, and Children)

For Slide B:

- Medicaid (for Ohio or West Virginia)
- CHIP (Children's Health Insurance Program)
- Section 8 Housing
- LIHEAP (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program)

What to bring: Just show us your current benefit card or approval letter. We will make a copy for our records. You do not need to provide other income documents if you have one of these benefits, unless you would like to qualify for a different sliding scale.

How to Apply

If you don't have one of the benefit cards or letters listed above, **you can still apply**. Here's what to do:

- Visit our website and download a copy of the Affordable Care Application form
- Fill out the form completely
- Gather the required documents (see below)
- Submit by email to info@happyyearsaudiology.org or fax to 740-538-5602

What Documents You Need

Required for Everyone:

- Copy of Driver's License or State ID
- Current audiogram (hearing test from the last 12 months). If you have had a hearing test in the last 12 months, it is your responsibility to contact the clinic you received the test from and obtain a copy to provide to our clinic.

Bring If You Have It:

- Copy of insurance card (Medicare, Medicaid, or other)



Income Documents (bring what applies to you):

You must show all income for everyone age 18 and over in your household. Pick the documents that match your income:

- Most recent 3 pay stubs (if you work)
- Bank statements for checking and savings accounts (last 90 days)
- Social Security or Disability income letter
- Unemployment benefits letter
- Child support or spousal support records
- Proof of other income (investments, family support, or anything else)

Special Circumstances:

- If you have special hardships (like large medical bills), bring proof of these expenses.

Household Size:

Count everyone living in your home, including yourself, your spouse, children under 18, and any other dependents you claim on your taxes.

How We Decide

- We review your application within 5 business days
- We check your total household income against the Federal Poverty Guidelines
- We assign you to the right slide level (A, B, C, D, or F)
- We will contact you with our decision and which slide level you qualify for, if applicable.

Your approval lasts for 12 months. After that, you need to reapply.

Who Makes the Decision?

Our Office reviews all sliding fee applications. If you disagree with the decision, you can ask to speak with the Office Manager who will re-review your application.

Your Privacy

All your financial information is kept private and secure. We follow HIPAA rules and allow you to view our Notice of Privacy Policy whenever you'd like. Only staff who need to see your information will see it.



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Your Payment Responsibility

Getting approval for the sliding fee schedule does not remove your responsibility to pay. You must still pay the reduced amount that is assigned to your slide level at the time of your visit, unless other arrangements for payment have been made in advance. You will receive a bill showing what you owe.

Questions?

Call our office, or email info@happyyearsaudiology.org. We are here to help you get the care you need.

References:

- Ohio Medicaid eligibility: <https://medicaid.ohio.gov>
- West Virginia Medicaid eligibility: <https://dhhr.wv.gov/bms/>
- Federal Poverty Guidelines: <https://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty-guidelines>

Effective Date: February 13, 2026