

0-2

3-5

6-17

18-20

21+



Community Health Centers

Arizona's Community Health Centers (CHCs) are public, nonprofit organizations that provide primary and preventative health care to patients of all ages, regardless of their ability to pay or lack of insurance. In order to get federal funds as a "federally qualified health center" (FQHC), a Community Health Center must serve a Medically Underserved Area (MUA) or Medically Underserved Population (MUP). The first CHCs were established by federal law in the 1960s. Arizona has 35 Centers with more than 100 locations, including school-based clinics. In 2005, these CHCs provided care to approximately 500,000 Arizonans.

WHO is Eligible?

CHCs serve patients of all ages regardless of their ability to pay or insurance status. People who have AHCCCS, KidsCare or private health coverage can receive CHC services. However, CHCs are not "free clinics"; if your health plan or the clinic's Sliding Fee Scale requires payment, it will be collected at time of service.

WHAT Services Are Provided?

Varies by site based on community's needs, but may include:

- Primary Health Care, including:
 - Routine health exams & screenings
 - Prescription drugs/pharmacy
 - Diagnostic lab & x-ray
 - Referrals to specialists
 - Behavioral health treatment & counseling
 - Immunizations & well child care
 - Prenatal care
 - Dental & vision services
 - Physical & occupational therapy
- Wellness/Prevention Programs, such as:
 - Diabetes management
 - HIV/AIDS prevention
 - Smoking cessation
 - Substance abuse counseling & treatment
 - Nutrition counseling
- Patient transportation
- Translation services

HOW MUCH Does it Cost?

CHCs accept private health insurance, AHCCCS, KidsCare, and Medicare. If a patient has no insurance coverage, the CHC can assist with eligibility screening and application for AHCCCS, KidsCare and related programs.

Some patients without insurance have incomes too

high to qualify for state/federal medical assistance programs. However, they may qualify for a "Sliding Fee Scale" (SFS) — a discounted rate for the cost of the service based on how much money the person earns. Sliding Fee Scales and services offered may differ from clinic to clinic. Here's a sample SFS scale (check with your local clinic for their specific rates):

0%-100% FPL	Patient pays 25% of service cost
101%-150% FPL	Patient pays 50% of service cost
151%-200% FPL	Patient pays 75% of service cost
Above 201% FPL	Patient pays full cost of service

HOW Are Services Delivered?

Services are generally provided in clinic setting, but some CHCs offer services through a mobile clinic or in the school setting.

WHAT Documents Do I Need?

You need to provide income documents (e.g. pay stubs, proof of previous month's income) to be considered for the Sliding Fee Scale. If you are enrolled in AHCCCS, KidsCare or a private health plan, you need to provide your membership card at time of service. If currently uninsured, you should bring proof of previous month's income and proof of residency and citizenship for verification so the CHC can help you apply for AHCCCS, KidsCare and related programs.

WHERE Do I Apply?

For a list of Community Health Centers

- **Call:** 602/253-0090 (Arizona Association of Community Health Centers)
- **Download from the Internet:**
<http://www.aachc.org/memberslist.html>