


**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
Federal Bureau of Prisons**



**PROGRAM STATEMENT
Inmate Copayment Program**

Approved by	 William K. Marshall III Director, Federal Bureau of Prisons
DPI	HSD
Number	6032.01
Date	May 7, 2026

Summary of Changes

<i>Program Statement Rescinded:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">6031.02 Inmate Copayment Program (8/15/2005)
<i>Changes:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">The program statement number has been changed.Updated language and clarification of applicable Code of Federal Regulations in regard to the Federal Prisoner Health Care Copayment Act of 2000.

1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

§ 549.70 Purpose and scope.

- (a) The Bureau of Prisons (Bureau) may, under certain circumstances, charge you, an inmate under our care and custody, a fee for providing you with health care services.

All inmates have access to Bureau health care services. The Bureau will charge a copayment (copay) fee for inmate requested visits to health care providers. Inmates will not be denied access to necessary health care because of an inmate’s inability to pay the copay fee.

a. Program Objectives.

- Inmates will be encouraged to be more responsible for their own health care.
- The Bureau will promote the appropriate use of health care services by inmates.

b. Institution Supplement. None.

2. PAYMENT FOR HEALTH CARE SERVICES

(b) Generally, if you are an inmate as described in § 549.71, you must pay a fee for health care services of \$2.00 per health care visit if you:

- (1) Receive health care services in connection with a health care visit that you requested, (except for services described in § 549.72); or
 - (2) Are found responsible through the Disciplinary Hearing Process to have injured an inmate who, as a result of the injury, requires a health care visit.
- The inmate presents with an acute exacerbation of a chronic condition, provided there is prior documentation indicating resolution of the acute episode between visits.

If an inmate is evaluated by more than one provider during a health care visit, the inmate will only be charged for one visit.

Inmates will not be charged a copay fee for a medical evaluation requested by non-clinical staff if the condition is not an emergency (e.g., injury assessment before placement in the Special Housing Unit (SHU), evaluation for hunger strike, restraint check).

3. INMATES AFFECTED

§ 549.71 Inmates affected.

This subpart applies to:

- (a) Any individual incarcerated in an institution under the Bureau's jurisdiction; or
- (b) Any other individual, as designated by the Director, who has been charged with or convicted of an offense against the United States.

Inmates designated to a Medical Referral Center (MRC), who are assigned medical or psychiatric out-patient status, will be charged a copay fee for inmate requested visits not directly related to their primary diagnoses.

- Inmates designated to the general population/work cadre of an MRC will be charged a copay fee except for services described in § 549.72 (see Section 4 of this program statement).
- Inmates housed in SHU will be charged copay fees for services described in § 549.72 (see Section 4 of this program statement).

4. HEALTH CARE SERVICES PROVIDED WITHOUT A COPAY FEE

§ 549.72 Services provided without fees.

We will not charge a fee for:

- (a) Health care services based on staff referrals;
- (b) Staff-approved follow-up treatment for a chronic condition;
- (c) Preventive health care services;
- (d) Emergency services;
- (e) Prenatal care;
- (f) Diagnosis or treatment of chronic infectious diseases;
- (g) Mental health care; or
- (h) Substance abuse treatment.

Examples of health care services based on staff referrals, follow-up treatment for chronic conditions, and preventive health care include, but are not limited to:

- blood pressure monitoring
- glucose monitoring
- insulin injections
- Chronic Care Clinics
- testing for tuberculosis
- vaccinations
- wound care
- patient education

5. APPEALING THE FEE

§ 549.73 Appealing the fee.

You may seek review of issues related to health service fees through the Bureau's Administrative Remedy Program (see 28 CFR part 542).

28 CFR 542 refers to Section 2 of this program statement.

6. INMATES WITHOUT FUNDS

§ 549.74 Inmates without funds.

You will not be charged a health care service fee if you are considered indigent and unable to pay the health care service fee. The Warden may establish procedures to prevent abuse of this provision.

7. PROCEDURES TO COLLECT INMATE COPAY FEE

Based on the health care provider's clinical evaluation and diagnosis of the inmate, Health Services staff will determine whether a copay fee will be charged.

- All inmate health care visits will be entered into the electronic health record by the provider and a selection of a copay or no copay will be chosen.

8. ALLOCATION OF FUNDS COLLECTED

Allocation of funds collected will be in accordance to 18 USC 4048(g), which provides in part:

Allocation of other amounts.- Of amounts collected by the Director under this section from prisoners not subject to an order of restitution issued pursuant to section 3663 or 3663A-

- 75 percent shall be deposited in the Crime Victims Fund established under section 1402 of the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10601); and
- 25 percent shall be available to the Attorney General for administrative expenses incurred in carrying out this section.

9. NOTICE TO INMATES

Notification of the Federal Prisoner Health Care Copayment Act of 2000 will be provided both orally, and in writing, during Admission and Orientation (A&O).

REFERENCES

Program Statements

None referenced

Federal Statutes

Federal Prisoner Health Care Copayment Act of 2000, 18 U.S.C. § 4001

Fees for Health Care Services for Prisoners, 18 U.S.C § 4048

Federal Regulations

28 CFR § 549.70–549.74

28 CFR 542

ACA Standards

Performance-Based Standards and Expected Practices for Adult Correctional Facilities (5th Edition): 5-ACI-6A-02

Performance-Based Standards and Expected Practices for Adult Local Detention Facilities (5th Edition): 5-ALDF-6A-02

Records Retention Requirements

Requirements and retention guidance for records and information applicable to this program are available in the Records and Information Disposition Schedule (RIDS) on the Bureau's intranet site.