

## Admission Access to Seattle Children's

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**POLICY:**

Seattle Children's provides health care appropriate for the special needs of children up to 21 years of age who are residents of Washington, Alaska, Montana, or Idaho, regardless of their ability to pay. Children's **Administrative P&P**, Financial Assistance, provides further details about how this objective is effectively achieved for this patient population. Additionally, the **Administrative P&Ps**, Patients Living Outside of the United States, Financial Clearance for Patients Living in the US Outside of the WAMI Region, and Patient 21 years or Older, detail Children's requirements for funding non-emergency care for other patient populations.

Children's complies with Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act (EMTALA) regulations which require all patients presenting for care in the Emergency Department (ED) to be medically screened and stabilized, regardless of patient age or residency. Further details can be referenced in the **Emergency Department P&P**, Exam and Stabilization of Patients Presenting to the Emergency Department.

Admission of patients needing medically necessary care occurs without discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, religion, sex (gender), gender identity, sexual orientation, or disability, consistent with requirements defined by the US Department of Health and Human Services Office for Civil Rights and the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services.

All patients who enter the Children's system are carefully assessed at the time of entry, and appropriately placed in a patient care area that most meets their assessed needs.

**PURPOSE:**

To describe our commitment to serve all children in our region seeking our care.

Owners: Senior Director Revenue Cycle and Value Stream  
Senior VP, Chief Financial Officer

Reviewed by: Suzanne Vanderwerff, Senior Director, Revenue Cycle and Value Stream  
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Approved by: Lisa Brandenburg, President, Hospital

LAST REVISED: 02/14

#### **REFERENCES:**

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). (1986). Emergency Medical Treatment & Labor Act. Retrieved February 5, 2014 from: <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Legislation/EMTALA/index.html?redirect=/EMTALA/>

US Department of Health & Human Services (HHS). Office for Civil Rights. Retrieved February 5, 2014 from: <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/index.html>

Washington Administrative Code (WAC). (2013, December 23). WAC 246-320-141, Patient rights and organizational ethics. Retrieved February 5, 2014 from: <http://search.leg.wa.gov/search.aspx#results>

Washington State Department of Social & Health Services (DSHS). (2010). Chapter 5, Affirmative Action and Nondiscrimination. Retrieved February 5, 2014 from: <http://www.dshs.wa.gov/SearchAll.shtml?qt=nondiscrimination>