

# HSN Explained

## Health Safety Net Videos

*Community Partners and the Division of Health Care Finance and Policy collaborated to make a series of videos explaining the Health Safety Net (HSN).*

### **How does someone request medical hardship assistance? Is there any limit?**

If an individual or a family has a lot of unpaid medical bills, they can apply for Medical Hardship assistance from the Health Safety Net at their hospital or community health center. Providers have Medical Hardship applications and should assist patients in filing out the form. Only a provider can initiate a medical hardship application.

To qualify for Medical Hardship assistance, a patient's medical bills need to be larger than a certain percentage of their income. This percentage ranges from 10% of income for families under 200% of the federal poverty level to 40% of income for families over 600% of the federal poverty level. There is no limit on income for Medical Hardship assistance. Assets are not taken into account in determining Medical Hardship.