

The Free/Low-cost Medical Treatment Program

◆ Outline of the Program

This program offers free or low-cost medical treatment so that access to appropriate medical services will not be limited due to personal economic or other difficulties. This program is carried out based on the Social Welfare Act, Article 2. (3). (i).

◎ The following people are eligible:

Those who are facing economic or other struggles such as:

- People with low income
- People who are receiving or in need of government assistance
- People who have no home
- Victims of domestic violence
- Victims of human trafficking

(Regardless of nationality or whether you are a policyholder of any medical insurance or not, if you are among those listed above, you are eligible.)

◎ Amount of reduction

10% or more of your total medical expenses will be reduced.

However, the actual reduced amount differs depending on each income condition and medical institution. So please confirm at each medical institution when you apply for the program.

◎ How to apply for the program

Please select from either (1) or (2).

(1) Directly consult with the medical institution you use.

(2) Consult with your nearby municipal welfare office or social welfare council.

◎ Medical institutions that practice this program in Osaka Prefecture

(Excluding cities classified as a designated city or core city, which are stated below*)

Please see the website below for medical institutions that practice the Free/Low-cost Medical Treatment Program.

<https://www.pref.osaka.lg.jp/houjin/muryoteigaku/index.html>

The application procedures and conditions vary depending on each medical institution. So please ask directly at each institution.

Regarding the medical institutions under jurisdiction of the following municipalities, please refer to each website or ask directly at each city:

*The cities of: Osaka, Sakai, Takatsuki, Higashiosaka, Toyonaka, Hirakata, Yao, Neyagawa and Suita

**Please note that some municipalities don't have any medical institutions that practice the Free/Low-cost Medical Treatment Program.

◆ Other

Other than the Free/Low-cost Medical Treatment Program, we also have the Free/Low-cost Long-term Care (health) Facility-use Program and the Free/Low-cost Care Medical Center-use Program.

These programs offer reduction of expenses to those who have difficulty in paying the necessary charges due to economic reasons. There are some conditions to apply for the programs, so please ask at your municipal office for further details.