

## Good Faith Estimate

In January, 2022, a law went into effect clarifying that you have the right to receive a “*Good Faith Estimate*” explaining how much your medical care will cost.

Under the law, all health care providers need to give patients who don’t have insurance, or who are not using insurance, an estimate of the bill for medical items and services.

You do not need a *Good Faith Estimate* if you have *any* kind of health insurance coverage (including government insurance programs like Medicare, Medicaid, or Tricare), AND if you intend to submit a claim to that insurance for your services.

Apart from the law, it makes sense that we discuss fees.

You have the right to receive a *Good Faith Estimate* for the total expected cost of any non-emergency items or services. This includes related costs like medical tests, prescription drugs, equipment, and hospital fees.

The law stipulates that your health care provider gives you a *Good Faith Estimate*, in writing, at least 1 business day before your medical service or item. You can also ask your health care provider, and any other provider you choose, for a *Good Faith Estimate* before you schedule an item or service.

If you receive a bill that is at least \$400 more than your *Good Faith Estimate*, you can dispute the bill.

Make sure to save a copy or picture of your *Good Faith Estimate*.

For questions or more information about your right to a Good Faith Estimate, visit [www.cms.gov/nosurprises](http://www.cms.gov/nosurprises) or call me at 301 758 7555.

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