

TENNESSEE

Community Benefit Requirement

Tennessee law does not expressly require nonprofit hospitals to provide community benefits.

Minimum Community Benefit Requirement

Tennessee law does not expressly require nonprofit hospitals to provide community benefits.

Community Benefit Reporting Requirement

Tennessee requires nonprofit hospitals to report charity care.

All hospitals licensed by the Department of Health must file a joint annual report “of the statistical particulars relative to their patients for the fiscal year,” including financial data relating to charity care and bad debt. [Tenn. Code 68-11-310\(a\)\(1\)](#); [Tenn. Code §68-1-109](#); Tennessee Department of Health, [Joint Annual Report of Hospitals form](#), p. 18.

Community Health Needs Assessment

Tennessee does not require nonprofit hospitals to conduct community health needs assessments.

Community Benefit Plan/Implementation Strategy

Tennessee does not require nonprofit hospitals to develop community benefit plans or implementation strategies.

Financial Assistance Policy

Tennessee does not require hospitals to adopt or implement financial assistance policies but requires hospitals that have charity care policies to develop a “concise statement” of these policies.

Tennessee requires each hospital that has a charity care policy to develop a “concise statement” of its policy “for use by members of the public.” [Tenn. Code §68-11-268 \(2007\)](#).



Financial Assistance Policy Dissemination

Tennessee requires hospitals to post their financial assistance policies.

Tennessee law requires all hospitals to post a statement of their charity care policies in a place accessible to the public. [Tenn. Code §68-11-268](#).

Limitations on Charges, Billing, and Collections

Tennessee law limits nonprofit hospital charges, billing, and collection practices.

Tennessee law prohibits all hospitals from requiring an uninsured patient to pay an amount that exceeds 175 percent of the cost for the services provided (calculated using the cost-to-charge ratio in the most recent joint annual report to the state's Department of Health). The Department of Health is required to maintain the confidentiality of information regarding the amounts a hospital bills for services obtained pursuant to §68-11-262. [Tenn. Code §68-11-262](#).

Income Tax Exemption

Tennessee has no income tax except on interest and dividend income, from which nonprofit hospitals are not exempt. [USA Today, April 26, 2014](#).

Property Tax Exemption

Tennessee exempts from state property tax charitable institutions' property used for carrying out its exempt purposes.

Tennessee law exempts from state property tax the real and personal property owned by any charitable institution that is used for carrying out its exempt purposes. [Tenn. Code §67-5-212\(a\)\(1\)](#).

Sales Tax Exemption

Tennessee law exempts nonprofit hospitals from its sales and business taxes.

Tennessee law governing sales and use tax provides for the exemption of sales to organizations that are exempt from federal tax pursuant to Internal Revenue Code §501(c)(3). [Tenn. Code Ann. §67-6-322\(b\)](#).