

Passages of Hope Counseling, PLLC | Melinda Herrera, M.S., LPC-S | 726-262-0393

**Good Faith Estimate (GFE) Notices and Waiver:** 01/01/2022 to 12/31/2022

**You have the right to receive a “Good Faith Estimate”  
explaining how much your medical care will cost**

Under the law, 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 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.
- Make sure 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.

For questions or more information about your right to a Good Faith Estimate, visit [www.cms.gov/nosurprises](https://www.cms.gov/nosurprises) or call 1-800-985-3059.



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**Disclaimer**

This Good Faith Estimate shows the costs of items and services that are reasonably expected for your health care needs for an item or service. The estimate is based on information known at the time the estimate was created.

The Good Faith Estimate does not include any unknown or unexpected costs that may arise during treatment. You could be charged more if complications or special circumstances occur. If this happens, federal law allows you to dispute (appeal) the bill.

**If you are billed for more than this Good Faith Estimate, you have the right to dispute the bill.**

You may contact the health care provider or facility listed to let them know the billed charges are higher than the Good Faith Estimate. You can ask them to update the bill to match the Good Faith Estimate, ask to negotiate the bill, or ask if there is financial assistance available.

You may also start a dispute resolution process with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). If you choose to use the dispute resolution process, you must start the dispute process within 120 calendar days (about 4 months) of the date on the original bill.

There is a \$25 fee to use the dispute process. If the agency reviewing your dispute agrees with you, you will have to pay the price on this Good Faith Estimate. If the agency disagrees with you and agrees with the health care provider or facility, you will have to pay the higher amount.

To learn more and get a form to start the process, go to [www.cms.gov/nosurprises](https://www.cms.gov/nosurprises) or call 1-800-985-3059.

**For questions or more information** about your right to a Good Faith Estimate or the dispute process, visit [www.cms.gov/nosurprises](https://www.cms.gov/nosurprises) or call 1-800-985-3059.

**Keep a copy of this Good Faith Estimate in a safe place or take pictures of it. You may need it if you are billed a higher amount.**



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**Surprise Billing Protection Form**

The purpose of this document is to let you know about your protections from unexpected medical bills. It also asks whether you would like to give up those protections and pay more for out-of-network care.

**IMPORTANT: You aren't required to sign this form and shouldn't sign it if you didn't have a choice of health care provider when you received care. You can choose to get care from a provider or facility in your health plan's network, which may cost you less.**

**If you'd like assistance with this document, ask your provider or a patient advocate. Take a picture and/or keep a copy of this form for your records.**

You're getting this notice because this provider or facility isn't in your health plan's network. This means the provider or facility doesn't have an agreement with your plan.

**Getting care from this provider or facility could cost you more.**

If your plan covers the item or service you're getting, federal law protects you from higher bills:

- When you get emergency care from out-of-network providers and facilities, or
- When an out-of-network provider treats you at an in-network hospital or ambulatory surgical center without your knowledge or consent.

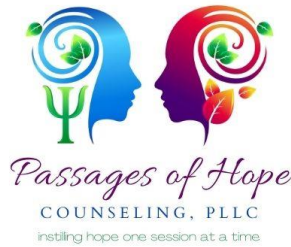
Ask your health care provider or patient advocate if you need help knowing if these protections apply to you.

If you sign this form, you may pay more because:

- You are giving up your protections under the law.
- You may owe the full costs billed for items and services received.
- Your health plan might not count any of the amount you pay towards your deductible and out-of-pocket limit. Contact your health plan for more information.

You shouldn't sign this form if you **didn't** have a choice of providers when receiving care. For example, if a doctor was assigned to you with no opportunity to make a change.

Before deciding whether to sign this form, you can contact your health plan to find an in-network provider or facility. If there isn't one, your health plan might work out an agreement with this provider or facility, or another one.



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**By signing, I give up my federal consumer protections and agree to pay more for out-of-network care.**

With my signature, I am saying that I agree to get the items or services from:

Melinda Herrera, M.S., LPC-S  
NPI #: 1073920906  
Tax ID: 832551630  
Texas License #: 69683

With my signature, I acknowledge that I am consenting of my own free will and am not being coerced or pressured. I also understand that:

- I'm giving up some consumer billing protections under federal law.
- I may get a bill for the full charges for these items and services, or have to pay out-of-network cost-sharing under my health plan.
- I was given a written notice on [enter date of notice] explaining that my provider or facility isn't in my health plan's network, the estimated cost of services, and what I may owe if I agree to be treated by this provider or facility.
- I got the notice either on paper or electronically, consistent with my choice.
- I fully and completely understand that some or all amounts I pay might not count toward my health plan's deductible or out-of-pocket limit.
- I can end this agreement by notifying the provider or facility in writing before getting services.

**IMPORTANT:** You don't have to sign this form. But if you don't sign, this provider or facility might not treat you. You can choose to get care from a provider or facility in your health plan's network.

_____	or	_____
Patient's signature		Guardian / authorized representative's signature
_____		_____
Print name of patient		Print name of guardian / authorized representative
_____		_____
Date / time of signature		Date / time of signature

**Take a picture and / or keep a copy of this form.**

**It contains important information about your rights and protections.**