

PATIENT FINANCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

ADMINISTERING VALLEY DIVIDEND PROGRAM

Department: Administration / Customer Service

Policy Heading: Financial Assistance

Policy Number: PFS.1000.6

Purpose: This procedure outlines the process of offering of a special return on the investment of King County Public Hospital District #1 resident homeowner's support of the hospital through the tax levy payments. Tax levy payments to benefit the hospital district began in 1968.

Procedure:

Valley Medical Center offers a Valley Tax Dividend adjustment to qualified King County Public Hospital District #1 homeowner in light of the previously paid property taxes paid in support of the hospital district to reduce the personal financial responsibility portions of eligible accounts.

The amount of the adjustment will be determined based on the levied taxes paid for Hospital District Number #1 per the official King County Tax Records. The lifetime maximum amount of Valley Tax Dividend Adjustment for any Hospital District #1 residence is \$3,000.

Patients must request the Valley Tax Dividend adjustment consideration. Patients may obtain the necessary information to apply for a Valley Tax Dividend credit by accessing one of the following locations:

- Valley Dividend Program hotline at 425-690-3575
- Valleymed.org web-site
- Contacting a Customer Service Patient Account Representative at (425) 690-3578, Option 5.

Valley Medical Center currently has a Valley Dividend hotline established for patients to call with questions or requests to apply for the Valley Dividend program. The hotline number is 425-690-3575. This is a vectored line, so when messages are retrieved from this hotline, the extension Valley Medical Center staff must use to access the messages is 1129. The Hospital Patient Financial Services Customer Service Patient Account Representatives are responsible for managing and responding to any and all messages left on this line.

Application and Determination of Valley Tax Dividend Adjustment

For services received after 8/11/10 -

1. Patients (responsible parties) that are a resident homeowner living within the boundaries of King County Public Hospital District #1 may be eligible to apply for the Valley Tax Dividend Adjustment for the following services:
 - Inpatient hospitalization: 100% of outstanding facility charges are eligible for credit
 - Emergency Department: 100% of outstanding facility charges are eligible for credit
 - Outpatient eye surgery services from Valley Medical Center's Eye Center: 100% of outstanding facility charges are eligible for credit.
 - Chronic Care Management services: 100% of outstanding clinical services are eligible for credit.
 - All Other Outpatient Services including Diagnostic Imaging, Outpatient Surgery, Observation-status admissions, Rehabilitation Services, Endoscopy, Radiation Therapy, and Sleep Studies: 50% of outstanding facility charges are eligible for credit.
2. The patient (responsible party) must be the tax payer, taxpayer's spouse or dependent minor in order to receive a Valley Tax Dividend Adjustment.
3. The patient (responsible party) will be asked to provide information (application attached below) describing the name of the district homeowner, the property address, and the year the home was purchased, or if the residence has been sold, the date of the transfer.
4. The patient (responsible party) will be advised that the hospital staff will verify the property homeowner's district status using the district map or current Thomas Guide. The Patient Account Representative will also review the tax payment records, identify the amount of levy taxes paid over the years of homeownership and apply any remaining Tax Dividend credit that has not been applied to previous accounts to the patient's (responsible party's) outstanding personal financial responsibility balance.
5. All third-party benefits and insurance payment must be assigned and paid prior to determining eligibility. The Tax Dividend credit may then be applied to out-of-pocket hospital expenses owed to Valley Medical Center. The Tax Dividend credit will apply only to Valley Medical Center facility charges including room and board, nursing services, medication and supplies. The Tax Dividend credit will not apply to provider/physician fees with the exception of the Chronic Care Management program.
6. Only accounts in good standing will be considered eligible for a Valley Tax Dividend Adjustment. That means the account cannot have been referred to a professional collection agency longer than 30 days prior to the date of the Tax Dividend adjustment request.

7. Adjustments in the amount of the available Valley Tax Dividend Adjustment will be posted to the patient's account using the Epic adjustment code 8025 VMC District Adjustment reducing the patient's outstanding personal financial responsibility balance. The Valley Dividend Adjustment Application will be scanned into the patient's record in ChartMaxx.
8. Tax records are available from the current year back to 1980. Patients (responsible parties) who live / own their primary residence in the hospital district may provide copies of tax bills if prior to 1980 if they are available, to assist the research of Valley Tax Dividend Adjustment eligibility. Patients will not, however, be required to provide property tax records in order to receive consideration for the Valley Dividend Program.
9. The Patient Account Representatives will maintain a master log of all Valley Tax Dividend Adjustments provided to district homeowners. Once the patient (responsible party) has been provided with adjustments in the full amount of district support property taxes paid, they will not be available for further Valley Dividends until more taxes are paid. If the Valley Dividend Adjustment does not fully use all prior year taxes paid, the remaining amount of taxes paid can be used to reduce future hospital personal financial responsibility balances.
10. As a final point of clarification, the **Valley Tax Dividend** Adjustment calculation can only be taken for the district homeowner's **primary residence**. Taxes paid for additional rental, business or other investment properties are not considerable for Valley Dividend calculation.

Valley Tax Dividend Application

Date: _____

Patient Name _____ Date of Service _____ IP Yes or No (circle)

PT Account Number _____ Person calling _____

Relationship to title holder: Homeowner /_/ Spouse /_/ Power of attorney /_/

Title Holder's Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Name used at purchase _____

Other names used _____

Current residence __Yes__ No Year home purchased _____ Year home sold _____

Other address(es) within district

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Purchased _____ Sold _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Purchased _____ Sold _____

Responsible party signature _____

If telephone interview, patient acct rep _____

Taxes paid:

Table with 4 columns: Year (2018-2010), Year (2009-2001), Year (2000-1992), and Total taxes paid. Includes a row for 'Total taxes paid' and a row for '\$'.

Dividend Calculation

Total taxes paid _____ ÷ years pulled _____ = Average tax rate _____

Average tax rate _____ × years home owned _____ = Calculated paid taxes _____ (Dividend adjustment)

Adj posted to prior accounts: \$ _____ Current Adj date: _____ Account balance \$ _____

Total available dividend adj \$ _____ Dividend applied \$ _____ Dividend bal remaining \$ _____

Account balance after dividend posted \$ _____ (if applicable)

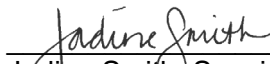
Posted to account # _____ Posted by _____


Effective Date: 10/87

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Review Date(s): 9/94 / 6/99 / 5/04 / 3/05 / 6/10 / 8/10 / 9/10 / 2/11 / 1/12 / 2/13 / 10/14 / 3/15 / 5/15

Depts Affected: Patient Financial Services

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