



**Section: Program Administration**  
**Policy: PA 19**  
**Subject: Client Eligibility and Priority for Services**

**POLICY:** No person will be denied treatment on the basis of religion, age, sex, race, color, creed, national origin, handicap, number of pregnancies, marital status, contraceptive preference or the source of payment.

**PROCEDURE:**

1. Services are provided without subjecting individuals to any coercion to receive services or use any particular method of family planning.
2. Clients will be eligible for services without the imposition of any residency requirement or requirement that the client be referred by a physician.
3. No person will be denied services due to inability to pay.
4. Low income clients must receive priority services in the event that the program cannot handle a full client load. Women at risk (below age 17 or above age 35) also receive priority for services.
5. If the clinic is operating at capacity level, the following steps are to be taken to assure the above:
  - a) The clinic will screen for financial eligibility on all clients requesting services in order to assure that the low income population receives services. Persons at 100 percent of FPL or code zero on the statewide schedule of discounts will be given priority.
  - b) Persons below 150% of poverty are next priority.
  - c) Persons between 150% and 250% of federal poverty limit are next priority.
  - d) Persons  $\geq$  250% federal poverty limit are next priority.

**References:**

1. North Dakota Century Code, Chapter 23-35 Public Health Units
2. The Title X regulations at 42 CFR 59.5(a)