

Report Accompanying Ministerial Decision

Waiving of Termination of Pregnancy (ToP) fees in specified circumstances

1. Health and Care Jersey (HCJ) charges for the provision of its ToP service. The current charges are:
 - a. If you have been resident in Jersey for 6 months or more - £185
 - b. If you have been resident in Jersey for less than 6 months and do not meet any other criteria in the HCJ residents and non-residents charging policy - £511
2. The current charges are applied as a matter of HCJ Departmental policy. They are not statutory charges. The Termination of Pregnancy (Jersey) Law 1997 is being amended and, subject to Assembly decision-making, it is envisaged that the amended law will include a power which enables the Minister to set future charges by Order.
3. On the introduction of that Order making power the current charges will be reviewed as they have not been subject to formal review, including any inflationary increase, since 2012.
4. In the intervening period, the Assistant Minister for Health and Social Services, who has delegated responsibility for women's health matters, has determined that:
 - a. current charges should be retained
 - b. certain categories of people should be automatically exempt from ToP charges
5. Clarification of current charges
6. The current fees remain aligned to the current provisions of the HCJ's resident and non-resident charging policy¹. Hence the fees will be:
 - a. £185 for a person who is qualified for free HCJ non-emergency care.
 - b. £511 for a person who is not qualified for free HCJ non-emergency care

Automatic exemption from ToP charges

7. It is currently accepted practice for HCJ consultants to waive charges for people in certain circumstances and on a discretionary basis, but reliance on a discretionary power provides for a degree of uncertainty for both clinician and patient. Hence the Assistant Minister has deemed it appropriate to introduce an exemption policy.
8. A person is automatically exempt from ToP charges if, at the point of referral to the ToP service, the person is:
 - under 18 years old, or

¹ [P Resident and Non resident Charging Policy 20140829 MM.pdf](#)

- a full-time student who is eligible under the student healthcare service², or
 - a household in receipt of income support, or
 - where the pregnancy is a result of rape or incest (a woman may self-declare without the need to provide evidence of rape or incest).
9. In addition to introducing these exemptions, the Assistant Minister for Health and Social Services has committed to reviewing whether to waive charges for special circumstances outside of the exempt categories. Any decision will be subject to a separate Ministerial Decision.

²**Student Healthcare Service provides for free GP appointments** for full time students aged eighteen or above who are studying at any Jersey school or college or are studying full-time in a recognised university or college in the UK or abroad. Students at Jersey schools or Highlands College, excluding Beaulieu, and students studying outside Jersey who are supported by Student Finance will be automatically enrolled for the service.

Further information is available on the GoJ webpage: [Doctors \(GPs\) fees, prescriptions and health cards](#)