

EXPLANATION OF OUR FEES & SLIDING SCALE

Community Acupuncture of St. Louis offers high quality acupuncture at affordable rates. We do this by allowing clients to pay along a sliding scale. A sliding scale, for those of you unfamiliar with one, is a range of payment options that allows you to adjust *what* you pay according to your *ability* to pay. We offer a sliding scale not to be charitable (although we have nothing against charity). A sliding scale is provided for two reasons: It's good for you and it's good for us.

Why the Sliding Scale is Good for You

- **The sliding scale makes acupuncture affordable and accessible.**
- **The sliding scale *separates the issues of money and treatments.* Research has shown that acupuncture is most effective when it is done frequently and regularly.**
- **Your health *will* benefit with more visits. The sliding scale enables you to come for as long and as often as you need to regain health and/or manage your condition.**

Why the Sliding Scale is Good for Us

- **The sliding scale opens our services up to a much greater percentage of the population. When more people can afford acupuncture, more people are more likely to get acupuncture.**
- **The sliding scale allows us to treat many more people, which benefits us financially as well as clinically – we gain more expertise as we treat more people.**
- **Also, as people get better because they can afford a full course of treatment, they are more likely to recommend us to their friends and family – everybody wins.**

Fees

Our fees for all treatments range from \$20 - \$35, based on the patient's own ability to pay. For example, retired people and students may pay only \$20 per treatment. Many patients with a steady income pay \$35 for each treatment. You decide how much you can pay.

We also offer a discount for multiple treatments in the same calendar week. This discount is offered to encourage patients to receive more frequent treatments. We find patients who receive acupuncture more frequently early in their time with us heal more quickly. The discount for multiple visits in the same calendar week is \$5. So, a patient paying \$35 on Monday would pay only \$30 on Thursday. A patient paying \$20 on Monday would pay only \$15 on Thursday.

Some patients resist the sliding scale because it feels like they are asking for a handout. Please understand that the sliding scale is not charity, just good economics. It maximizes the number of people we can treat across a whole spectrum of the population.

If you are still reluctant to use the sliding scale, but are worried about affording continued treatment, please ***set aside any resistance*** and pay within your capacity. This helps everyone.