



Welcome to the Mercy Bariatric Weight Loss Program. My name is Shawwna Grigsby - I am your bariatric coordinator for Mercy Bariatrics NWA. I am here to assist you with your journey to a **healthier** you.

You will find information on our website about Roux-en-Y (gastric bypass), gastric sleeve and Lap-Band systems. This information will help you determine which procedure is right for you.

None of these procedures is an easy fix. You have to participate in becoming healthier. Weight loss is not instant; but together we can help you be successful. It is a gradual process and will take time.

It's important to research your insurance benefits and whether your insurance company covers bariatric weight loss surgery. Insurance companies have **STRICT REQUIREMENTS** that must be met before authorizing coverage for weight loss surgery.

You have just completed the first step to a **healthier** you by attending/viewing the weight loss seminar. The next step is to complete and return your patient history form. Once Mercy receives your form, we'll contact your insurance provider to determine your coverage for bariatric surgery. We'll review your records to ensure you meet medical eligibility for acceptance into the program. When our review is complete, we will contact you via mail or phone to discuss your benefits and insurance requirements. This will happen approximately three weeks after we receive your patient history form. Once we contact you about your benefits, you may then set up your initial consultation appointment.

It is possible your insurance provider will require the last 3-5 years of medical records, along with a letter of recommendation from your primary care doctor. If these items are needed, we will contact you in plenty of time to obtain these records prior to surgery.

Congratulations on taking this first step to a **healthier** you!

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