

Housing

1. How do I know which assisted living facility is right for me?

All assisted living facilities combine housing with services to help people remain as independent as possible. Call your local ADRC for a checklist to help you evaluate each facility. There are three types:

Adult Family Home: A place where three or four adults, who are not related to the licensee, reside and receive care, treatment or services that are above the level of room and board, but include no more than three hours of nursing care per week per resident.

Community-Based Residential Facility: A place where five or more adults, who are not related to the administrator, reside and receive care, treatment or services that are above the level of room and board, but include no more than three hours of nursing care per week per resident.

Residential Care Apartment Complex: A place where five or more adults reside that consists of independent apartments, each of which has an individual lockable entrance and exit, a kitchen, including a stove, and an individual bathroom, sleeping and living areas, and that provides to a person who resides in the place, no more than 28 hours per week of services that are supportive, personal and nursing services.

2. How do residents pay for their care and services in assisted living?

Medicare does not cover services in an assisted living facility. Payments may come from a variety of sources, including, but not limited to, the following:

Personal Resources: Including savings accounts, pensions, insurance, veterans care benefits, or Social Security and related benefits such as SSI and SSI-E.

State and Federal Funding: For home and community based long term care may be available for eligible participants through a state program entitled "Family Care". For more information, contact your local Aging & Disability Resource Center **before moving into an assisted living facility.**

3. What services can I expect from an assisted living?

Assisted living facilities are required to provide or arrange these five basic services to all residents, if needed:

Health monitoring

Assistance with medications

Information and referral services

Leisure time services, and

Personal care services such as help with dressing, eating, bathing, grooming, toileting and mobility

4. What is the difference between subsidized housing and section 8 housing?

Subsidized housing consists of properties that housing authorities own and the tenants pay 30% of their rent. The section 8 voucher program is for individuals and families that want to rent from a private landlord. If the unit qualifies, the tenants pay 30% of their rent and the rest is paid by the voucher. Contact your local housing authority for more information. For a list of the housing authorities that serve you, contact your local Aging & Disability resource center.