



# Residential Care Fees



There are three possible fees for residential clients, however not all residents will be required to pay all of these fees:

1	Daily Care Fee
2	Accommodation Cost
3	Means Tested Fee

The Department of Human Services have set minimum and maximum thresholds for both your assets and your income, which will determine what you will pay.

The minimum threshold for assets is currently \$49,500 and the maximum amount is \$168,351.

The minimum threshold for income is currently \$27,532 and the maximum amount is \$66,078.

These thresholds are set by the Australian Government and reviewed in March and September of each year.

## Daily Care Fee

All residents have to pay the daily care fee, which is currently \$51.21 per day. This fee pays for the care the resident receives in the facility and goes towards meals, cleaning, laundry, heating and cooling. It is equivalent to 85% of the full aged care pension.

## Accommodation Cost

Some people will have their accommodation costs met in full by the Government however depending on your income and assets you may be asked to pay for, or contribute towards, the cost of your accommodation.

- If your assets and income are both under the respective minimum thresholds, the Government will fully subsidise your accommodation costs.
- If either your assets or income fall between the minimum and maximum thresholds, you will be asked to pay a contribution towards your accommodation. The Government will partly subsidise the remaining cost.
- If either of your assets or income is above the maximum thresholds, you will be required to pay the full cost of your accommodation.

The accommodation price for all Blue Care beds throughout Queensland are listed on our website.

Visit [www.bluecare.org.au/Find-Blue-Care](http://www.bluecare.org.au/Find-Blue-Care) and follow these steps:

1. Enter your local area or Blue Care Residential Care site name and click 'Search' (ensure that you have ticked 'Aged Care Homes' beneath the search bar)
2. Select your required site
3. Click on 'Costs' section to view all room prices

## Means Tested Fee

The Department of Human Services may also determine that an additional contribution towards the cost of your care is required – this is known as a means tested fee and is also based on a resident's income.

- There is a yearly cap on the amount a resident will have to pay
- There is also a life time cap on the amount a resident will have to pay

## Asset & Income Assessment

Before entering permanent care, a prospective resident will have to undertake a 'Combined Asset & Income Assessment' so that the Department of Human Services or Department of Veteran Affairs can determine if you are eligible for Government support.

To get an estimate of the fees you may have to pay when entering into an aged care home, you can access the My Aged Care Residential Fee Estimator at <http://www.myagedcare.gov.au/fee-estimator/residential-care/form>.

You may also like to speak with a financial advisor who specialises in aged care. You can find one in your area by visiting <https://www.moneysmart.gov.au/investing/financial-advice/choosing-a-financial-adviser>.

You can download the 'Combined Asset & Income Assessment' form at <https://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/forms/sa457> or visit your local Centrelink office to obtain a copy. We strongly encourage you to complete this form and return to the Department of Human Services at your earliest convenience, as it may impact the fees you are charged on admission to one of our facilities.

## Payment Options

There are a number of payment options you can choose to pay for the cost of your accommodation costs and a resident has 28 days to decide how they will pay.

It can either be a fully refundable lump sum (similar to a bond), or a non-refundable daily payment, which is equivalent to the interest we would have received on the lump sum amount.

Or you can pay a combination of a lump sum and a daily payment.

You can also discuss more payment options when you are offered a bed at one of our aged care facilities.

Our preferred method of payment is by Direct Debit however you may also be able to organise 'Centre Pay' through Centrelink if you are a fully supported resident.

As at 20 March 2019

 For further questions about Residential Care Fees please contact our friendly customer service team on **1800 838 929**.  
We're here to help in any way we can.