

Residential Care Financial Information

(effective 1 April 2025)

Fees you may be asked to pay

If you are entering permanent care in an aged care home, you should have your means assessed to see if you're eligible for Australian Government assistance with your care and accommodation costs.

Depending on the outcome of your means assessment and your negotiations with your aged care provider, you may pay various fees. Your provider must record these fees in your resident agreement.

Basic daily care fee

Everyone pays this fee. The maximum fee is set at 85% of the single basic age pension. This fee increases twice a year in line with the age pension. This fee helps pay for your day-to-day services such as meals, cleaning, facilities management, and laundry.

Means tested care fee

This fee is an extra contribution as determined through a means assessment, your provider may ask you to pay a means tested care fee. This fee is different for everyone, and Services Australia will work this out once your assets and income assessment is received. The amount you pay depends on your income and assets. Annual and lifetime caps apply to this fee. To see the caps, go to [Aged care home costs and fees](https://myagedcare.gov.au) at myagedcare.gov.au.

Accommodation costs

You must agree on a room price with your provider before moving into an aged care home, but how much you pay will depend on your means assessment. If you are eligible for assistance, the Government will pay some or all your accommodation costs to your provider. If not, you will need to pay the price that you agreed with your provider.

You can choose to pay your accommodation costs as:

- Refundable Accommodation Deposit (RAD) a **lump sum** amount that is refunded when you leave care, less any fees that you agree to draw down from it, or
- Daily accommodation Payment (DAP) a **daily payment** that is not refunded when you leave care, or
- any **combination** of lump sum and daily payment.

A lump sum payment is considered an asset for aged care purposes. This means it is counted in your aged care means assessment and may affect your means tested care fee.

Your provider cannot ask you to commit to an accommodation payment method until you have entered care. You then have 28 days to decide how you will pay. Until you decide, and until you pay a lump sum, you must pay the full daily payment. If you choose to pay by lump sum, you have 6 months after you enter an aged care home to pay the lump sum amount.

Estimating and confirming your fees

To get an estimate of your aged care fees, use the [Fee Estimator](#) at myagedcare.gov.au.

Everyone moving into an aged care home for the first time will need to complete and lodge an Income and Assessment form with Services Australia, which is used to determine costs. This is where Services Australia assesses your income and assets.

If you choose not to have your means assessed, you will not be eligible for assistance and your provider can ask you to pay:

- the full cost of your care (up to the annual or lifetime caps), and
- the accommodation price you agreed on before you entered care.

To complete a means assessment, fill in the [Residential Aged Care Calculation of your cost of care form \(SA457\)](#) or the [Residential Aged Care Property details for Centrelink and DVA customers form \(SA485\)](#) at servicesaustralia.gov.au.

Financial advice and assistance

You should seek independent financial advice before deciding how to pay for aged care. Some payment methods can affect your pension and aged care fees.

Services Australia's free [Financial Information Service](#) (FIS) can help you understand how aged care costs may affect your finances. FIS officers can be contacted by phone 132 300.

If you cannot pay your aged care fees due to circumstances outside your control, you can apply for financial hardship assistance. You must meet certain eligibility criteria to receive financial hardship assistance and each case is assessed on an individual basis.

Read more about [Financial hardship assistance](#) at myagedcare.gov.au.

Pricing for Bethel Lodge

Room Type / Accommodation price	Maximum RAD Price	or	Maximum DAP Price (zero RAD)	Combination payment 60% RAD and remaining in DAP	
Single room with shared bathroom	\$380,000		\$85.06 per day	\$228,000	\$34.02 per day
2 bed with shared bathroom	\$370,000		\$82.82 per day	\$222,000	\$33.13 per day
3 bed with shared bathroom	\$360,000		\$80.58 per day	\$216,000	\$32.23 per day
Single room with ensuite	\$410,000		\$91.77 per day	\$246,000	\$36.71 per day
Single room with private ensuite and kitchenette	\$690,000		\$154.45 per day	\$414,000	\$61.78 per day

Further Information:

If you would like to know more about our room pricing, please contact Reception on 02 97973600 or email: admissions@abh.org.au.