

High Care Facilities (formerly nursing homes)

High Care Facilities (HCFs) provide 24-hour residential care to people with high and complex care needs and who are no longer able to manage at home. Services are subsidised by the government and include qualified nursing care.

WHO RUNS HCFs?

- churches and charitable organisations
- State and local government
- private enterprise operators

ADMISSION TO HCFs

Eligibility and level of care required must be assessed by the Aged Care Assessment Service (ACAS) in your region. Contact may be established by yourself, a friend, or family, or through referral by a GP or hospital.

WHAT IS THE COST?

Daily care fees

For residents entering residential aged care from 20 September 2008. All residents pay the basic daily care fee of \$32.95 per day (indexed), except non-pensioners who entered before 20 March 2008. These residents pay up to \$41.08 per day. If you are a part-pensioner, you may also be charged an income-tested care fee of up to \$25.35 per day. The maximum amount would apply to a person with an income of \$705.90 per fortnight or a couple, each with an income of \$687.90 per fortnight. A non-pensioner may pay an income-tested care fee of up to \$58.15 per day.

A small number of Victorian high care facilities are "extra service". The fees they charge and the services provided are negotiated on entry, and there is no ceiling on the cost.

Accommodation charge

For residents with assets of more than \$91,410.40, a daily accommodation charge applies: \$21.39 for recipients of a means-tested Australian pension and \$26.88 for non-pensioners. For residents with these assets in low-level care prior to 20 March 2008, the daily charge is \$19.10.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Department of Health and Aging Aged Care Information Line 1800 500 853

STANDARDS OF CARE

Standards for care and buildings are set by the Commonwealth Government and assessed by the Aged Care Standards Agency.

* **Note:** The family home will not be deemed an asset if a spouse or dependent child is still living there or a carer (eligible for pension or benefit) has been living in the home for at least 2 years.