



HALL & PRIOR  
*Health & Aged Care Group*

# Understanding RESIDENTIAL AGED CARE



At Hall & Prior, we understand that there are few decisions more difficult than choosing the right care for yourself or a loved one. This overview will help you to understand residential aged care and familiarise yourself with the process of moving into an aged care home.

## What is residential care?

Residential aged care provides support, health services and quality care for older people who can no longer manage to live at home without help.

## What services do aged care homes provide?

All aged care homes must provide a specified range of care and services for their residents. For Hall & Prior, these services include (but are not limited to):

- ◆ 24-hour care by registered nurses
- ◆ assistance with daily living activities such as bathing, showering, dressing and mobility
- ◆ nursing and allied health services (including physiotherapy, podiatry, speech pathology and dietetics), as well as access to services such as dental and optical as required
- ◆ meals and refreshments that cater for special dietary and cultural needs
- ◆ basic furnishings including beds and bed linen, chairs, curtains, bath towels, face washers, soap and toilet paper
- ◆ a laundry service, cleaning services and maintenance of buildings and grounds
- ◆ social activities
- ◆ continence aids, basic medical and pharmaceutical supplies.

## Am I eligible?

To find out if you are eligible for entry into residential aged care, you will need to be assessed by an Aged Care Assessment Team, or ACAT. Your doctor, health centre or local hospital can provide a referral to the ACAT nearest to you.

## What does an ACAT do?

An ACAT will:

- ◆ identify the care you need based on your personal situation and care needs
- ◆ provide you with information about residential aged care and home care services in your area.

Once you have met with an ACAT and received a letter to say that you are approved as eligible for residential aged care, you can start applying for aged care homes. You should take this letter with you when looking at aged care homes as it will let the staff know what type of care you need.

## Does the assessment cost anything?

No. ACATs are funded by the Australian Government to provide free assessments.

If you would like more detailed information, the Department of Social Services' My Aged Care website is a comprehensive resource. Visit [www.myagedcare.gov.au](http://www.myagedcare.gov.au) or call 1800 200 422.

## Finding an aged care home

Once you or your loved one has been assessed by an ACAT as eligible for residential aged care, you can start looking for an aged care home. At Hall & Prior, we believe the best way to find out if an aged care home suits your needs is to come in and have a tour. Our Directors of Nursing will be happy to show you around the home of your choice at a time that suits you.

## Working out the costs

There are protections in place to ensure that care is affordable for everyone.

The Government pays a supplement for residents who are assessed as eligible through a combined income and assets test. Depending on your circumstances, the Government may pay all, part or none of your care and accommodation costs.

To help explain the costs these are the main fees and charges:

- ◆ The **basic daily fee** is paid by all residents and covers living costs such as meals, power and laundry. This fee is determined by the Government and is set at 85% of the single aged pension.
- ◆ The **means-tested care fee** is an additional contribution towards the cost of care. It is based on an assessment of your income and assets, and there are annual and lifetime caps in place.
- ◆ **Accommodation payments** cover your accommodation in an aged care home. Based on an assessment of your income and assets, some people will have their accommodation cost met in part or full by the Government, while others will need to pay the price agreed with the aged care home. If you are required to pay your accommodation costs, you have three payment options:
  1. Refundable accommodation deposit (paid as a lump sum and is refunded when you leave)
  2. Daily accommodation payment (paid periodically, eg monthly)
  3. Combination of refundable accommodation deposit and daily payment.
- ◆ Additional **fees for extra or additional option services** may apply if you choose a higher standard of accommodation or additional services. These vary from home to home. Hall & Prior will give you details of these services, such as hairdressing or pay TV, and the fees that apply.

## Applying

Once you are ready to apply to the home of your choice, the Director of Nursing will sit down with you and guide you through the application process.

Our dedicated team is committed to supporting you through the entire process from your initial enquiry to moving and settling into your new home.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

 Contact the Hall & Prior aged care home of your choice

<b>HEAD OFFICE</b>	9321 1388	<b>LEIGHTON WEST PERTH</b>	9328 9355
<b>BELMONT RIVERVALE</b>	9277 2735	<b>MCDUGALL PARK COMO</b>	9313 1700
<b>CLARENCE ESTATE ALBANY</b>	9841 5999	<b>MOSMAN PARK MOSMAN PARK</b>	9384 1769
<b>CONCORDE SOUTH PERTH</b>	9367 7559	<b>ROCKINGHAM ROCKINGHAM</b>	9527 1757
<b>FRESHWATER BAY MOSMAN PARK</b>	9384 5280	<b>ST LUKES SUBIACO</b>	9381 8061
<b>HAMERSLEY SUBIACO</b>	9381 6542	<b>TUOHY MIDLAND</b>	9274 1756
<b>KENSINGTON PARK KENSINGTON</b>	9367 4870	<b>WINDSOR PARK CARLISLE</b>	9472 9488

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