



Effective from 1 April 2026

Fees & Payments Explained

When it comes to aged care, the costs and options can seem overwhelming. We're here to make it easier.

Everyone's needs are different, whether that's their health, lifestyle or financial situation. The Australian Government has designed the aged care fee structure to flexibly support everyone's individual needs and personal circumstances. This means that the right level of care is accessible to everyone, regardless of their financial means.

Understanding aged care fees

The Australian Government pays for the clinical care for residents living in aged care homes. Residents are required to pay for two aspects of your care - the cost of accommodation and the cost of daily living expenses such as food, laundry and activities.

Most aged care fees are means-tested - meaning you will only pay what you can afford based on your financial situation. The exact amount you will pay is determined by the room you choose and an assets and income assessment conducted by Services Australia.

Your care fees are determined by the Australian Government, not by Carinity.

Care Fees

PAID BY ALL RESIDENTS

Basic daily care fee	This fee contributes to the cost of meals and cleaning and is indexed against 85% of the single person rate of the basic Aged Pension.
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MEANS-TESTED FEES

Hotelling supplement contribution	This is an additional contribution towards the cost of your living expenses, such as meals, cleaning and laundry. This is a means-tested fee determined by the Government. Any amount you are asked to pay will depend on the income you receive and your assets. If Services Australia assess that you can afford to contribute, you will be asked to pay a daily amount. A daily contribution cap applies, and is indexed in March and September each year.
Non-clinical care contribution	This contribution supports personal care costs such as bathing, mobility assistance and provision of lifestyle activities. This fee is only applicable to residents who fully contribute to the Hotelling Supplement Contribution. This is a means-tested fee determined by the Government. Any amount you are asked to pay will depend on the income you receive and your assets. Daily and lifetime caps apply to the Non-clinical care contribution. These amounts are indexed in March and September each year.

Have you received a Home Care Package or been a permanent aged care resident?

The Government’s ‘no worse off principle’ applies to people who were:

- A permanent resident in an aged care home prior to 1 November 2025; or
- Receiving, or had approval to receive a Home Care Package prior to 12 September 2024

If this is you, your care costs may be calculated using the previous fee model. Details can be found at <https://www.myagedcare.gov.au/aged-care-home-costs-and-fees>

The RAD retention rules apply to all residents who enter care on or after 1 November and choose to make a lump sum accommodation payment.

Providers such as Carinity cannot accept a RAD or RAC payment until your financial situation has been confirmed by Services Australia. As such, even if your plan is to pay a RAD or RAC, you will need to pay a DAP or DAC until Carinity receive assessed accommodation costs from Services Australia.

Accommodation Costs

In addition to your Care Fees you may be required to contribute to the cost of your accommodation. Payment of your accommodation cost is similar to paying rent on a property. For some residents, the cost of your accommodation will be **fully** or **partially** subsidised by the Australian Government. Residents with higher means will be asked to **self-fund** their accommodation costs. Services Australia will determine what you are required to contribute.

WHAT ACCOMMODATION COSTS YOU WILL PAY

Self-funded residents: As a Self-funded Resident, Services Australia have assessed that you can afford to pay the full cost of your accommodation. You can choose how you pay:

Refundable accommodation deposit (RAD)	Payment of your accommodation cost in full. Carinity is required to retain 2% of the RAD each year. This is capped at 10% of the total RAD paid.
OR	
Daily accommodation payment (DAP)	If you don't wish to pay a lump sum for your accommodation, you may elect to pay a DAP. This is essentially an interest-only payment on the cost of the room. Your payment will be calculated at the interest rate determined by the Government, known as the Maximum Permissible Interest Rate (MPIR). Your DAP will be indexed every six months to match market conditions.
OR	
Combination payment	Alternatively, you may choose a combination of the two, making a partial lump sum payment (RAD) as well as a daily payment (DAP). The 2% p.a. RAD retention will apply to any lump sum payment you make and the DAP indexation will apply to the daily payment component.

Partially-funded residents: As a Partially-funded Resident, the Government asks you to contribute some of the cost of your accommodation payment. The exact amount you are asked to contribute will be determined by Services Australia. The Government will then fund the balance of your accommodation costs. You can choose how you pay your share:

Refundable accommodation contribution (RAC)	This is a lump sum payment towards your accommodation cost. A 2% per annum retention applies, capped at 10%.
OR	
Daily accommodation contribution (DAC)	If you prefer to make daily payments, you can choose to pay a Daily Accommodation Contribution. Unlike the DAP, indexation does not apply to the DAC paid by residents.
OR	
Combination payment	Similar to self-funded residents, people who are partially supported can elect to pay a combination lump sum (RAC) and daily payment (DAC). The 2% RAD retention rule applies to any lump sum payment made.

Fully-funded residents: As a Fully-funded Resident, you are not required to contribute to the cost of your accommodation. The Government will pay the full cost.

These prices are current as of 1 April 2026. Please note, Carinity does not provide financial advice. We encourage you to speak with an independent financial advisor.



We're here to help



Getting your head around what you can expect to pay can seem tricky. Our team are here to help answer your questions. We can also give you more certainty around what fees you can expect to pay based on your financial situation. Feel free to give us a call on **1300 109 109**.

You can also access the Australian Government's Fee Estimator at **MyAgedCare.gov.au**

CARINITY AGED CARE COMMUNITY LOCATIONS

Hilltop, **Kelvin Grove** • Wishart Gardens, **Wishart** • Clifford House, **Woolloowin**
Brookfield Green, **Brookfield** • Cedarbrook, **Mudgeeraba** • Colthup Manor, **Ipswich**
Brownesholme, **Highfields** • Karinya Place, **Laidley** • Kepnock Grove, **Bundaberg**
Shalom, **North Rockhampton** • Fairfield Grange, **Townsville**

Call us today on **1300 109 109**

Visit **carinity.org.au**

AN OUTREACH OF  **QUEENSLAND BAPTISTS**

