

Facing the Future

Transition from Independent Living to Aged Care

Medical, Emotional and Financial Considerations



Disclaimer

- This is GENERAL information only.
- Your circumstances are unique to YOU and you should always get advice specific to you and your situation.
- This information is intended to give you information about some of the issues you may wish to consider when planning your own transition from Independent Living to Aged Care.

What are we going to talk about?

- Where do I start?
- What are my options?
 - Community Care
 - Residential Care
 - Private Care
- What does it all cost?
- Frequently Asked Questions

Wait ... how will I remember all this?

A summary of this presentation is available
in the “Documents” tab of the Village
Baxter website

www.villagebaxter.com

Where do I start?

- Start by talking with your spouse, your family, friends and whomever is important to you.
- Identify the issues that matter
 - Medical
 - Emotional
 - Financial

Medical Considerations

- What are my care needs now and in the near future
- Can I manage at home – do I actually want to?
- Is there something the care service needs to know
 - Dementia with aggressive or inappropriate behaviours – may need specialised placement
 - Anaphylactic allergies – if you have a severe contact allergy to something that is a feature of the home such as a nut tree, you should look for homes that can accommodate these needs.
 - Can the service meet your needs (eg Home Care Packages are generally not suitable for people who live alone and cannot get up to answer the door)

Emotional Considerations

- Where do my family or next of kin live?
- Should I move closer to my Family when I need to move into an Aged Care Home?
- Will I be scared and lonely at home all by myself if I am too frail to go out on my own?
- We have a lot of kids – who do we talk to about the future, who do we choose as first contact?

Financial Considerations

- What does everything cost
- Who decides what I pay?
- *“but... I was expecting to be able to leave it all to the kids”*
- What happens when I can't manage my own finances?
- Can I be taken advantage of?

What are my options?



www.myagedcare.gov.au

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[myGov Login](#)



Search...



Need aged care services? This is the place to start.

myagedcare is the start point to access Australian Government funded services

Contact us
1800 200 422
Click for more options

Monday - Friday 8am - 8pm
Saturday 10am - 2pm

Not sure? Start here

Learn about aged care and register to start.

Assessment

You need to be assessed to access funded services.

Find & set up services

Find local services after your assessment.

Manage your services

Help with services you're receiving.



We're here to help. Call us on 1800 200 422

myagedcare can help you to find out about:

- The types of aged care services available
- Your eligibility for services
- Service providers in your area
- Costs you may need to pay
- Advocacy services
- How to make a complaint



Further information for:

- [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people](#)
- [Carers](#)
- [LGBTI people](#)
- [People who speak other languages](#)
- [People in rural and remote areas](#)
- [Veterans](#)
- [People with other diverse needs](#)

Staying in my Home for long as I can

Problems you may face

- Can't get up out of the chair to get to the bathroom in time
- Getting distracted and forgetting that you have started cooking something
- Feeling lonely and isolated



Apartment Living

- Perfect if you would like to feel a little more secure and closer to the everyday services you use.
- Stay completely independent or receive Community Care
- Smaller home to keep clean, heated, cooled,
- Look for a place to keep motorised scooter

Community Care in your Home

What Help is available?

- help with housework
- help with personal care such as bathing and dressing
- help with meals and food preparation
- help staying physically active
- social support and activities
- help with transport
- nursing care
- allied health support such as physiotherapy, podiatry or a dietician
- maintenance and modifications to your home
- goods and equipment to help you
- people you can talk with through counselling services.

Residential Aged Care Services

- Respite Care
- Permanent Care
- Memory Support Care
- Specialised Care

Waiting List

- To be accepted on the Village Baxter Manor & Lodge waiting list you need to provide
- 1. myagedcare client record showing care approval for “Residential Permanent”
- 2. “Residential Aged Care Fees” letter to you from the Department of Human Services showing the results of your income and assets assessment.

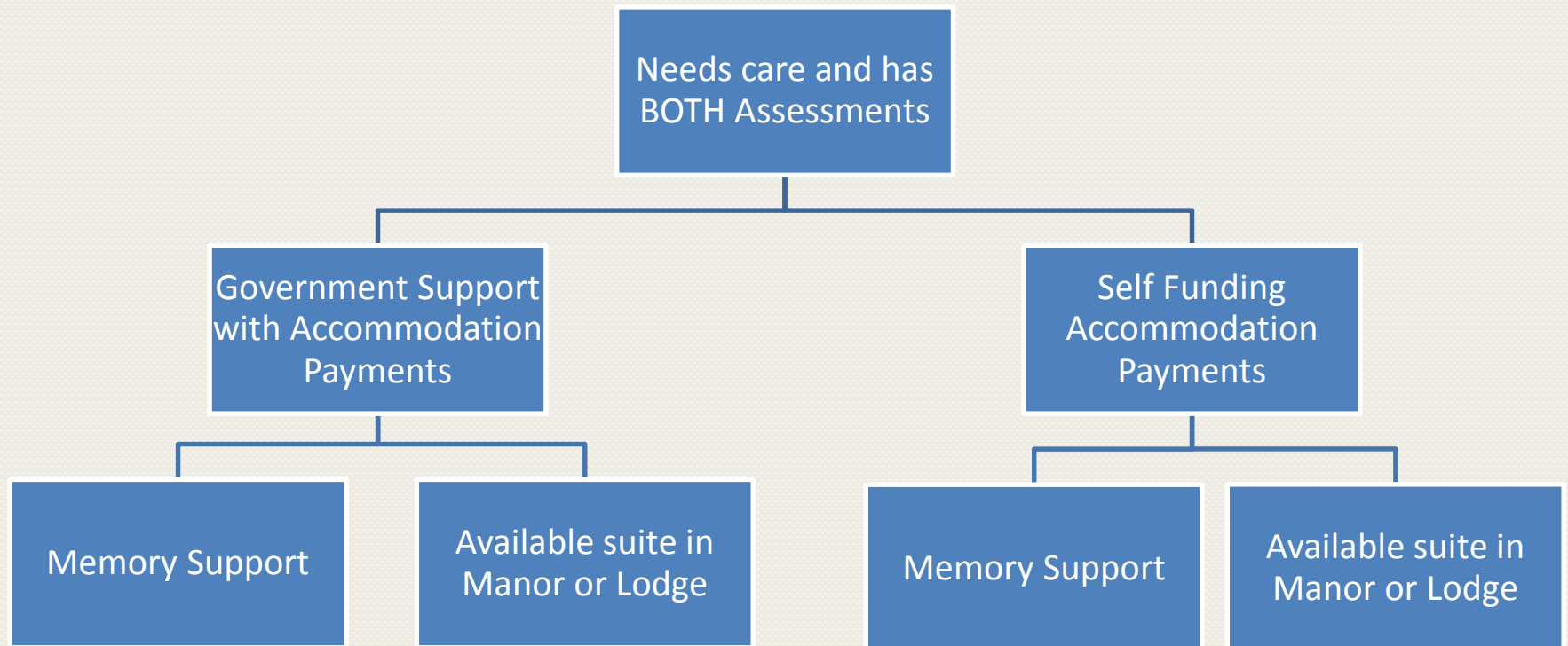
What do I need the fees letter?

Village Baxter offers at least 40% of places in the Manor and Lodge to people who require government assistance with their accommodation payments.

- **Permanent Residential Aged Care - Request for a Combined Assets and Income Assessment form**

The letter you receive back from Centrelink will show if you are eligible for this assistance

Waiting Lists



Waiting List Protocol

Priority is usually given according to the following order

- Pre 1990 Residents living in the Independent Units
- Village Resident with no relatives / state trustees as next of kin
- Village Resident with relatives interstate / overseas
- Husband or wife living in the Village (long term residents only)
- Village Resident – length of time in Village increases priority
- Husband or wife living in the Village (only been in village a few years)
- Rosebud Village Resident
- Home and Community Care client living outside of the Village
- Relative of Staff
- Relative of Resident living in the Village
- Relative of person on Independent Unit waiting list
- Person from the Community

What does it all cost?



Private Care

- Private Care – you pay market rate fees
- Funded Community Care – Government set rate
- Residential Care – Government will advise what cost category applied to you

Funded Care

- If you want funded Residential care, you need 2 things
 - Combined Income and Assets Assessment
 - Aged Care Assessment

Combined Income and Assets Assessment

- Done by Centrelink or DVA
- Couples – all assets are divided 50:50
- If one partner moves into care, the value of your family home is not included in the test when spouse will still be living there
- If you live in a Retirement Village you may need to get a 'letter of equity' from the Village to complete the form correctly

Residential Care Costs

- Residential Aged Care Home Fees
 - **Basic Daily fee** – everyone pays the same basic fee
 - **Means Tested Care Fees** – based on the combined income and asset assessment
 - **Accommodation payment** - known as RAD's, RAC's, DAP's or DAC's
 - **Extra Service Fees** – not applicable at the Village
- These will be shown on your “fees letter”**

Basic Daily fee

- Rate set by Government equal to 85% of Single pension. Currently it is \$50.16 per day
- Everyone pays this, broadly speaking it covers the costs of Housekeeping, Catering, laundry, reception and other “hotel type services”

Means Tested Care Fees

- These fees are your contribution to the cost of providing care which includes showering, nursing, feeding, physiotherapy, lifestyle activity programs etc
 - Range from \$0 for a full pensioner with few assets to over \$250.00 per day for a wealthy fully self funded retiree.
 - The Care Facility DOES NOT benefit from these fees as the Government reduces the level of Funding by the same amount. For example if you are assessed as required to pay \$20 per day, the Government will deduct \$20 per day from the funding that they provide to the Aged Care Home.
 - This is capped at \$26,964 per year or \$64,715 per lifetime

Accommodation fees and charges

- This is what we all used to call “the bond” and it covers the costs associated with providing you with a roof over your head.
- Don’t panic – you will only be asked to contribute what Centrelink has assessed you as being able to.
- Broadly speaking
 - The Government will pay the accommodation costs for a full pensioner with assessed assets of less than \$48,500
 - The Government will pay part of the Accommodation costs for people with assets between \$48,500 and \$165,271
 - If you have assets over \$165,271 you will be asked to pay all of the costs of accommodation yourself.

RAD & DAP or RAC & DAC

- Assessable Assets UNDER \$165,271
Accommodation costs partially funded for you
 - Residential Accommodation Contribution
 - Daily Accommodation Contribution - Set by Centrelink
- Assessable Assets OVER \$165,271
You pay all of the Accommodation costs
 - Residential Accommodation Deposit - Set by Home
 - Daily Accommodation Payment

Extra Service Fees

- Some Homes have extra service packages that are provided with the room such as foxtel, hairdressing, escorted personal shopping excursions, happy hour drinks, fine dining menu choices etc
- Be aware of how these charges apply if you don't use them anymore

What if I don't want to tell Centrelink my Income and Assets?

- If you choose not to reveal your income and assets to Centrelink you will privately fund all of your daily fees, care and accommodation costs.
- Daily fees of \$50.16 (\$18,308 pa)
- Means tested care fee capped at \$26,964 pa
- A lump sum Accommodation deposit (this varies by home) or if you don't pay the lump sum, you pay non-refundable interest on the unpaid Accommodation Deposit of 5.96% this is equal to \$23,840 pa on a Deposit of \$400,000.

Home Care Package Costs

- A basic daily fee of up to 17.5% of the single basic Age Pension - currently \$144.48 per person per fortnight
- Fee is charged Daily regardless of how many days you receive services in your home
- An income-tested care fee if your income is over a certain amount.
- No Assets test

Income Assessment for Home Care Fees



centrelink

Aged Care Fees Income Assessment

When to use this form

Most aged care services in Australia, including home care services, are subsidised through government payments to providers. You may be asked to contribute to the cost of your care if you can afford to do so.

The aged care fees income assessment asks for details about your income so we can advise you of your income tested aged care fees if:

- your Home Care Package has started on or after 1 July 2014, or
- your permanent residential aged care admission commenced before 1 July 2014.

If you receive a means tested Australian income support payment from Centrelink, such as the:

- Age Pension, or
- Disability Support Pension, or

you receive from the Department of Veterans' Affairs, such as the:

- Service Pension, or
- Income Support Supplement

you do not need to complete this form. The Department of Human Services or the Department of Veterans' Affairs will have sufficient information to work out your income tested care fees.

However, you can use this form to receive advice on your fees before commencing a Home Care Package. You can either complete your relevant details and sign this form or, if you receive a means tested income support payment from the Department of Human Services, you can contact the Department of Human Services on Freecall™ 1800 227 475 to trigger the pre-commencement assessment.

If you do not receive any means tested Australian income support payments, you will need to complete the entire form to obtain an income assessment.

If you choose not to provide your income details you may be asked to pay the maximum income tested fees.

If you receive a non-income tested payment from Centrelink, such as the:

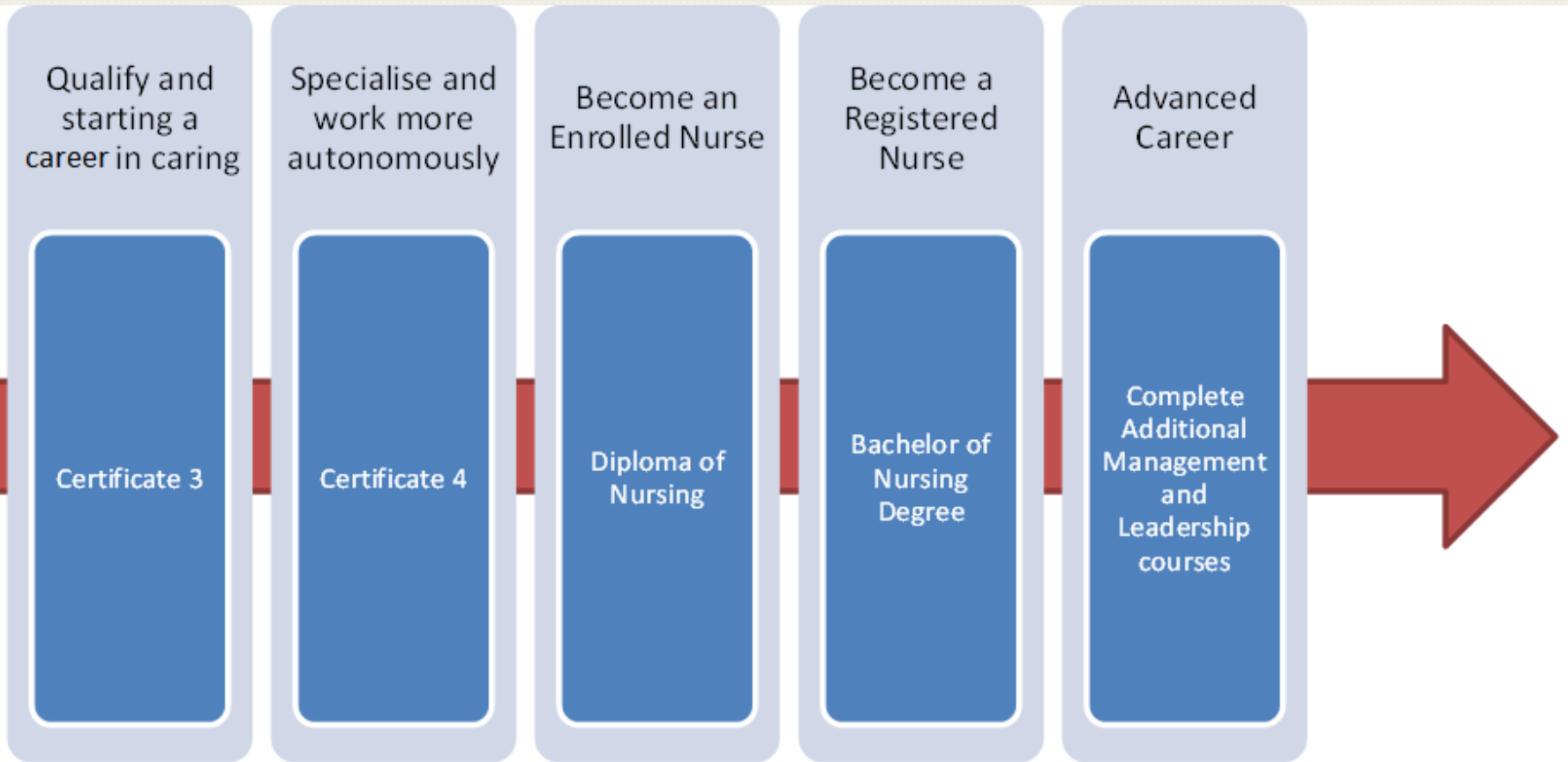
- Age Pension (Blind)
- Disability Support Pension (Blind)
- Carer Allowance, or
- Mobility Allowance

you will need to complete the form as we will not have enough information about your income to complete the assessment.

- 51 questions
- Don't need to do if you are a pensioner

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Who provides the care and are they properly trained?



Q: Will there be a place available for me immediately when I need it?

- Practically speaking – probably not !
- There will be a waiting period between when you have received the completed assessments and you choose a home or a service and a place is available for you.
- If you are looking for Residential Care, getting your Income and Assets Assessment completed can take time, particularly if you can't do it yourself and need help.

Q: Should I get the assessments done “Just in case”

- No – unless you are planning on using them to move into care, then getting them done in advance is just a waste of resources.
- Why ?- the care assessment will show you don't need care or your care needs are so low that we will not consider you a priority anyway and the Income and Assets Assessment will be out of date by the time you need it.

Q: What is the Combined Income and Assets Assessment?

- This is the form that Centrelink uses to work out your capacity to contribute toward the costs of your care and accommodation.
- There are 146 questions, yes really **146**
- When you begin to think about needing more support, it is a good time to read the form and consider if something happened to you, how would your Power of Attorney complete the form for you? Would they know where to start looking?

 Should I get financial advice?

YES YES YES

- **BEFORE** you lodge your Centrelink form
- Strongly recommend you use someone who specialises in Aged Care Finance. A list of some advisors who specialise in Aged Care Finance is available from www.agedcaregurus.com.au **
- A quick telephone conversation could make a big difference

** Please note that you should find your own advisor best suited to your personal circumstances

Q: Why bother if I only have a little?

- If you can do something simple like gift a small approved amount to family or pre-pay your funeral and bring your Assets under \$48,500 then the Government may fund all of your accommodation costs.
- If you can do the same and bring your Assessable Assets under \$165,271 then the Government may fund some of your Accommodation Costs.

Q: Does a little difference in the amount *REALLY* matter?

**Full Pensioner,
\$45,000 in total assets**

- Daily fee \$50.16
- Care Fee \$0
- Accommodation payment:
Fully Funded

**Full Pensioner,
\$55,000 in total assets**

- Daily fee \$50.16
- Care Fee \$0
- Accommodation payment:
\$3.12 per day, or \$1135.68
per year.

Thank-you

Questions ?