

SENIOR COMMUNITY TOUR CHECKLIST

Considerations for your Care Community

When visiting a senior care community, it helps to prepare a list of questions or considerations to see if it's the right fit for you. Although most places visibly post their services and features, asking the right questions allows you to gauge the quality of your new home. The lists below cover the main considerations when locating a senior care community near you:

General:

- Is the community accepting new residents?..... Yes No
- Is there a waiting period for admission?..... Yes No
- What is the availability?..... Yes No
- Are resident rights posted?..... Yes No
- What is the turnover ratio for nurses on staff?..... Yes No
- What professionals or support staff do you have available and how often are they on-site? (social workers, nurses, pastors, etc.)..... Yes No
- Who is the Medical Director and how often are they on-site?..... Yes No
- Do you have a bedhold policy? If so, what is it?..... Yes No

Care:

- Has any care required care licenses ever been revoked?..... Yes No
- Are there any uncorrected deficiencies from the home's last state inspection?... Yes No
- Does the Community conduct background checks on all staff?..... Yes No
- Does the Community offer the level of care that you need?..... Yes No
- Does the Community offer memory care or other specialized services?..... Yes No
- Are staff members properly certified?..... Yes No
- Are there designated staff who can deliver medication?..... Yes No
- Is there a staff member who can meet your social service needs?..... Yes No

Additional Comments:

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No Professional Medical Service or Advice

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Financial:

- Is the Community Medicare certified?..... Yes No
- Is the Community Medicaid certified?..... Yes No
- Do you have financial qualifications?..... Yes No
- What is involved after an individual outlives their finances?..... Yes No
- Are there additional charges outside of the monthly fee?..... Yes No

Questions for Current Residents:

- Is the staff friendly and enthusiastic?..... Yes No
- Are you treated with dignity?..... Yes No
- Do people respect your privacy?..... Yes No
- Are Community events inclusive?..... Yes No
- Do you feel safe here?..... Yes No
- Are there enough dining options and food choices?..... Yes No
- Is the Community kept clean on a regular basis?..... Yes No
- Can you access all of the amenities you pay for?..... Yes No
- Do staff members know residents by name?..... Yes No

Accommodations:

- Is the Community close enough for friends and families to visit?..... Yes No
- Do residents have a choice of food items at meal time?..... Yes No
- Do residents have a choice of roommates?..... Yes No
- What amenities are on-site?..... Yes No
- Is there a pharmacy on-site?..... Yes No
- Can I use my own pharmacy?..... Yes No
- Is transportation available for residents?..... Yes No
- Are there scheduled social programs available?..... Yes No
- Can residents have personal items or furniture in their rooms?..... Yes No
- Is there a security team and emergency staff onsite?..... Yes No

It's important to ask whatever is on your mind during your visit; you have the right to know everything about a place that may be your new home. As with anything, following your intuition about a facility can lead you to the healthiest decision possible!

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