



Residential Aged Care Fees

At Aged Care Decisions, we simplify aged care fees to help you make informed choices for yourself or your loved one.



Important Information

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Revision Date: 20 March 2026

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AGED CARE DECISIONS

AGED CARE DECISIONS' SERVICE IS 100% FREE

Australia's largest aged care placement & support service

Using Australia's largest aged care vacancy database, we work with over 70% of Providers across the metro areas of Australia and assist tens of thousands of families each month to find aged care options for their loved ones.



FAST



FREE



INDEPENDENT



How Aged Care Decisions Can Assist You



Understanding Your Care Needs

Visit agedcaredecisions.com.au and complete a quick enquiry form. Discuss your care needs, location, budget, and personal preferences with your dedicated Aged Care Placement Specialist.



Customised Options

Our custom-built technology will find the best-matched residential aged care homes for you. Receive a personalised Aged Care options report containing only residential aged care homes with vacancies that are suited to your specific needs.



Unlimited 1-on-1 Support

Unlimited 1-on-1 aged care support from your designated Aged Care Placement Specialist. We provide you with the most up to date aged care resources. 'We can contact providers and arrange tours on your behalf, while also providing support at every stage of your aged care journey.

Grandfathered Fees & Charges

Anyone who entered permanent residential aged care before 1 November 2025



Who the grandfathered fees and charges apply to

If your loved one entered residential aged care before 1 November 2025, they will continue paying the fees that were in place before 2025, known as “grandfathered” fees. This means that for residents who moved in before 1 November 2025, the new fee changes do not apply to their current fees unless they choose to switch

Types of Fees

Four types of fees may apply for permanent residential aged care:

- **Basic Daily Fee**
- **Means Tested Care Fee**
- **Accommodation Payment**
- **Additional Services Fee**

*All amounts nominated below are current as of 20 March 2026 & indexed twice a year.

Means Tested Care Fee

This covers the cost of healthcare for aged care residents. The means tested fee is calculated based on income and assets, including the resident’s home, if they own it.

A resident with over \$34,762 annual income and/or \$64,500 in assets will pay a means tested fee, which is an ongoing fee towards the cost of their personal / clinical care.

Basic Daily Fee

This covers basic living costs. This fee is not means tested – everyone entering residential aged care pays the same basic daily fee.

The basic daily fee is currently **\$66.80 per day**

The basic daily fee equates to 85% of the single basic Age Pension and is indexed twice a year. This fee can be directly transferred from your pension.

Fees charged for additional services

Some residential aged care facilities may charge extra fees for items such as pay TV or additional services. These fees are not government subsidised, so you must pay them in full if they apply. They are usually negotiable with Facility Management.

Grandfathered Accommodation Payments

Anyone who entered permanent residential aged care before 1 November 2025

The cost of 'buying' or 'renting' a room in a residential aged care facility can be paid via a Refundable Accommodation Deposit (RAD), a Daily Accommodation Payment (DAP), or a combination of the two.

Whether you need to pay a RAD or DAP will depend on your assets and income, and the amount payable will vary according to the cost of the room you choose.

RAD

Refundable Accommodation Deposit

The RAD is an up-front payment that is fully refundable when you move out of a facility.

The average RAD in Australia is about \$470,000 but prices can vary greatly depending on location and facility. The RAD is often an 'advertised price' and is negotiated between the resident and the aged care facility.

Not everyone will have to pay a RAD to enter residential aged care, as this payment is means tested against the assets and income of an individual new resident.

DAP

Daily Accommodation Deposit

The DAP is paid periodically (usually fortnightly or monthly) and is not refundable.

The DAP is calculated using the amount of the RAD for your chosen room multiplied by the Maximum Permissible Interest Rate (MPIR) set by the Australian Government, 7.96% divided by 365 days.



Payment Option Timeframes

Choose your payment option within 28 days of moving in.

Ways to pay: Lump sum (RAD), daily amount (DAP), or a mix.

If you choose a lump sum (RAD): You have up to 6 months from entering care to pay it.

While deciding or until the RAD is paid: You'll pay a daily amount (DAP) on the unpaid balance, calculated using the MPIR.

New Fees & Contributions

Anyone who enters permanent residential aged care on or after 1 November 2025

Who the New Fees & Charges Apply to

From 1 November 2025, residential aged care fees will change under the Aged Care Act 2024. These updates are designed to bring greater clarity, fairness, and consistency to how aged care is funded. The new fees and contributions apply to anyone who enters permanent residential aged care on or after 1 November 2025.

Overview

Four types of fees may apply for permanent residential aged care:

- **Basic Daily Fee**
- **Non-Clinical Care Contribution (NCCC)**
- **Hotelling Supplement Contribution (HSC)**
- **Accommodation Payment**

*All amounts nominated below are current as of 20 March 2026 & indexed twice a year.

Basic Daily Fee

The basic daily fee \$66.80 per day, indexed twice a year.

This covers basic living costs. Everyone pays the same basic daily fee (not means tested). The basic daily fee is 85% of the single basic Age Pension and can be paid directly from your pension.

Non-Clinical Care Contribution (NCCC)

The NCCC daily cap is \$107.32 per day, indexed twice a year.

The NCCC replaces the old Means Tested Care Fee. It helps cover day-to-day personal support, such as help with dressing, bathing, or mobility. This contribution is based on income and assets.

Lifetime protection: Payments end after four years or once \$137,917.01 (indexed) is reached, providing long-term cost protection.



Hotelling Supplement Contribution (HSC)

The HSC Daily cap is \$22.15 per day, indexed twice a year.

The HSC separates living costs from care costs. The HSC helps cover everyday living costs in an aged care home; like meals, cleaning, laundry, electricity and water. This contribution is based on income and assets (means tested).

New Accommodation Payments

Anyone who enters permanent residential aged care on or after 1 November 2025

The Cost of Your Room in Residential Aged Care

The cost of 'buying' or 'renting' a room in a residential aged care facility can be paid via a Refundable Accommodation Deposit (RAD), a Daily Accommodation Payment (DAP), or a combination of the two. Whether you need to pay a RAD or DAP will depend on your assets and income, and the amount payable will vary according to the cost of the room you choose.

Government Support

Residents who are eligible for government support may pay a contribution, instead of a full RAD payment. This may be a Refundable Accommodation Contribution (RAC) as a lump sum, a Daily Accommodation Contribution (DAC) as a daily amount, or a combination of both.

RAD

Refundable Accommodation Deposit

The RAD is an up-front payment for accommodation and is refundable when you leave the aged care home, subject to the new retention rules.

From 1 November 2025, providers may retain up to 2% per year of a RAD (or RAC) for up to five years with a maximum total of 10% of a RAD (or RAC).

The RAD amount is agreed between the resident (or their representative) and the aged care provider, based on the room price published for that accommodation.

If the full RAD amount is not paid, a Daily Accommodation Payment (DAP) is charged on the unpaid portion.

DAP

Daily Accommodation Deposit

The DAP is a periodic payment (usually fortnightly or monthly) that is not refundable.

The DAP is calculated using the amount of the RAD for your chosen room, multiplied by the Maximum Permissible Interest Rate (MPIR) set by the Australian Government, and divided by 365 days.

Formula: **(Unpaid RAD × MPIR) ÷ 365**

The MPIR is set by the Australian Government - The **current rate is 7.96%** (indexed). The rate on the day you agree to the room price applies and remains fixed for that room while you live there.

Payment Option Timeframes

Choose your payment option within 28 days of moving in.

Ways to pay: Lump sum (RAD), daily amount (DAP), or a mix.

If you choose a lump sum (RAD): You have up to 6 months from entering care to pay it.

While deciding or until the RAD is paid: You'll pay a daily amount (DAP) on the unpaid balance, calculated using the MPIR.

Client Support Guarantee



Client Support Guarantee

We guarantee all potential residents the support they need in their aged care journey.



Reduce stress



Save time



Find better aged care options

Aged Care Decisions is a 100% free aged care placement service for families.

We provide support to navigate the aged care journey, including assistance with forms and regulatory requirements, matching families to facilities with vacancies in their area based on care needs, preferences and budget, and assisting with tours and shortlisting. Our service is free for families because registered aged care providers pay an industry-standard placement support fee.

Aged Care Decisions provides the same superior level of service and support to all potential residents and families that come into contact with our service, regardless of financial capacity, location or clinical needs. Importantly, whether a family already has a preferred facility or not, even if this facility is not registered with Aged Care Decisions, the level of support and service we provide remains the same.

Due to privacy laws, the only element of our service that cannot be provided where a preferred facility is not registered with Aged Care Decisions is support with providing any personal or clinical information to that facility, and assistance with booking tours.

Aged Care Decisions

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