

ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENCE CHECKLIST

Shared Living Space Observations

- YES NO The residence is clean and odor-free
- YES NO You are greeted and feel welcome
- YES NO Staff members are kind and caring to residents
- YES NO The layout and floor plan make rooms and communal spaces easy to find
- YES NO Public restrooms have grab bars
- YES NO Handrails are available throughout hallways
- YES NO Residents appear engaged and happy
- YES NO Visitors are introduced to staff and residents
- YES NO Meals are nutritious and appealing
- YES NO Elevators are available for multiple levels
- YES NO Lighting is good at all times of day
- YES NO Temperature is comfortable
- YES NO Sprinklers and smoke detectors are present
- YES NO Exits are clearly marked
- YES NO A security system is present

Apartment Living Space Observations

- YES NO Size and layout are adequate for your needs
- YES NO Doorways and thresholds accommodate walkers, wheelchairs and safe ambulation
- YES NO Residents appear engaged and happy
- YES NO Visitors are introduced to staff and residents
- YES NO Meals are nutritious and appealing
- YES NO Lighting is good
- YES NO Resident has individual control of the thermostat

Medical & Medication Policies

- YES** **NO** Is self-administration of medications allowed?
- YES** **NO** Can residents with dementia receive the oversight they may need?
- YES** **NO** Is there a physician who visits the facility regularly?
- YES** **NO** What medical services are available?
- YES** **NO** What is the policy for handling medical emergencies?
- YES** **NO** Who coordinates outside care-provider visits?
- YES** **NO** Can staff communicate policies about medications, including storage, administration and record keeping?

General Policy Questions

- YES** **NO** Is an individual plan of care maintained for each resident?
- YES** **NO** Are residents and families included in preparing the plan of care?
- YES** **NO** Is staff available to assist residents in handling their finances?
- YES** **NO** Are residents required to carry renter's insurance?
- YES** **NO** Is there an appeals process for dissatisfied residents?

Questions to Ask When You Call or Visit

1. What types of apartments are available?
2. What is the monthly cost per apartment type?
3. If there is a wait list? If so, how many are on it and how are available spaces awarded?
4. What apartment types do you have available that fit my criteria?
5. Tell me about some of the current residents.
6. What is your staff-to-resident ratio?
7. Can staff administer medications?
8. Do you have any outdoor space?
9. Do you have a nurse on staff?
10. What kind of experience does your staff possess?
11. Do you have any experience with [issues or diagnosis of your care recipient]?
12. Do you do an initial assessment prior to admission?
13. What is your discharge policy?
14. What additional services are available if the needs of a resident change?
15. What are your billing and payment policies?
16. Are all services included in the monthly fee? If not, what services aren't included and how much are their additional costs?