

Facts about Nursing Home Costs – 2019

Residents of Prince Edward Island, who qualify for nursing care, only have to pay the accommodation (room and board) costs associated with living in a private nursing home or a public manor. Further, residents only have to contribute their annual net income (as determined by line 236 on their Canada Revenue Agency Notice of Income Assessment) towards their accommodation costs. If their income does not cover all accommodation charges, they qualify for a Long Term Care Subsidy. This government subsidy will pay the remaining accommodation costs on the resident's behalf. Residents do not have to use their assets to cover the cost of living in a nursing home. Assets include, but are not limited to, family home, money in a bank account, real estate and investments.

“Accommodation Costs/Services” as defined for the Program is the package of services provided by manors and private nursing homes for which there is **no additional charge** to the resident. Accommodation rates as of April 2019 begin at \$92.19 per day. Private nursing home rates depend on the type of accommodation requested. It is the responsibility of the resident to select and pay the nursing home for their accommodations. The following list, although not necessarily exhaustive, more specifically describes the package of services:

- a. Meal services and meals, including three meals daily, afternoon and bedtime snacks, therapeutic diets, and dietary supplements;
- b. Social, recreational, and physical activities and programs, including the related supplies, equipment and staff;
- c. Laundry, including labeling and machine washing and drying of personal clothes;
- d. Bedding and linen, including mattresses, pillows, bed linen, wash cloths and towels;
- e. Bedroom furnishings, including beds, bedside tables, chairs, drawers and wardrobes or closets;
- f. Resident room which meets the standards set out in the *Community Care Facility and Nursing Home Act* and Regulations;
- g. The housekeeping and maintenance of accommodations;
- h.. Suitable space both indoors and outdoors for the relaxation of residents, and for resident council meetings; and
- i. Basic trust account services for residents.

Optional “accommodation costs/services” not generally intended to be part of the definition above and for which the resident may be responsible include:

1. Private room accommodations;
2. Telephone service in a resident's room;
3. Internet and/or television services;
4. Hairdressing;
5. Dry cleaning;
6. Transportation services; and
7. Accompaniment to an off site appointment or event.

“**Basic Health Care Services**” as defined for funding purposes is the package of health care services provided by Manors and Private Nursing Homes to the resident to meet their basic health care requirements for which there is **no additional charge**.

Basic Health Care Service rate as of April 2019 is \$110.90 per day.

The following list, although not necessarily exhaustive, more specifically describes the package of services:

- a. The provision of nursing services and personal care on a 24-hour basis, including care given by or under the supervision of a registered nurse, the administration of medication, and assistance with the activities of daily living in accordance with a resident specific care plan;
- b. Residents may continue to have their personal physician provide care to them in the facility. (Note: Charges for services that are not covered under Prince Edward Island’s Health Services Payment Plan are the responsibility of the resident);
- c. Supplies and equipment necessary for the care of residents, including laboratory tests, blood glucose monitoring, the management of skin care, dressings, the management of incontinence, and standard precautions for infection control;
- d. Basic supplies for personal hygiene and grooming, including basic skin care products, toilet tissue, and facial tissue;
- e. Equipment for the general use of residents, including portering wheelchairs, mechanical lifts, shower chairs, and resident toilet seats. This does not include wheelchairs or walkers that are individualized for a specific resident; and
- f. Foot Care is provided by a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse that has current Foot Care Training or Certification. Where medically necessary, should foot care be required more frequent than every 4 to 6 weeks, the facility may apply for coverage as an Exceptional Health Care Need/Cost to the Department of Health.

Health Care related costs (services) not intended to be part of the “Basic Health Care Services” definition above and for which the resident will be responsible include:

1. Ambulance services;
2. Other transportation services;
3. Prescription drugs;
4. Audio/dental/optical services/goods;
5. Continuous Oxygen Therapy;
6. Physiotherapy;
7. Private duty registered nurse or other health care provider; and
8. Podiatry Services.

Residents should have the choice of either using an optional service that is offered by the facility, or making alternative arrangements. Residents should be made aware of this option by the facility administration.