

## Quick Reference: Nursing Facility (NF) Services



Nursing facility services are provided by Medicare-certified and locally licensed nursing facilities (also called nursing homes). District residents may qualify to enroll in Medicaid for coverage of nursing facility services even if they are not already enrolled in Medicaid. *Medicare* coverage of nursing facility services is limited and often supplemented by Medicaid coverage.

Nursing facilities primarily provide three types of services:

- **Skilled nursing**, or medical care and related services
- **Rehabilitation** needed due to injury, disability, or illness
- **Long term care**, or health-related care and services (above the level of room and board) not available in the community, needed regularly to care for a diagnosed condition

**To be eligible for Medicaid-funded nursing home facility care, you must:**

- Be a U.S. citizen and resident of the District of Columbia
- Meet the District's established nursing facility level of care criteria (typically determined through a comprehensive health assessment performed by Liberty Healthcare)
- Meet financial criteria set forth in federal and local regulations, including both income and asset requirements

Individuals with serious mental illness or an intellectual disability must also be evaluated by the state's Preadmission Screening and Resident Review program to determine if NF admission is needed and appropriate.

**What does nursing facility care include and does not include?**

Federal requirements specify that each facility must provide the following services at least, and under the Medicaid program residents may not be charged:

- Nursing and related services
- Dietary services
- Specialized rehabilitative services
- Professionally directed activities
- Medically-related social services
- Emergency and routine dental services
- Pharmaceutical services
- Routine personal hygiene items and services
- Room and bed maintenance services

**Residents may be charged for:**

- Private room, unless medically needed
- Telephone, television, and/or radio
- Specially prepared food
- Personal comfort items (for example, tobacco)
- Personal clothing
- Reading materials
- Cosmetic and grooming items

For more information or to find out how you can access nursing facility care, contact the DC Department of Aging and Community Living (DACL) at 202-724-5626. You may also call the Department of Health Care Finance (DHCF) Long-Term Care Administration at 202-442-9533. You can learn more about the nursing facilities licensed in the District on the DC Department of Health's website (<https://dchealth.dc.gov/service/nursing-homes-directory>) and find contact information for Medicaid-enrolled facilities on DHCF's website (<https://dhcf.dc.gov/node/1418101>).



If you are enrolled in a health plan or the PACE program, contact your care manager or enrollee services to learn more about your plan's services.