

Levels of Care: Medical, Non-Medical, and Memory Care

	Assisted Living Facility (ALFs) 	Care Homes/Board and Care for the Elderly 	Memory Care 
Who (Who might benefit from this service?)	ALFs are designed to provide non-medical assistance to seniors who may benefit from increased assistance in a community that caters to the needs of the aging. Some facilities offer services to younger adults who are physically disabled persons as well.	These facilities provide assistance to seniors or disabled adults who may benefit from increased assistance. Persons with high care needs may benefit from care in this type of facility. Many of these facilities cater to persons with memory problems or dementia. Many of these facilities can take persons on hospice care.	These facilities provide assistance to seniors or disabled adults who may benefit from increased assistance. Persons with high care needs may benefit from care in this type of facility. Many of these facilities cater to persons with memory problems or dementia. Many of these facilities can take persons on hospice care.
What (What services are provided?)	Residents typically stay long-term, often for years. Some ALFs have the ability to care for a person until the end of life, while other assisted living facilities are not licensed or able to care for medically unstable persons at end-of-life.	Services provided include meals, social experiences, and assistance with personal care, medication administration, transportation, bathing, toileting, dressing and laundry.	Services provided include meals, social experiences, assistance with personal care, medication administration, transportation, bathing, toileting, dressing and laundry.
Where (Where are services provided?)	Accommodations are typically in an apartment-style setting where residents have private or semi-private rooms and a shared dining area for all residents.	Accommodations are typically in a private house in a residential neighborhood. The home is licensed to care for elderly persons. Oftentimes the home is indistinguishable from neighboring homes from the street. Residents have private or semi-private rooms. There are typically 6-10 residents total, with 1-3 caregivers in the home at all times.	Accommodations are typically in a private house in a residential neighborhood. The home is licensed to care for elderly persons. Oftentimes the home is indistinguishable from neighboring homes from the street. Residents have private or semi-private rooms. There are typically 6-10 residents total, with 1-3 caregivers in the home at all times.
When (Length of Treatment)	Services provided include meals, social experiences and basic assistance with personal care. Additional services may include medication administration, transportation, bathing, toileting, dressing and laundry. Some ALFs have nurses or nurse assistants available for some of the day, though not all ALFs have nurses on site.	Residents typically stay long-term, sometimes for years. Most care homes/board and care facilities have the ability to care for a person until the end of life, and many are licensed to accept some residents receiving hospice care.	Residents typically stay long-term, sometimes for years. Most care homes/board and care facilities have the ability to care for a person until the end of life, and many are licensed to accept some residents receiving hospice care.
How (Cost)	These facilities are typically private pay. Some ALFs have spaces dedicated to persons enrolled in the Medi-Cal waiver program (individuals must qualify financially and apply for acceptance into this program, and there is typically a wait list of at least 6-12 months before persons accepted to the waiver program are eligible for a bed in an ALF). Previously purchased long-term care insurance policies offer reimbursement for fees at ALFs, Military veterans may be eligible for partial reimbursement for the cost of care at Assisted Living Facility.	These facilities are typically private pay, though some facilities may have a bed dedicated to a person on the Medi-Cal assisted living waiver program (see above for more information). In addition, previously purchased long-term care insurance policies may offer reimbursement for fees at care homes, and military veterans may be eligible for partial reimbursement for the cost of care at the care home.	These facilities are typically private pay, though some facilities may have a bed dedicated to a person on the Medi-Cal assisted living waiver program (see above for more information). In addition, previously purchased long-term care insurance policies may offer reimbursement for fees at care homes, and military veterans may be eligible for partial reimbursement for the cost of care at the care home.

	Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) for acute, short term medical care 	Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) for long term non-medical, "custodial care" 
Who (Who might benefit from this service?)	These are medical facilities designed to provide short term treatment to adults stepping down from hospital, who no longer require treatment in the hospital, but who still require medical interventions before returning home.	Adults who are unable to live at home due to care needs (example: physical needs, psychiatric needs, or cognitive needs), but who are unable to pay privately for care in an assisted living facility.
What (What services are provided?)	Some examples of treatments provided in a SNF include: physical therapy, speech therapy and wound care.	While SNFs are typically medical facilities designed to provide short term treatment to persons stepping down from hospital care, most have a few beds dedicated for persons with non-medical needs (for example, a person requiring supervision due to memory problems).
Where (Where are services provided?)	SNFs are standalone facilities designed as a step-down from an acute stay at a medical hospital.	SNFs are standalone facilities.
When (Length of Treatment)	Short term, from several days to several months, depending on the physical needs of the individual.	Patients admitted as long-term/"custodial care" patients may stay in the SNF indefinitely. Some persons may qualify for transfer of care to an assisted living facility (see above) under the Medi-Cal waiver program (individuals must qualify financially for Medi-Cal and apply for acceptance into this program. There is typically a wait list of at least 6-12 months before persons accepted to the waiver program are eligible for a bed in an assisted living facility through the program).
How (Cost)	Medicare or private insurance typically pays for short term treatment in SNF.	Medi-Cal pays for long-term non-medical stays in Skilled Nursing Facilities.