

Nursing Home Admission Checklist

This checklist can help you look at and compare the aged nursing facilities that you visit. Look at the checklist before you go on your visit or tour. This will give you an idea about the kinds of questions to ask and what you should look for as you tour the facility and see the staff and the residents.

Some of these questions may be more personally important to you and your family, and some are more important for finding out about the quality of care the residents get.

Name of Nursing Facility:

Date of Visit:

Facility Contact Information:

Basic Information

	Yes	No	Comments
The facility is certified.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
The facility provides the skilled care you need, and a bed is available.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
The facility has special services if needed in a separate unit (like dementia, ventilator, or rehabilitation), and a bed is available.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
The facility is located close enough for friends and family to visit.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Residents are clean, appropriately dressed for the season or time of day, and well-groomed.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Living Spaces

	Yes	No	Comments
The facility is free from overwhelming unpleasant odors.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
The facility appears clean and well-kept.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

The temperature in the facility is comfortable for residents.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Noise levels in the dining room and other common areas are comfortable.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Smoking isn't allowed or may be restricted to certain areas of the facility.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Furnishings are sturdy, yet comfortable and attractive.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Staff

	Yes	No	Comments
The relationship between the staff and the residents appears to be warm, polite, and respectful.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
All staff wear name tags.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Staff knock on the door before entering a resident's room and refer to residents by name	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
The facility offers a training and continuing education program for all staff.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
The facility does background checks on all staff	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
The guide on your tour knows the residents by name and is recognized by them.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
There's a full-time Registered Nurse (RN) in the SNF at all times, other than the Administrator or Director of Nursing.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
The same team of nurses and Certified Nursing Assistants (CNAs) work with the same resident 4 to 5 days per week.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
CNAs work with a reasonable number of residents.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

CNAs are involved in care planning meetings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
There's a licensed doctor on staff. Is he or she there daily? Can he or she be reached at all times?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Residents

	Yes	No	Comments
Residents may have personal belongings and/ or furniture in their rooms.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Each resident has personal storage space (closet and drawers) in his or her room.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Each resident has a window in his or her bedroom.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Residents have access to a personal phone and television.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Water pitchers can be reached by residents.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
There are policies and procedures to protect residents' possessions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Safety and Prevention

	Yes	No	Comments
Exits are clearly marked.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
There are quiet areas where residents can visit with friends and family.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
The facility has smoke detectors and sprinklers.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
All common areas, resident rooms, and doorways are designed for wheelchair use.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

There are handrails in the hallways and grab bars in the bathroom.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
The facility has an emergency evacuation plan and holds regular fire drills.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Residents get preventive care, like a yearly flu shot, to help keep them healthy.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Residents may still see their regular doctors	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
The facility has an arrangement with a nearby hospital for emergencies.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Care plan meetings are help with residents and family members at times that are convenient whenever possible.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
The facility has corrected all deficiencies (failure to meet one or more Federal or state requirements) on its last state inspection report.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Menus and Food

	Yes	No	Comments
Residents have a choice of food items at each meal. (Ask if your favorite foods are served.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Nutritious snacks are available upon request.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Staff help residents eat and drink at mealtimes if help is needed.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Activities

	Yes	No	Comments
Residents, including those who are unable to leave their rooms, may choose to take part in a variety of activities.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
The facility has outdoor areas for resident use and staff help residents go outside.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

the facility has an active volunteer program