

Washington State Veterans Homes



Frequently Asked Questions

Where are the State Veterans Homes and how many residents are served by each home?

Washington Soldiers Home	Washington Veterans Home	Spokane Veterans Home
1301 Orting-Kawposin Hwy Orting, WA 98360	1141 Beach Drive E. Retsil, WA 98378	222 E. 5 th Ave Spokane, WA 99202
183 beds	259 beds	100 beds
Skilled nursing, assisted living, and domiciliary	Skilled nursing and assisted living.	Skilled nursing

Who is eligible for care in the State Veterans Homes?

Honorably discharged veterans who currently reside in Washington State (both wartime and peacetime) and, on limited space, their spouses and surviving spouses. Members of the Washington State National Guard are also eligible.

Are the State Veterans Homes run by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (U.S. DVA)?

No. The Washington Department of Veterans Affairs (WDVA) operates the State Veterans Homes and is a state agency, separate from the U.S. DVA.

What services are provided at the State Veterans Homes?

Long-term care for nursing home, assisted living, and independent levels of care. End of life care - including hospice - is also provided.

What kind of rehabilitation is available?

Full-time physicians, nurse practitioners, occupational, physical and speech therapy professionals are available and offers a therapeutic work program.

Can I continue to be seen by my own Doctor?

Yes, you may be seen by your own doctor, or by one of the State Veterans Homes attending physicians.

Is there a waiting list to become a State Veterans Home resident?

Not always. Admissions are made on a space available basis. Information on waiting lists is available from the Nursing Care Consultant who will contact you during the screening process.

How do I apply for admission to one of the Washington State Veterans Homes?

Call the Centralized Admission Team at 1-877-838-7787. A Veterans Benefits Specialist will talk with you regarding the admissions process. The Nursing Care Consultant will contact you to initiate the screening process. Admissions forms are also available on the Internet at www.dva.wa.gov.

Who pays for the cost of living at a State Veterans Home, isn't my care free?

Residents use the same payment sources they would in other nursing homes or care facilities, including: Medicare, Medicaid, Private Pay and Long Term Care Insurance.

While State Veterans Homes receive some State and Federal funding, it is not enough to completely cover a resident's cost of care. (See financial assistance section.)

How much will it cost?

Residents are charged a daily room rate depending on their level of care. The Centralized Admissions Team or Nursing Care Consultant can help you determine the cost.

Is there financial assistance to help me pay for the cost of living at a State Veterans Home?

Yes, residents unable to pay the daily room rate must agree to apply for Medicaid, and any other appropriate benefits, insurance or entitlements and comply with all requirements of these programs.

Residents may also pay the daily room rate until their resources are spent to the level of Medicaid eligibility - currently \$2,000 or less for a single resident. Different limits may apply for residents with a spouse living in the community.

Once a resident qualifies for Medicaid, they continue to pay all income in excess of their \$160 personal needs allowance to the State Veterans Home to help cover the cost of their care. (Medicaid rules may allow a spouse living in the community to retain a spousal allowance. The actual amount of the allowance is based on a mandated formula and is calculated by DSHS.)

How does Medicare work?

Medicare Part A covers a semiprivate room, meals, skilled nursing and rehabilitative services, after a related 3-day hospital stay. **Medicare Part B** helps cover doctors' services, outpatient hospital care, and some other medical services that Part A does not cover.

How does Medicaid work?

Medicaid is a government assistance program that pays for medical services including nursing home care administered by the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services. To receive Medicaid payment for nursing home care, you must meet financial requirements and need nursing home care. For more information on Medicaid, call 1-800-422-3263.

I have Long Term Care Insurance. How will that be used at the State Veterans Homes?

Most long-term care insurance pays benefits by the day or month. Benefits usually range from \$50 to \$250 per day, or \$1,500 to \$7,500 per month. Long-term care insurance allows the insured to choose the benefit length, usually 2,3 or 5 years for in-home care or a lifetime benefit for long term nursing home care. Costs not covered by long-term care insurance would be paid out of your income or Medicaid.

How are the State Veterans Homes different than other nursing homes?

Washington State has over 100 years of experience caring for veterans and their families. Staff members are dedicated and skilled in providing care and services to veterans. Veterans are also evaluated during the admission process to determine eligibility for additional veterans' benefits. State Veterans Homes are surveyed by Medicaid and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs each year.

The participation of Veterans Groups within the State Veterans Homes fosters camaraderie and a sense of belonging unique to veterans. Volunteers routinely visit with individual residents, and provide emotional and financial support for many special programs.

Because Washington State is dedicated to "Serving Those Who Served," staff members take extra care to ensure that veterans and spouses are treated with the dignity and respect they deserve.

Centralized Admissions Team

1-877-VETS-R-US

1-877-838-7787