

# Frequently Asked Questions

## What is the difference between Self-Contained Housing, Duplex Homes, Lodges and Affordable Apartments?

**Self-Contained Housing** and **Duplexes** have kitchens for you to do your own cooking and you would do your own cleaning. At the duplexes, you have a private entrance from outside into your residence.

In a **Lodge**, you have a bed/sitting room. Meals and weekly housekeeping are provided and non-medical staff are available 24 hours a day.

The rent at the **Affordable Apartments** is a flat rate and does not vary with your income.

## How long is the wait?

Applicants are prioritized based on their needs. If you have a high housing and services need, and are flexible about location, then the wait could be short – within a few months. If you only want a specific location and your need is relatively low then your wait could be longer.

## Can I apply before I'm 65?

You must be 65 to apply for housing. For couples, one person needs to be at least 65 and the other person needs to be at least 60 years of age.

## Do I need to have a medical assessment before applying or bring a doctor's note to GEF?

No, GEF does not require a doctor's note to apply for housing. During the housing interview, Managers can request a medical assessment to determine if the housing level of support is adequate. However, this is generally not the case, especially for apartment applicants.

## Are pets allowed?

Small pets are allowed only in the Duplex Homes.

## Do you have medical staff?

Individuals requiring medical supervision are not eligible for our accommodation as we do not have medical staff at any of our locations. Seniors living at GEF must be functionally independent. Many of our residents receive Home Care from Alberta Health Services.

## What is Functional Independence?

Functional independence is the physical, mental and emotional ability to look after your own personal needs and be able to interact socially with other residents.

Examples of functional independence include:

- Able to maintain your room in a tidy condition
- Live amicably with fellow residents and staff
- Willing to follow the residential lease agreement
- Manage personal medications
- Maintain appropriate personal hygiene
- Able to get from your room to the dining room for meals

## Do you do income and asset testing?

Seniors' Self-Contained Housing and Duplex Homes applicants are income and asset tested but Lodge applicants are not. For the Affordable Apartments, preference is given to applicants at or below the maximum income criteria.

## What is the maximum income criteria?

As of July 1, 2016:

- \$36,000 (bachelor suite)
- \$42,000 (single)
- \$53,000 (couple)

Rental rates are reviewed on an annual basis; seniors will receive a minimum of 30 days notice.