AFRH Couples Information

Effective Dates January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021

AFRH Eligibility Criteria - Veterans

Persons are eligible to become AFRH residents who served as members of the Armed Forces, at least one-half of whose service was not active commissioned service (other than as a warrant officer or limited-duty officer). The following categories will be considered. Veterans who:

- Were honorably discharged after 20 or more years of active service in a regular component of the Armed Forces.
- Are determined under rules prescribed by the Chief Operating Officer to be eligible due to a service-connected disability incurred in the line of duty in the Armed Forces.
- Served in a war theater during a time of war declared by Congress or met eligibility for hostile fire special pay who are determined to be suffering from injuries, disease or disability.
- Served in a women's component of the Armed Forces before June 12, 1948 and are determined to be eligible for admission due to compelling personal circumstances.
- Served in the Armed Forces including the regular military, reserve forces, or National Guard who have been notified of eligibility for retired pay and DoD Healthcare Benefits.

AFRH Eligibility Requirements – Married Couples

Married couples, who meet one of the following requirements below, are welcome to apply for residency at the Armed Forces Retirement Home:

- If both individuals are primarily enlisted veterans who meet the eligibility requirements to apply for residency in their own right, or
- If the veteran sponsor retired from the Armed Forces, was married to their spouse before becoming eligible for retired pay, and registered their spouse as a beneficiary in DEERS.

The surviving spouse of a deceased veteran is not eligible to apply to AFRH by themselves. Spouses must move in with the eligible Retired Veteran or be eligible for residency in their own right. After a couple moves into the home, if one of them passes away the surviving spouse may remain a resident of the Home regardless of his/her personal military background.

The non-military spouse of a veteran who did not retire from the Armed Forces is ineligible for residency because they would not be able to register with DEERS as a beneficiary.

Married applicants will be required to submit proof of eligibility including a marriage certificate and DD-214s. Veterans who are applying based on their own eligibility status who did not retire from active duty, will need to provide evidence of their service-connected disability or service in a war theater.



Independent Living, Advanced Care, and Transfers

All applicants must be cleared to live in Independent Living in order to be admitted. Specifically, applicants must be physically and mentally independent with the ability to take care of personal needs and light housekeeping, keep appointments, attend a central dining facility, and make reasonable decisions regarding healthcare, finances, and safety without assistance from others.

Advanced levels of care are available to residents after they move in to the Home whether or not they were in the military. Transfers are available between our two locations if there is availability at the other campus and the resident is medically cleared to transfer.

Residency Fees and Discounts

Dual-military couples, once approved, have the choice of living in two separate Independent Living apartments with each veteran paying fees based on 46.7% of individual gross income (maximum fee \$2,050 in 2021*) or they may choose to share an apartment with any applicable discount for double occupancy. The veteran who served the longest in the enlisted ranks is considered to be the primary applicant if both candidates are veterans. Please be aware that there are a limited number of couple's suites at each campus and a suite may not be available at the time of admission. AFRH is not obligated to make modifications to the facilities in order to accommodate double occupancy.

If the spouse only qualifies for residency because they were married to a qualified veteran at the time of retirement, the Independent Living monthly fee for the couple is 46.7% of the veteran's income plus \$2,000 (dependent spouse fee). A dependent spouse must share an apartment with their veteran sponsor – double occupancy – while they both qualify for an independent level of care. Whether the couple is dual-military or a veteran plus a dependent, the monthly fee for a couple in Independent Living will be limited to a maximum of \$4,050 in 2021*. The couple will either pay the percentage calculation or the maximum couple fee, whichever is less!

Publish Date: March 25, 2021



Any available discount offers for couples will apply towards the dependent spouse fee and may not be combined with other discount offers. There are several valuable discounts being offered for prospective applicants who are able to make a commitment to move into AFRH in 2021. Please call about these exciting discounts before they go away or AFRH reaches capacity!

Note*: Maximum fees listed here are only for the Independent Living level of care and are valid until December 31, 2021. Fees will be limited to a maximum fee based on the cost of providing care to the resident. The fee at each level of care offered at AFRH is limited to the cost of providing the support and accommodations required to meet the resident's needs. Maximum fees may be subject to adjustment annually but the percentage will remain fixed until 2026. Resident fees will be recomputed annually and could be adjusted for inflation, income fluctuation, or other factors each January.

Fees for Couples in Advanced Care Levels

If one or both of you need a higher level of care, then fees will be calculated based on the veteran's gross income. For Independent Living Plus the couple's fee is calculated as 50% of the sponsor's gross income plus the spouse fee, and for Assisted Living, Long Term Care and Memory Support, the fees will be 70% plus the spouse fee. Should you need upper levels of care you will still enjoy a private room and bathroom, as well as all activities and amenities offered on campus. If one spouse needs to be moved into an upper level care room, the other spouse will be relocated from a couples' suite into a single apartment. Suites are reserved for double occupancy.

Membership Benefits

Members of AFRH have the benefit of three meals a day, onsite medical facilities, rehabilitation and recreation services, organized trips, transportation to medical appointments, entertainment and activities to keep everyone engaged, as well as many other privileges for the veterans who served our country and the spouses who supported them as they did so. All of these services are included with your monthly residence fees. You will experience the freedom from all the maintenance, expenses, and worries of life on the outside while enjoying all the benefits and comradery of the military community to which you belong. You will be secure in knowing that you will be able to age in place and remain comfortable regardless of the level of support you may eventually need.

Whether you are a former member of the Armed Forces yourself or you are a dependent spouse, you will receive all the services and benefits offered here once you become a member of AFRH. And should the dependent spouse survive the veteran sponsor, they will remain a full resident of AFRH, with access to medical services, upper levels of care, amenities, facilities, and even the ability to transfer between locations should they wish. Fees will be recalculated as a percentage of their individual income (subject to a minimum amount for non-military residents).

AFRH will help protect your legacy and prevent burdening your family with cost-of-care concerns. AFRH does not require long-term leases or purchase contracts. Our fees are based on your income, not your assets. Residents will not be discharged for an inability to pay.



Application Process

Each individual will need to submit their own medical review forms and documentation along with the application. The Pre-Admissions Checklist, available online or inside your mailer, will provide a comprehensive list of forms, documentation, and other requirements that will need to be sent into the Public Affairs Office when applying.

A member of the admissions staff will contact you if any additional information or review is required in order to make a determination regarding your application.

We recognize that moving to the Home as a couple will be based on multiple factors, and our staff is here to assist in answering your questions. Should you and your spouse be interested in submitting an application, have any questions regarding the application process or want to schedule a tour, please contact the Public Affairs Office at **800-422-9988 x 1.**