

14. Is this a non-smoking facility?

Yes, AFRH is a non-smoking facility, but outdoor pavilions and designated smoking areas are available for our residents who do smoke. Marijuana is not permitted on federal premises regardless of local ordinances.

15. What furnishings are supplied? What should a resident expect to bring with them when they move into AFRH?

Units are partially furnished. Cooking appliances are not permitted due to fire codes. You may bring a mini-fridge, microwave, and coffee pot or kettle. We recommend you bring a comfortable chair/recliner (for DC) or loveseat/recliner (for Gulfport) for seating. Bring other personal furniture, storage cabinets, linens, towels, toiletries, clothing, computer, TV, radio, or any other items you want for your comfort. There is limited space in the apartments so you may want to downsize your personal possessions before you move.

- Washington, DC units are furnished with a single bed, dresser, and a nightstand.
- Gulfport, MS units are furnished with a single or double bed, armoire, and TV stand.
- Couples may choose 2 single beds or a full/queen size bed for a double occupancy apartment.

16. Are there laundry facilities available?

Laundry rooms are available at both campuses, free of charge for residents to use, and open 24 hours a day for convenience.

17. Can I bring a car with me?

Free parking is available on-site for residents, limited to one car per family. Each resident is limited to one parking space and must provide registration, driver's license, and proof of insurance for the automobile. Oversize parking is available at the Gulfport facility for RVs, trailers, boats, or other types of vehicles. Resident services will provide details regarding registration of oversize vehicles and availability of space at Gulfport.

18. Can I tour the Armed Forces Retirement Home?

Yes. Tours for prospective applicants are highly encouraged and available by appointment on weekdays during business hours. Please call us at 1-800-422-9988 (option 1) for further information.

19. What accommodations are available for guests?

- The primary purpose of guest suites is to provide overnight accommodations for visiting relatives and friends of AFRH residents. Guests or the sponsoring resident may make reservations up to 90 days prior to arrival date. Fees are payable by credit card and debit card only.
- Prospective residents, who have been approved through admissions, may stay in the guest suites for up to two nights for a tour of the campus. Overnight accommodations are only available for approved applicants. Prospective residents who have not yet been approved may schedule a day tour. Please call for details and to schedule any tours.
- Newly admitted residents and residents from the other campus may also stay in the guest suites. See the residents guide at each campus for information about residents' use of guest suites.

20. Do you allow pets?

Residents may not keep pets, emotional support animals or companion animals. Medical service animals are not pets and are permitted in AFRH facilities. Please call for specific regulations and requirements regarding applications for certified service animals at 1-800-422-9988 (option 1). Sanctioned visitation by animals for recreation and therapeutic activities is also authorized and scheduled through the recreation therapy department.

21. Am I held to a lease agreement or contract?

No, there is no long-term agreement or contract required at AFRH. A thirty day notice is required for voluntary discharges from AFRH.

22. What is included in the monthly fee?

- Your monthly fee includes your room, three daily meals, utilities, maintenance, 24-hour security, regularly scheduled transportation to medical facilities, activities, amusements, and access to all on-site amenities including an internationally accredited wellness center.

- Some additional services are available for an additional fee, including cable, internet/WiFi, hair styling, housekeeping, linen service, etc.

23. What dental services are available at AFRH?

Limited dental services, such as checkups, cleanings, and basic primary dental care procedures are offered to residents depending on resident status and the nature of the procedures. All residents are encouraged to have dental insurance to cover additional expenses associated with necessary care.

- Services will frequently be referred to outside caregivers on a case-by-case basis depending on the complexity of the case and/or the available dental services of AFRH. Services for periodontal disease, root canals, surgical extractions, or other complex cases may be referred to outside providers. Residents are responsible for expenses associated with dental care referred outside of AFRH.

24. What other medical services are available at AFRH?

- Optometry services include complete eye examinations for visual impairment and/or eye disease as well as fittings and adjustments to eyeglasses.
- Behavioral Health support is available.
- Podiatry services include vascular, neurologic, and dermatologic evaluations; routine foot care; orthotics and padding of inserts to correct gait abnormalities; and treatment of foot infections or ulcers.

25. What are the qualifications for married couples to apply to AFRH?

Married couples may apply for residency at AFRH if qualified. Both individuals must meet medical and legal requirements in order to be eligible to become residents of AFRH. Accommodations for couples are subject to availability and other requirements.

- **Dual-Eligible Veteran Couples:** qualify if the primary applicant/resident and the co-applicant are both eligible veterans (enlisted personnel, limited duty officers, or warrant officers) who meet the eligibility requirements in their own right. Veterans may choose to have two separate units as long as each veteran pays their own resident fee based on their own income. There is a discount offered for double occupancy of one apartment if a dual-military couple decides to share a unit.
- **Retired Veteran plus a qualified spouse:** spouses of retired veterans qualify for residency if the spouse is enrolled as beneficiary in DEERS and they were married before the veteran became eligible for retirement from the Armed Forces. The veteran and non-military beneficiary spouse are required to share an apartment (double occupancy).

26. I married a veteran who is eligible for the Home, but I am not a veteran nor am I enrolled in DEERS. I do not have my own military I.D. Am I qualified to apply for residency?

- No. You must be married to an eligible retired veteran in order to be enrolled in DEERS and receive your own military ID card. Beneficiary spouses must be eligible for TRICARE benefits and show that they were married before their sponsor became eligible for retired pay and benefits from the Department of Defense.

27. How much does it cost for former members of the Armed Forces?

Fees for former enlisted members of the military are based on a percentage of the veteran’s gross income with a maximum limit based on the cost of care at the level of care needed. Maximum fees limits are subject to annual adjustments. Veterans are not required to pay a minimum monthly fee, submit a large deposit, or sign a long-term lease agreement in order to become members of AFRH.

Level of Care	Percentage of Gross Income	2023 Maximum Fees (per person)
Independent Living	46.7%	\$2,290 / month
Independent Living Plus	50%	\$2,610 / month

Assisted Living	63%	\$5,444 / month
Long Term Care	70%	\$7,646 / month
Memory Support	70%	\$7,727/ month

Parity of Fees and Deductions:

Fees for Residents qualifying solely under Category 5: Retirees with less than 20 years of active-duty service [retirees who served in the Guard/Reserves and have at least 20 years of creditable service (active + inactive); or those veterans who qualified for an early retirement] are subject to the following parity of fees and deductions as amended in the law establishing AFRH:

[Section 1514\(c\) of title 24 U.S.C. 414](#) has been amended to include the following:

- The calculation of monthly income and monthly payments for a resident eligible under section 1512(a)(5) shall not be less than the retirement pay for equivalent active-duty service as determined by the Chief Operating Officer, except as the Chief Operating Officer may provide because of the compelling personal circumstances of such resident.
- The Administrator of each facility of the Retirement Home may collect a fee upon admission from a resident accepted under section 1512(a)(5) equal to the deductions then in effect under section 1007(i)(1) of title 37, United States Code, for each year of service computed under chapter 1223 of title 10, United States Code, and shall deposit such fee in the Armed Forces Retirement Home Trust Fund.

28. What is the cost for a couple to move into the home?

Each person is responsible for paying their own monthly resident fee based on the level of care that they need. Resident fees are calculated as a percentage of the individual’s personal gross income, but will not exceed the maximum fee as set by AFRH. Eligible veterans do not have a minimum monthly charge, but beneficiary spouses are subject to paying a minimum based on the level of care required. Beneficiary spouses are required to share an apartment with their veteran sponsor while both are independent. If advanced levels of care are eventually needed, then each resident will need to have their own single occupancy unit and may be asked to vacate a married couple suite (to accommodate other married couples).

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- Dual-eligible veteran spouses will pay fees based on their individual incomes according to the table above, minus a 15% discount for sharing an apartment.
- Beneficiary Spouse Fees are calculated using the same percentages and maximum fees in the table, but with a minimum of \$500 per month in independent living (IL/ILP) and \$2000 per month in advanced levels of care (AL, LTC, MS).

29. If the veteran sponsor predeceases their beneficiary spouse, will the surviving spouse be able to continue living at AFRH and receive care and benefits?

- Yes. The surviving spouse may remain as a resident of the Home. Fees will be recalculated based on survivor's personal income and level of care. Beneficiary spouses will pay at least \$500 per month in independent levels of care or \$2000 per month in advanced levels of care.

30. What if a dual-eligible veteran couple wants to have adjoining rooms?

- Both veterans must pay for their individual apartment separately (each veteran pays 46.7% of their own income if they are both IL residents).
- The request is subject to availability of two vacant rooms that are adjacent.
- All modifications/restorations are subject to approval; must meet all safety, code, and environmental requirements in order to be allowed; and cost for both the modification and the subsequent restoration will be borne by the resident prior to modification.

31. Does AFRH qualify for the HUD Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) program?

- No. Because of AFRH's status as a federal agency, we do not qualify for these programs. [The housing choice voucher program \(HCV\)](#) is a federal program designed to help low income residents afford housing in the private market by providing vouchers to help pay the rent in privately-owned apartments, townhomes or single-family homes.
- Fees at AFRH are always affordable, regardless of the veteran's financial situation, since they are calculated as a percentage of the resident's income rather than a set rent charge for an apartment. There is no minimum fee for veterans who qualify to live at AFRH, and fees are capped at a maximum amount. Eligible veterans will never be asked to leave or denied admission for an inability to pay monthly resident fees.
- It is also important to remember that AFRH's monthly fee is not just rent - it includes much more than what is offered in rental agreements or leased housing. The AFRH fee includes a private room and bath plus three prepared meals a day, onsite healthcare services, utilities, maintenance, activities, amenities, and more. Then as you age, AFRH provides even more services like home health aides, assisted living, long-term care, and memory support and you still only have to pay a percentage of your income. If you qualify, you will always be able to afford a comfortable, safe home at AFRH.

32. Once an application has been approved, what paperwork and legal documents are required for newly admitting residents?

- Last Will and Testament
- Living Will or Advance Directive
- Durable Power of Attorney for Healthcare
- Durable Power of Attorney for Finance
- Pre-arranged funeral/burial plans
- Health records for past 12 months

33. What do I need to bring with me when reporting to campus?

- Photo ID or Drivers License
- Birth Certificate (copy)
- Emergency Contact List
- Voided Check for EFT resident fee setup
- Vehicle registration and insurance (if applicable)

34. What are the current Covid-19 safety precautions and protocols for visitors, tours, and new admissions?

- Current protocols for residents, staff, visitors and new admissions are subject to change and are posted on the AFRH website at: <https://www.afrh.gov/aboutus/coronavirus-latest-update>

- **Core infection prevention protocols:**
 - a. Properly wear face masks when and where required per current guidelines (see above)
 - b. Maintain at least 6 feet of physical distancing
 - c. Wash or sanitize hands frequently and complete sanitizing and screening steps at entrances
 - d. Self-monitor for symptoms. If present, residents and staff must notify Wellness Center and isolate until further instructions are provided. Visitors must not enter AFRH campus with symptoms of illness.

- **Tours / Visitors:**
 - a. AFRH will remain closed to the general public for indoor tours without prior approval by the campus administrators.
 - b. Visitors must remain in designated areas to minimize contact with other residents and staff.
 - c. Mask may be required by AFRH (as necessary), but are strongly recommended for all guests during indoor visits or when they are within close proximity of others.
 - d. Residents may have visitors. Advance scheduling may be required for indoor visits due to current conditions, space, and staffing limitations and to aid in contact tracing. Indoor visitation for residents in quarantine or isolation will be limited to compassionate care situations as permitted by the administration and health care staff.
 - e. Prospective residents may tour the facilities by appointment only scheduled through the Office of Public Affairs or Admissions.
 - f. All visitors must follow the core infection protocols and guidance during campus tours or visitation.
 - g. Visitors are not permitted in Assisted Living, Long Term Care, and Memory Support at this time except with approval by AFRH in compassionate care situations.

- **New Admissions:**
 - a. Testing – Incoming residents must be tested within 48 hours prior to their admission and will be retested after admission has been made according to the current recommended testing schedule.
 - b. Masking – Newly admitted residents must wear masks for the 10 days following admission in community areas.
 - c. Vaccinations – Residents, staff, and visitors are advised to speak with their healthcare provider about Covid-19 primary vaccination series and boosters. Newly admitted residents will submit current information about their vaccination status and will be offered the opportunity to receive vaccines or boosters on a voluntary basis.