

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the differences between the housing programs?

Subsidized Apartments, Affordable Apartments 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 the **Subsidized Lodges**, you have a bed/sitting room. Meals and weekly housekeeping are provided and non-medical staff are available 24 hours a day. The **Affordable Lodges** have kitchenettes.

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?

Income testing is done for all housing programs. As per legislation, income is taken from Line 150 of your latest Notice of Assessment. Asset testing is only done for the Subsidized Apartments and Duplexes.

What are the Household Income Limits (HILS)?

As of June 26, 2018:

- \$34,000 (bachelor suite)
- \$39,000 (single)
- \$50,000 (couple)

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