



Assisted Living Definitions



Connecting people with the
assistance they need

ADRC of Dane County
2865 N. Sherman Avenue
Madison, WI 53704

(608) 240-7400
www.daneadrc.org



2865 North Sherman Avenue
 Madison, WI 53704
 608-240-7400
www.daneadrc.org

Connecting people with the assistance they need

Assisted Living Definitions

There is no nationally recognized definition of assisted living and the regulation and licensure oversight can be handled quite differently by each individual state. Here in Wisconsin, the term assisted living is used to describe different types of communities – Residential Care Apartment Complex (RCACs), Community Based Residential Facilities (CBRFs) and Adult Family Homes (AFHs). Other types of supported living include Skilled Nursing Facility, Continuum of Care and Memory Care.

Facility Type	Information
<p>Residential Care Apartment Complex (RCAC)</p>	<p>Living Space: Generally a studio, 1 or 2 bedroom apartment with a private lockable entrance, kitchen (with stove) and private bathroom.</p> <p>Size: RCAC's may range from 5 to 100+ individual apartments and may be part of a larger continuum of care facility.</p> <p>Types of Services: Services offered may include meals, personal care, laundry and chores, health monitoring, medication management, social and recreational activities, etc. RCAC's <u>cannot provide more than 28 hours per resident per week of supportive services.</u></p> <p>Oversight: RCAC's are not licensed, but are either certified or registered by the WI Dept. of Health Services Division of Quality Assurance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certified RCAC's are inspected every two years and complaints are investigated. • Registered RCAC's are not inspected, but complaints are investigated. <p>According to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, RCACs are not for those with Alzheimer's related dementias or other ailments that require more in-depth monitoring by health care professionals, or those that are considered incompetent or have an Activated Power of Attorney for Healthcare.</p>

*Information courtesy of ADRC of Dane County. The ADRC does not endorse or recommend specific agencies. 4/2019 AG



Connecting people with the assistance they need

<p>Community Based Residential Facility (CBRF)</p>	<p>Living Space: Generally a room, studio or 1 bedroom apartment. There may be a private or shared bathroom. Generally there is no kitchen within the apartment, but some may have a kitchenette.</p> <p>Size: CBRF's may range from 5 to 100+ individuals and may be part of a larger continuum of care facility.</p> <p>Types of Services: Services offered may include meals, personal care, laundry and chores, health monitoring, medication management, social and recreational activities, etc. They operate with staff onsite 24 hours a day and can provide more hours of supportive services than an RCAC, but a CBRF <u>cannot provide more than 3 hours of licensed (LPN or RN) nursing care per week.</u></p> <p>Oversight: CBRF's are licensed and regularly inspected by the WI Dept. of Health Services Division of Quality Assurance.</p>
<p>Adult Family Home (AFH)</p>	<p>Living Space: A small, homelike setting. A resident would typically have their own room in a house and would have a shared bathroom.</p> <p>Size: AFH's are homes in the community that can serve between 1 to 4 individuals. They will not be found as part of a larger continuum of care facility.</p> <p>Types of Services: Services offered are similar to a CBRF and may include meals, personal care, laundry and chores, health monitoring, medication management, social and recreational activities, etc. <u>A 3-4 bed AFH cannot provide more than 7 hours of licensed (LPN or RN) nursing care per week.</u></p> <p>Oversight:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3-4 Bed AFH's are licensed and regularly inspected by the WI Dept. of Health Services Division of Quality Assurance. • 1-2 Bed AFH's are not licensed or inspected by WI Dept. of Health Services Division of Quality Assurance. Instead they are regulated by the individual county human services departments, or the long term care Medicaid programs serving that County.



Connecting people with the assistance they need

<p>Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF)</p>	<p>Living Space: Individual or shared rooms with either a private or shared bathroom.</p> <p>Size: SNF's can serve 5 or more individuals and may be part of a larger continuum of care facility.</p> <p>Types of Services: SNF's provide care for individuals who have needs beyond what a CBRF or AFH can provide. They provide 24 hour nursing services and may also provide rehabilitative therapy services, such as physical, occupational, or speech therapy.</p> <p>Oversight: SNF's are licensed and regulated by the WI Dept. of Health Services Division of Quality Assurance. Most SNF's also have to follow federal regulations if they accept Medicare/Medicaid funding.</p>
<p>Continuum of Care Facilities</p>	<p>Living Space & Services: Continuum of Care Facilities offer a range of services/assisted living settings with the goal of allowing people to age in place. A full continuum of care facility offers independent living, assisted living (RCAC and/or CBRF) as well as a skilled nursing facility. Some continuum of care facilities may only offer a few levels of care.</p> <p>Size: Continuum of care facilities are usually larger campuses with multiple wings or buildings to accommodate the range of assisted living settings they offer.</p> <p>Oversight: Regulation of these facilities would depend on the type of assisted living settings they offer (i.e. RCAC, CBRF, or SNF).</p>
<p>Memory Care</p>	<p>Memory care is a form of long-term care that serves patients with Alzheimer's disease, dementia, or other memory problems. Memory care may be offered in facilities that are licensed as an AFH, CBRF, or SNF. These types of facilities may offer memory care specific building design and safety measures, services, programming, and/or staff training.</p> <p>Oversight: There are no separate oversight or licensing for these types of facilities. Memory Care facilities must adhere to the rules and regulations for their type of facility (i.e. CBRF, AFH, SNF).</p>

****For finding a community that is right for you, please see an ADRC Information and Assistance Specialist****



Oversight and Regulation of Assisted Living Facilities

The WI Department of Health Services, Division of Quality Assurance (DQA) is responsible for regulation and oversight of the following types of Assisted Living/Residential facilities:

- Adult Family Homes (3-4 bed)
- Residential Care Apartment Complexes (RCAC)
- Community Based Residential Facilities (CBRF)
- Skilled Nursing Facilities/Nursing Homes (SNF)

Why does oversight matter?

When choosing an Assisted Living facility that is right for you, the ADRC encourages families to review the State Survey history and reports. These reports contain important information about a facility's history of licensure, complaint investigation, quality of care and abuse investigations. You can ask an assisted living facility about their Survey reports when you visit, or you can look them up online on the Wisconsin Department of Health Services website. DQA provides information on surveys that were conducted at assisted living facilities and skilled nursing facilities within the past three years.

The Survey History may include:

- The types of surveys conducted (e.g., recertification survey, complaint investigation, verification visit);
- Survey exit dates;
- Statements of Deficiency (SODs)/Notices of Non-Compliance;
- Provider's Plans of Correction (POCs)/Statements of Compliance; and
- Enforcement Actions.

A message will display if no survey information is available for a provider. Survey information for providers that have branch and satellite locations is only displayed under the main provider's location.

For additional information on Survey Reports, and DQA's role in regulating Assisted Living and Nursing Home facilities, please see: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/guide/provider-search.htm>

How to look up the Survey History of a facility online?

1. Go to DQA's Provider Search website:
<https://www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/WIPortal/Subsystem/Public/DQAProviderSearch.aspx>
2. Use the Provider Search options to narrow down your search by:
 - Provider Name
 - Location: County/City/Zip Code
 - Provider/Facility Type
3. Once you locate the facility of interest, click on the name of the facility to access the Survey History

*Information courtesy of ADRC of Dane County. The ADRC does not endorse or recommend specific agencies.