



Health and
Wellness

Santé et
Mieux-être



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Provincial Long-term Care (LTC) Program

Key Program Contacts

Overall Program Accountability:

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LTC – General Information

PEI has 1141 LTC beds in 18 nursing homes across the Province. There are 9 public manors operating 595 LTC beds (52% of total beds) and 9 private nursing homes with 546 LTC beds (48% of total).

Since April 2007, 145 new beds have added to the LTC system in an attempt to meet the demand of an aging population.

LTC is a provincially funded program which helps meet both the medical and non-medical needs of people living with chronic illnesses and disabilities that can no longer care for themselves at home or within a community care facility.

To provide the appropriate level of care needed, LTC employs skilled health practitioners to address the multiple chronic conditions associated with older populations as well as support staff to provide custodial and personal care services, such as assisting residents with normal daily tasks like dressing, feeding and personal hygiene.

Note: Community Care facilities are not part of the LTC Program

How Does Someone Qualify For LTC

They need to be:

- **assessed** as needing LTC by designated Health PEI staff; and
- **eligible** to be admitted to LTC.

How is the Level of Care Assessed?

An appointment with a family doctor is not necessary; assessments are conducted by designated Home Care Staff. Concerned individuals can make a self referral directly to their local Health PEI Home Care Office. The office will schedule a LTC Care Coordinator to meet with them or their loved one. The Care Coordinator will assess the situation and determine the level of support required to meet the person's daily care needs. If a person's assessed score is level 4 or 5 they may be eligible for a move to LTC, the Care Coordinator will discuss the options available.

Who is eligible for LTC?

Anyone who meets the following criteria is eligible to live in LTC:

- assessed as needing LTC by a Health PEI LTC Care Coordinator
- age 60 years or older;
- has a valid PEI Health Card;
- is a permanent resident who normally lives in PEI at least six months of the year; and
- has Canadian citizenship or landed immigrant status (a non-Canadian who has established residence in Canada and holds a visa entitling permanent residence in Canada).

If an individual **does not meet** the above criteria you may wish to direct them to speak with Calvin Joudrie, it is possible they may qualify due to special circumstances.

Do Islanders have the right to choose which nursing home they will live in?

Yes, they can choose the nursing home they prefer **as long as they are not waiting in hospital** and the nursing home is able to meet their specific care needs.

The LTC Care Coordinator will discuss nursing home options with the family. Islanders may request to be on the wait list of up to three different facilities. Their choices are given equal priority when an offer to move into a nursing home is made. Therefore, it is important that Islanders choose to include only those nursing homes they wish to move too on their list of choices.

Once an Islander provides the LTC Care Coordinator with their list of facilities, their name will be placed on the wait list for these facilities according to the date they were approved for LTC.

What happens when someone is in hospital while waiting to move into LTC?

Every effort will be made to move patients to a nursing home of their choice. However, when a suitable bed is not available in their chosen home, they will be asked to move to the first available LTC bed that meets their needs; even if it is not in a nursing home they wanted.

This is the **First Available Bed Policy** and is designed to lessen the time a person waits for nursing home care from hospital; ensuring the person accesses LTC (the right type of service) as soon as possible while freeing up hospital beds for Islanders who need acute care.

When a suitable bed in a nursing home of their choice becomes available Islanders affected by the First Available Bed Policy will be offered the option to transfer.

Wait List and Wait Time for LTC

How long is the wait for LTC?

Access to LTC is based on need; those individuals in need of immediate access to LTC as determined by the LTC Admission Committee will receive beds first. This includes veterans who have served in a combat area and are assessed by Veterans Affairs Canada as priority III clients. All other access is on a first come first serve basis. PEI also has a bilingual household at the Summerset Manor is dedicated to providing services to individuals whose first language is French.

As of September 9, 2016 there are approximately 170 Islanders waiting for LTC. Wait times can range from several weeks to many months. The actual wait time depends on the number of people on the wait list for a particular nursing home and how quickly a suitable vacancy becomes available. Please contact the local LTC Coordinator if you have any questions concerning wait time for a particular nursing home.

Contact Information for LTC Care Coordinators:

Home Care Office	Phone Number	LTC Coordinator
O'Leary	902 859-8730	Darlene Aylward
Summerside	902 888-8440	Miranda Driscoll
Montague	902 838-0786	Linda Boudreault
Souris	902 687-7096	Bob Lyons
Charlottetown	902 368-4790	Shirley Kennedy; Simon Pickles; and Chrissy Campbell

What happens if someone's situation worsens while they are waiting?

If a person lives at home and their situation worsens while on the wait list, they should contact their LTC Care Coordinator. The Care Coordinator will reassess their situation and determine if their situation requires immediate admission to LTC or arrange delivery of other services, such as additional respite care that may help them cope while they wait. However, if an Islander feels they need acute care they should call their family doctor, access a medical clinic or **in emergencies contact 911.**

Paying For LTC

Do I pay for my own LTC?

LTC costs are shared by the resident and the provincial government. Residents pay for their accommodation cost (room and board) and personal expenses to the maximum of their net monthly income. Government, through Health PEI, pays for the health care costs for all residents. For subsidized residents, Government also pays for the accommodation cost not covered by the individual's net income and the drug cost for all medication on the provincial LTC formulary.

Currently the cost for each subsidized residents in Private Nursing Homes is:

Health Care Cost: \$99.36/day (~\$3,023/month or \$36,266/year)

- paid by Government directly to the private nursing home

Maximum Accommodation Cost: \$82.59/day (~ \$2,512/month or \$30,145/year)

- Islanders pay only their actual net income once approved for subsidy by the LTC Subsidization Program
- Subsidized residents receive a comfort allowance of \$103/month to ensure they have funds to purchase small personal items and expenses

Currently the Maximum Accommodation Cost for residents in Public Manor is: \$80.25/day (~ \$2,440/month or \$29,290/year)

If a person's net income is slightly more, equal or less than the **maximum accommodation cost**, they are eligible to apply to the LTC Subsidization Program for a reduction in accommodation cost.

Currently, individuals whose net income (as reported on line 236 of their Canada Revenue Agency Notice of Assessment) is less than **\$32,000 per year** (\$64,000 for a couple) may be eligible for an accommodation subsidy.

If an Islander waiting for LTC believes they are eligible for an accommodation cost reduction they should contact the LTC Subsidy Program at Health PEI to arrange a financial assessment.

Accommodation costs for residents who do not receive a LTC subsidy:

Self-paying residents must **qualify to receive LTC**, (see page 2), however they must pay the full accommodation rate posted by the individual nursing home.

Private nursing homes have the right to set their own accommodation rates for private rooms and for residents who do not qualify for a LTC subsidy. These rates may be significantly higher than the **Maximum Accommodation Rate** of \$82.59/day for subsidized residents. If a person's net monthly income is not sufficient to cover the accommodation cost charged at the private nursing home they should contact Calvin Joudrie to determine if they qualify for a cost reduction.

LTC Costs for Couples:

Cost for maintaining a home are usually not decreased by 50% when one of the partners moves to a nursing home. If half of the family income does not cover the monthly cost to remain at home, the couple may qualify to have their cost of nursing care reduced. **This is true even if their initial income assessment indicated that they were not eligible for an accommodation subsidy.**

Couples should contact the LTC Subsidy Program to discuss their situation. If their approved monthly home expenses require more than half their income, they may receive an accommodation rate reduction sufficient to allow their income to cover their nursing home bill and their home expenses.

The LTC Subsidy Program's telephone number is 1-888-365-5313.