

13 MARCH 2015

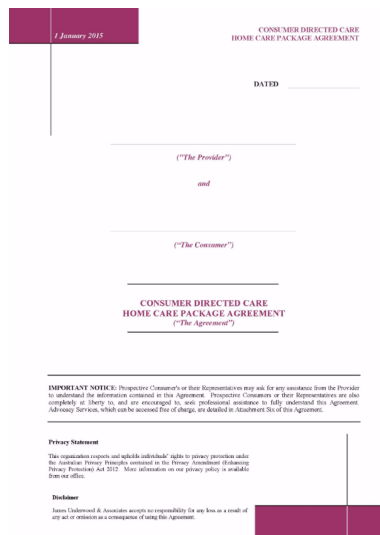
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1 July 2015 Almost Here!

Are you CDC-Ready?

CDC Agreements; Marketing Training; Budget Setting.

JU&A CDC Agreements

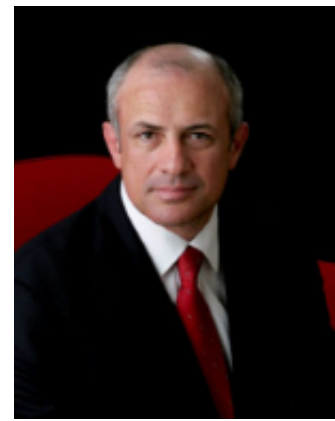


JU&A has developed a Consumer Directed Care (CDC) Agreement to use with your Level 1, Level 2, Level 3 & Level 4 Home Care Packages. This agreement assists providers to meet their requirements under the Aged Care Act and Principles. The agreement is regularly updated and is very easy to use. For all providers currently operating Home Care Packages and moving to CDC Agreements - look no further! Contact our office today or click this link for our [CDC Agreement order form](#).

National Service Integrated Housing (SIH) Conference - Gold Coast 7-8 May 2015

The SIH conference is directed towards owners, managers, practitioners, funders and policy makers interested or involved in accommodation and care provision for older Australians.

Register with LASA-Q today at



Bond Increases for Pre-1 July 2014 Residents

Question: Can a pre-1 July 2014 resident who has paid a bond, top-up their bond amount today?

Answer: Yes.

A resident can increase their bond amount at any time to secure the right to agreed enhanced accommodation immediately or as and when it becomes available.

Enhanced accommodation may include rooms with superior views; larger rooms; courtyard level rooms; and any and all other rooms that a resident may consider preferable and enhanced or superior to their current room. The resident does not have to move when a chosen enhanced room becomes available, but can elect to defer their movement to a future or different enhanced room when it becomes available.

The conditions for increasing bond amounts should be included in your resident agreement as a 'Special Condition' (example available to all JU&A Resident Agreement Package users). Details within the resident agreement of the accommodation payment (i.e. accommodation bond and/or periodic payment) also need to be amended and both these changes and the 'Special Conditions' should be initialed by both parties.

Quarterly Fee Review Letters - Please Explain the Either/Or.

We have received a number of queries from providers regarding the quarterly review letters issued by the DSS, titled 'Change in Daily Fees' (see below). In particular, the paragraphs "Accommodation Payment or Contribution" pose a challenge for many providers.



Australian Government
Department of Social Services

Departmental Reference Number:
Service Provider Number:



Dear Service Provider,

CHANGE IN DAILY FEES FOR:

I am writing to let you know about changes to the daily fees for this resident.

Means Tested Care Fee

The means tested care fee is \$0.00 per day, starting from 20 September 2014.

Accommodation Payment or Contribution

If you have previously been advised by the Department of Human Services that the resident is not eligible to receive Government support with their accommodation costs and are instead liable to pay an accommodation payment at a price agreed with the aged care home then the resident is to continue to make that payment. In this case the reference to an accommodation contribution amount in the following paragraph does not apply to the resident as they instead continue to pay the accommodation payment price agreed with the home.

If you have previously been advised by the Department of Human Services that the resident is eligible for some Government assistance with their accommodation costs then you would have been advised of the amount of accommodation contribution they are required to pay. That accommodation contribution amount is now \$0.00 per day, starting from 20 September 2014.

Basic Daily Fee

The basic daily fee is \$47.15 per day.

Daily Fee Summary

In summary, the daily fees are \$47.15 per day, or \$660.10 per fortnight.

What you should know

The basic daily fee increases in March and September each year in line with age pension increases. Current rates of fees and charges are available in the Schedule of Fees and Charges on the Department of Social Services website at www.dss.gov.au.

These two highlighted paragraphs advise providers of the new fees that may be applicable for a resident in their facility, following the quarterly review of the resident's means. The paragraphs cover the scenarios of where the resident was assessed to be **either** subject to paying an accommodation payment (and thus **not** be low means) **or** subject to an accommodation contribution (and thus be a low means resident) as at date of entry. Both scenarios are covered in the letter because cross-referencing is not being undertaken by the DSS of what status the resident actually had at point of entry. A resident could have had assets above \$155,823.20 at time of entry and now has assets below this level when the quarterly review is undertaken. The DSS leaves it up to the Provider to know which scenario applies to the resident at time of entry.

Because means testing is now a 'rolling' process (unlike before 1 July 2014 when asset an assessment for the accommodation charge was set in place as at date of entry), there may be now be cases where a resident entered the facility as an Accommodation Payment- paying resident (RAD/DAP/Combo) and subsequently saw their level of asset and/or income reduce to a point that they would otherwise be considered to be a low means resident. This could easily occur through high DAP withdrawals from a small RAD. This does not affect the resident's status as their means only changed **subsequent** to their entry into your service. They will

not "become" low means.

Note: If you were advised by the DHS that a resident was 'means not disclosed' and levied an accommodation payment AND then the resident subsequently submitted an asset and income assessment form which resulted in the resident being assessed as low means **from date of entry**, you may have to refund any accommodation payment and adjust your records to show the resident as low means because that was their assessed status *as at date of entry*. This outcome is regardless of the first paragraph in the quarterly review letter advising you that you can keep levying the accommodation payment.

National Executive Salaries Review (NESR)

Input your 2015 salary data by March 30 to receive 18 months' free access to the JU&A NESR Report. [Download Input Form Here](#)



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