



Questions to Ask when Considering a Non-Christian Science Living Community

First, questions to ask yourself:

- Will the environment here support my study and practice of Christian Science?
- How will I be able to participate in church activities here or outside the facility?
- Will I feel comfortable with the kinds of conversations I hear in the dining room? In social activities?
- How do I feel about the overall mental atmosphere?

Facility:

- What types of apartments are available?
- What type of security and safety measures do you have in place?

Money matters:

- What is the monthly cost per apartment? What are the differences in price?
- What is included in the rent? What is not included?
- How often do rent costs go up?
- What is your billing policy?
- Are there additional optional and/or mandatory fees for services or activities?

Food:

- Are meals included in the rent — what are the dining options?
- Do residents have input on the menu choices?
- Can you accommodate special requests?
- Can my family eat with me in the dining room?
- May I/we sample some meals?

Residents and Community:

- What is the profile of a typical resident?
- What is a standard day in the life of a resident here?
- Is there an assessment prior to moving in? What is included in it?
- Is there a wait list? How is it managed?
- Can a family member stay the night?
- Do you have a residents' council or some way to collaborate with residents?
- May I meet/speak with some of your residents about their experience living here?

Activities and services:

- Do you offer outside entertainers, educators, speakers? What are some examples?
- Are there clubs or interest groups?
- Do you have an activities calendar?
- What kinds of shared spaces do you have (e.g., dining, kitchen, outdoors, entertainment, etc.)?
- What kinds of transportation do you provide? Is there a charge for use?
- What additional services are available if the care or personal needs change while living here?
- Are there Bible study or other such groups meeting at the facility?

Policies:

- What are your guest/visitor policies?
- What are your smoking and alcohol policies?

Staffing and Care (if an assisted living facility):

- What levels or types of assistance does your facility provide?
- Do you have physicians and/or nurses on staff?
- Is staff on site 24/7?
- What is your staff to resident ratio?
- What type of training does your care staff complete?
- How does the staff respond to unexpected physical/medical needs?
- Do you require residents to have regular visits with a physician? May a resident opt out of these visits?
- Are there mandatory vaccinations?
- Can I be taken to a Christian Science nursing facility rather than a hospital, should I request it?
- May a Christian Science nurse visit me onsite?