



Senior Center Participation Guidelines

Individuals must be 60 years or older.

Center participation is based on initial and subsequent assessment results and consultation with healthcare providers and their findings as necessary.

Individuals must be able to perform Activities of Daily Living independently in the Center including:

- a. Administering own medication if needed during Center hours.
- b. Ambulating with or without assistive devices, and transferring (moving from one position or surface to another) without assistance and without injury.
- c. Continence or managing incontinence successfully without assistance.
- d. Eating and drinking without assistance at table.
- e. Providing adequate information for initial and subsequent assessments to determine level of functional and cognitive ability.
- f. Following instructions.
- g. Communicating problems and needs to staff.
- h. Socializing and interacting with others in a positive manner.
- i. Entering and exiting the Center's van safely and without injury with hand-held assistance by Van Driver.

The Center will exercise discretionary judgment as to its ability to accommodate any individual. The Center reserves the right to suspend, terminate, or decline services to individuals if the staff and/or facilities are inadequate to meet their needs, if the individual exhibits an unsafe pattern of behavior, or if Center policies are violated. In such cases, a formal grievance appeals process will be initiated. An assessment will be conducted prior to any individual's return to the Center.

Any behavior, including those which interfere with other Center members participating in programs, may result in suspension and/or termination of services. This may include severe confusion, wandering, falling, poor personal hygiene, or disruptive behavior. If such behaviors prove treatable or otherwise reversible by a healthcare professional, participation will be reassessed for appropriateness for Center attendance. No violence or threat of violence, physical or verbal, will be tolerated under any circumstances.

Functional or cognitive impairments requiring specific staff to client ratios (such as a 1:1, 1:4, 1:5, etc.) cannot be accommodated and may preclude Center participation. However, if Center staff or other resources can suggest ways the individual can work around such impairments and attain an acceptable level of functioning, Center participation may be possible.

In cases where an individual needs more assistance than Center staff can reasonably accommodate, an individual may only be able to attend if accompanied during the entire stay at the Center by a qualified companion, aide, or family member. Center staff will work with the individual and family member(s) to arrive at a realistic and mutually beneficial arrangement. Referral to a VPAS Case Manager or other community resource or program may be necessary.