



5 QUESTIONS to ask when choosing a NURSING HOME for your loved ones.

Finding the **right nursing home** for your loved one is one of the most important decisions a family can make.

Asking thoughtful, thorough questions during your nursing home search can help you determine the **best fit** and give your family peace of mind that your loved one is getting the **care and attention they deserve**.

1 What is the Staff to Resident Ratio?

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, federal law mandates that every nursing home must have:

1 Staff Person TO 15 Residents
MORNING SHIFT

1 Staff Person TO 25 Residents
EVENING SHIFT

1 Staff Person TO 35 Residents
NIGHT SHIFT

Also

Every skilled nursing facility (SNF) must also maintain the following staff-to-resident ratio of direct care providers, including registered nurses (RN) & licensed practical nurses (LPNs):

1 Staff Person to 5 Residents | **MORNING SHIFT**

1 Staff Person to 10 Residents | **EVENING SHIFT**

1 Staff Person to 15 Residents | **NIGHT SHIFT**

2 Does an Ombudsman Visit Regularly?

An organizational ombudsman, is a neutral, independent public official tasked with defending the public's interests and investigating complaints about the actions of public institutions, like nursing homes.

They serve as advocates for nursing home residents and their families, providing crucial conflict resolution and problem-solving services.

Facilities that welcome oversight and encourage feedback demonstrate a commitment to residents' quality of care.

Ask your ombudsman:

Does an ombudsman visit this facility regularly?

How can residents and families contact the ombudsman?

What process is in place for addressing concerns?

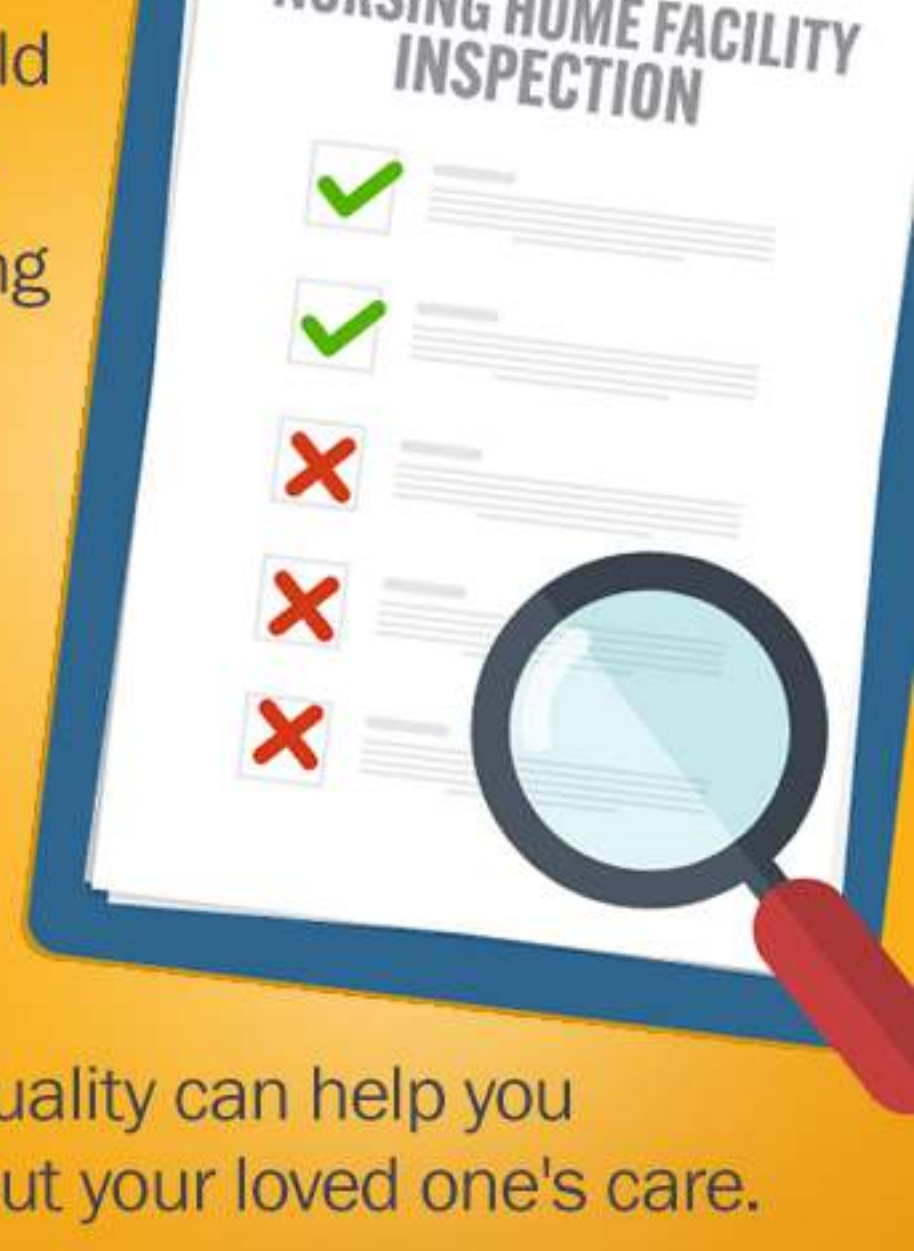


3 What Issues Were Identified During The Last Survey or Inspection?

State inspections provide crucial information about a nursing home's day-to-day operations. A copy of the nursing home's last inspection should be posted or available at the facility.

Still, it's important to ask the following clarifying questions:

- May I review the most recent inspection report?
- Were any deficiencies identified?
- What steps were taken to address those concerns?



Knowing a facility's track record of quality can help you make a more informed decision about your loved one's care.

4 How Long Does Staff Usually Stay?

Strong, consistent relationships between residents and caregivers can make a meaningful difference in daily life. Before you trust a nursing home with your loved one, ask:

- What is the average tenure of nurses and caregivers?
- Does the facility experience frequent staff turnover?
- Are temporary staff members commonly used?

Consistent staffing often helps residents receive more personalized care from people who know their needs and preferences.



5 Are Staff Members Properly Licensed and Trained?

It is crucial that your loved one in a nursing home receives care from qualified professionals. Well-trained and properly licensed caregivers are best equipped to provide comprehensive care.

To ensure that staff members' credentials are valid and up-to-date, ask the following:

LICENSE CERTIFICATION
NURSING HOME HEALTHCARE

- Are all nurses and healthcare providers currently licensed?
- How does the facility verify credentials?
- What ongoing training do staff members receive?

5 Your Loved One Deserves The Best. Your Family Deserves Peace of Mind.

When visiting a nursing home, pay attention to the environment and interactions between staff and residents. Trust your instincts and don't be afraid to ask questions.

The right facility should welcome your involvement and make you feel comfortable discussing your loved one's care.



Concerned About a Loved One's Care?

If you suspect nursing home neglect or abuse, The Goss Law Firm is here to help families understand their rights and pursue accountability when residents are harmed.

THE GOSS LAW FIRM, P.C.

1501 Westport Road, Kansas City, MO 64111
816-888-5000 | TheGossLawFirm.com