Frequently asked questions

1. Is there an entrance fee charged when applying to Vernon Birches?
   No. Unlike some health care and retirement centers, Vernon Birches does not require any entrance fees. A security deposit equal to one month’s rent is required at Vernon Birches. Charges are billed monthly.

2. Do I have to provide financial information when applying?
   Vernon Birches was constructed with government assistance. Eligibility for residency is based partly on one’s annual income, as are monthly rent charges. Therefore, we must request asset and income information from applicants to determine eligibility and to calculate monthly charges.

3. Must one belong to a particular religion or church group?
   No. While Vernon Communities have been affiliated historically with the Advent Christian General Conference of America, there are no requirements that residents, staff or children subscribe to any particular religious creed or denomination.

4. Is there a waiting list?
   Most of the time there is a wait for a vacancy at our facilities. The length of the wait depends on where you are applying and type of living quarters in which you are interested. A general estimate of waiting time can be given you at the time of application.

5. Must I have a car to live there?
   While having a car is not a requirement for residency, most people find it essential at Vernon Birches where the independent living arrangement requires the ability to shop on one’s own.

Our values

We will foster communities whose relationships and services are:
- **Exceptional** (Exceeding customary practices)
- **Creative** (Transforming commonplace thinking)
- **Generous** (Surpassing measured exchanges)
About Vernon Birches

What is living at Vernon Birches like? For starters, it includes the comfort and convenience of a 1- or 2-bedroom apartment with a full kitchen, dining/living room, laundry, bath and ample closet space -- all on one level (optional telephone, cable TV and Internet services are available). Vernon Birches is for seniors who want an independent lifestyle in a community of peers. Residents live in a secure campus community located in a peaceful small-town setting amid southern Vermont's abundant recreational possibilities. They have no maintenance worries, since all grounds and home maintenance is included. About seven miles away, Brattleboro offers the activities and services of a mid-size city such as banking, food shopping, dining, movie theaters and medical services.

For these reasons and more, Vernon Birches is a place people love to call home.

Requirements

- For seniors 62 years and older or the disabled who are able to function independently (either fully or with the help of an assistant or caregiver) and who meet annual income criteria
- The reasonable monthly rents include heat, water, snow removal, security, plus on-site maintenance and management
- Those wishing to live here can begin by completing and submitting a Vernon Birches Application for residence

A complete continuum of care

We provide a full range of living options and care:

- Independent, apartment-style living at Vernon Birches
- Assisted living at our Vernon Hall facility
- Skilled, 24-hour nursing care at our Vernon Green facility as well as rehabilitation and Alzheimer's care

This comprehensive approach enables residents to transition seamlessly within the community as needs change.