

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS – HOUSING OPTIONS



	Level 1 JESPY Residence Apartments	Level 2 JESPY Shared Housing	Level 3 Independent Apartments Out in the Community with Support from JESPY Staff
Do residents pay for their own food?	Each apartment, shared house or independent housing facility receives a set amount of money per week for food shopping from each client's personal funds or other entitlements such as Social Security or NJ Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) funding. Most clients spend additional money on food.		
Who prepares meals?	The clients prepare meals with supervision. When they have demonstrated kitchen safety, they can prepare meals independently.		Many clients prepare their own meals since they have mastered this daily living skill. Some clients prepare their meals with supervision.
How does a client get his/her own bedroom?	Factors such as behaviors and seniority decide who gets their own room. Each apartment has a kitchen and living room.	Each client has his/her own bedroom. Other space in the house such as kitchen and living areas is shared.	Not Applicable: Independent housing is privately leased by each client/family.
Do men and women live together?	Apartments are men-only or women-only. Determining clients with similar likes and dislikes, similar age groups and skills sets are some of the things considered in making up an apartment.	Some of the shared houses have both male and female residents. Others are male-only or female-only. The individual needs of each client are considered when making a housing assignment.	
Do residents bring their own furniture?	Furniture is provided by JESPY. Residents bring their own bedding, clothing, bathroom items.	Residents bring their own furniture and bedding for their bedrooms. JESPY furnishes the shared spaces.	All furniture must be provided by the resident.
How long does one live in the JESPY Residence Apartments?	Generally, it is 2-4 years. However, people have lived there for shorter or longer periods. A client demonstrating that he/she will be safe in the community takes priority over a set time frame.	Not Applicable	Not Applicable



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Is there staff at the different housing options?	While staff members are in the building 24/7, they are in the apartments only at designated times during the day to directly provide support services.	<p><i>Monday to Friday:</i> Staff is onsite during the day to assist residents; overnight staff provides onsite coverage Sunday through Thursday evenings.</p> <p><i>Weekends:</i> No onsite coverage during the day; overnight staff provides onsite coverage on Friday and Saturday evenings.</p> <p><i>Covering staff is available when needed during the days/times that regular house staff is not onsite.</i></p>	Case managers make regular visits to monitor their clients' progress and needs.
Can residents self-medicate?	The goal is for all residents to take their medications independently once they have passed the self-medication assessment.		
How does one move to supported living?	When a client learns basic daily living skills such as cooking, cleaning, personal hygiene, budgeting and when the team determines he/she will be safe in the community with supports.		Not Applicable
Are pets allowed?	No pets of any type are allowed.		Cats are allowed.
Is smoking allowed in the facilities?	No smoking is allowed inside any of the JESPY properties.		Varies by building, depending on the landlord or superintendent.
Are recreational activities included in the fees?	Many recreational activities for residents are included in the fees; others are available at an additional cost.	Clients have the option of participating in recreational activities. The recreation fees are not included as part of their JESPY monthly fees and must be paid for separately.	
Is there a charge for laundry?	Clients pay the cost of using the washers and dryers that are available in the building.	Washers and dryers are available for use in each house <i>at no additional cost.</i>	Clients pay the cost of using the washers and dryers that are available in the buildings.