All areas in the facility should be easy to get around in and have:
- doorways and walkways that easily accommodate walkers and wheelchairs;
- elevators as an alternative to stairs;
- an outdoor area;
- rooms with features you desire, such as windows, kitchenette, bathroom handrails, etc.; and/or
- clean and well-maintained common rooms.

Important medical care considerations include:
- How are medications handled?
  - Can you self-administer medications?
  - How is this done if you need assistance managing medications?
- How medical emergencies and non-emergency medical situations are handled?
- How visits from physical therapists, occupational therapists, medical specialists, and physicians are scheduled?
- What degree of medical care is provided by the facility, including nursing coverage and the number of aides?
- How long before you would need to move to another type of care facility?

Important staff qualities include being:
- warm and welcoming to residents and families;
- kind and respectful with residents, including referring to them by their names;
- helpful and attentive, but not overworked; and/or
- able to communicate clearly with residents, families, and other caregivers, without language or communication barriers.

Other important considerations for staff members include:
- If they wear nametags;
- If they knock before entering a resident’s room;
- If there is adequate personnel during weekdays, weekends and holidays, evenings, and overnight;
- If they have consistent caregivers on a daily basis, as possible; and/or
- If they’ve been vetted via background checks to ensure they haven’t been found guilty of abuse or neglect.

You should be comfortable with the residents and the facility culture by determining if:
- the current residents seem happy and comfortable;
- the residents socialize with each other;
- you are able to talk with residents about their experience at the facility;
- you think that you and your roommate will get along when you are considering sharing a room; and/or
- there are other options if you don’t.

In order to be sure meals are enjoyable you should:
- be sure the menu appeals to you and the kitchen can accommodate religious or medical dietary needs;
- observe or participate in a meal at the facility; and/or
- ask about the option of eating in your room rather than in the dining room or a packaged meal, bringing non-resident guests to dinner, holiday dining schedules, and if alcohol is served/available at meals.