

QUICK FACTS ABOUT



What does PACE stand for?

Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly

What is PACE?

PACE is a nationally recognized alternative to nursing home care for individuals age 55+ who wish to live in their own homes and communities. PACE provides all needed social and medical care, delivered in a coordinated way. These services are delivered at a unique and innovative PACE Center and are supported by local hospitals and health care providers, only when necessary. Participants typically go to the PACE Center for meals, field trips, exercise classes, medical care, therapy, and various other activities. Community based support services are also provided through PACE. These include in-home care and support and transportation. Caregiver support is also an important attribute of PACE.

Is PACE something unique to the Charlottesville area?

No, PACE is currently available in 29 states. There are approximately 85 PACE organizations serving over 30,000 participants nationally. There are several other PACE organizations in Virginia. Riverside Health System is Virginia's largest PACE operator, and they are a partner in Blue Ridge PACE.

What is Blue Ridge PACE?

Blue Ridge PACE is a non-profit partnership between the Jefferson Area Board for Aging (JABA), the University of Virginia Health System (UVA), and Riverside Health System (Riverside). These three organizations are working together to bring the PACE model of caring for frail older adults to the Charlottesville region, including the surrounding counties of Albemarle, Nelson, Fluvanna, Green and Louisa. Although this will be a new program in our region, PACE is well established in the state of Virginia, and Riverside is the state's largest PACE provider.

What are the eligibility requirements?

1. Participants must be 55+, and
2. Live in Charlottesville or in the county of Albemarle, Nelson, Fluvanna, Greene or Louisa, and
3. Live safely in the community at the time of enrollment, and
4. Meet the Virginia state certification requirements for nursing home placement.

When will Blue Ridge PACE open?

Blue Ridge PACE is scheduled to start operations in late 2013.

What areas will be served by Blue Ridge PACE?

The Blue Ridge PACE service area will include Charlottesville and the counties of Albemarle, Nelson, Fluvanna, Greene and Louisa.

Where will the PACE Center be located?

The PACE Center will be conveniently located at the H.T. Ferron site at 1335 Carlton Avenue in Charlottesville, Virginia.

PACE provides transportation to and from the center and for all other appointments as needed.

What are the hours of operation for the Blue Ridge PACE Center?

PACE participants have access to their care team 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Services will be delivered at the Blue Ridge PACE Center all day Monday through Friday.

What services are included with PACE?

The PACE model provides for all health care-related services that are necessary, as determined in partnership by the PACE interdisciplinary team and the participants and their families/caregivers. By law, the PACE service package must include any services covered by Medicare or Medicaid, including Medicare Part D. Some of the commonly provided services are:

- Transportation
- Prescription medications
- Vision and Hearing
- Dental Care
- Rehabilitation and therapy services
- Social Services
- Adult Day Care
- Outpatient medical and surgical services
- Mental health care
- Home care and support
- Home modification and supportive technology
- Nutritional services
- Respite services for the family
- Daily support from our interprofessional care team
- Medication management
- All primary care
- Referrals to medical specialists
- Hospital care
- Assisted living care
- Nursing home care
- Lab work
- End of life support and care
- Durable Medical Equipment

Will I have actual doctors, nurses, etc. caring for me?

The PACE team members include well-qualified and caring physicians/nurses, social workers, recreational therapists, dieticians, and pharmacists as well as physical, occupational and speech therapists, home care staff and transportation drivers. Together, these professionals monitor and coordinate all of a PACE member's care and services.

When can I enroll?

Enrollment will likely begin early Fall, 2013.

How long does the enrollment process take?

The PACE enrollment team will make every effort to complete the assessment and enrollment process in a timely manner. The enrollment process involves an individualized assessment and care planning process that takes place as soon as possible prior to enrollment. Individuals are enrolled throughout the month but PACE enrollment effective dates are on the first day of every month. Therefore the time between the initial contact and completion of enrollment will vary.

Why would someone be denied enrollment?

PACE cannot deny enrollment for any health-related reason. As long as the other qualifying criteria are met PACE can only deny enrollment if the interdisciplinary team determines that, on the day of enrollment, the individual is not able to live safely in the community with the support of PACE.

What happens if I am enrolled and change my mind?

Once an individual joins PACE, he/she typically elects to remain a member for life. However, PACE participants may voluntarily disenroll, without cause, at any time.

What happens if I am admitted into a nursing home later?

The level of care required for PACE participants is closely monitored. If a participant is in need of nursing facility-level care, the interdisciplinary team will coordinate the transition to an appropriate long term care facility. Even in the nursing home, on a temporary or permanent basis, the individual remains in the PACE unless he or she chooses to cancel enrollment.

I can't drive. How do I get to my PACE appointments?

Transportation will be provided to and from the center and medical appointments as needed.

I am not eligible for Medicaid. Can I participate in PACE?

You may participate in PACE if you are eligible for Medicare, meet the other PACE eligibility requirements, and are willing and able to pay the private rate.

What will it cost me to participate in PACE?

Membership in PACE is paid for by Medicaid and Medicare for those who have Medicaid. Those who do not have Medicaid but wish to join PACE can do so for a set monthly premium.

There are no co-pays, co-insurance, or deductibles for any service for any participant in PACE.

What does it mean that PACE is a capitated program?

It means that there is an established monthly reimbursement rate set by Medicare and Medicaid for members. PACE must provide all of the health care services the participant needs to meet the care plan established by the Interdisciplinary Team and the participant.

Can I keep my current physician?

In order for the PACE model to work, and for participants to receive truly coordinated care, PACE needs to directly provide primary care services.

Although some people are initially resistant to the idea of changing primary care physicians, national PACE experience has been that most primary care physicians in the community encourage the switch to PACE due to the capability of the program to deliver quality, comprehensive care.

PACE refers to community-based providers for specialty care. PACE participants must use PACE-approved specialists, but PACE organizations are usually very flexible in who they use. The primary goal is to maintain continuity of care.

Where can I find more information?

Blue Ridge PACE cannot recruit nor assess anyone until approximately 30 days prior to opening.

For more information about PACE and JABA, please contact JABA at (434)817-5222 or refer to these web sites:

www.riversideonline.com/pace/index.cfm

www.npaonline.org