

Private Duty Frequently Asked Questions

What is the minimum number of hours a week this service is available?

The minimum number of hours is four hours weekly; however, we do provide a bed & bath service, which is only one hour.

Can aides or companions give medications?

Only licensed nurses can give medications. Our home health aides and companions can hand clients medicine cups, which have been pre-filled by the client's caregiver. They can also give reminders to the client that it is time for them to take medications.

Are the aides and companions bonded and insured?

Yes, all employees of MediCorp go through a thorough background check and security screening.

Are the employees well trained?

Upon hire, both aides and companions complete extensive training (receive certification), then annually attend 6 training classes as well as complete annual competency requirements. Many are also licensed by the state. Additionally, all employees must have complete physical and tuberculosis tests.

All home health aides and companions are supervised by experienced Field Supervisors (Registered Nurses) at no additional charge for visit(s).

Is there a fee for an initial assessments?

There is no fee for the initial assessment. Field Supervisors that are Registered Nurses conduct full patient assessments that include physical, emotional, and social aspects. Our nurses then make 1-2 monthly visits at no charge to the client.

Can we use Private Duty if we have Home Health or Hospice Services?

Absolutely! We are very fortunate to be a part of the MediCorp family and are housed at the same location as Mary Washington Home Health and Hospice. We all work closely together to provide extra services not covered by either agency. We coordinate with the nurses, therapist, and social workers to provide the best care for the client.

What can I do if I can't afford the Private Duty Services?

We can refer you to local resources that may be able to help.

Are the aides and companions certified in CPR?

Yes, all of our team members are certified in the latest Heart Savers CPR course and use of automated external defibrillators. Renewal is done in accordance with the American Heart Association, at least every 2 years or when there are improved new guidelines.

What are the services companions can provide?

- Emotional support and companionship
- Monitor client safety and promote safety awareness
- Light housekeeping
- Prepare meals
- Encourage proper nutrition and assist clients in following any specialty diets
- Supervise activities of daily living
- Run errands
- Grocery shop
- Take clients to appointments, socials, recreational outings

What are the services home health aides provide?

- Bathing
- Dressing
- Hair grooming
- Shaving
- Incontinence care
- Assist with range of motion and exercise