NDIS Price Guide

Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland, Tasmania

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2017/18 NDIS Price Guide

This guide is a summary of NDIS price limits and associated arrangements (price controls) that will apply from 1 July 2017. It is designed to assist disability support providers, both current and prospective, to understand the way that price controls for NDIS supports and services work in the NDIS.

In transition, the NDIS market will grow significantly and competitive tension will ensure the price of supports are kept at a reasonable level. During this time, Price controls will be used to protect "value for money" for participants by ensuring that the costs of the support are reasonable, relative to both the benefits achieved and the cost of alternative support.

The NDIS provides funding to participants to purchase a range of reasonable and necessary supports aimed at increasing their independence, inclusion, and social and economic participation. This funding is provided through participant budgets, which are designed to be flexible and to allow service innovation. Importantly, the supports delivered are chosen, and paid for, by individual participants, who have choice and control over how their budget is spent.

This Guide should be read in conjunction with the NDIS *Terms of Business for Registered Support Providers* (the 'Terms of Business')[1].

[1] http://www.ndis.gov.au/providers/registering-provider/terms-business

Service providers should also make use of the information available in the NDIS provider portal[2]. All Registered Providers should refer to the NDIA Terms of Business, which include details about the application of the price controls in this guide, and other requirements that providers must comply with when offering and delivering services to Scheme participants.

Unless stated otherwise, these price limits are the maximum that Registered Providers can charge NDIS participants for their services. Price limits are in place to ensure that participants receive value for money in the supports and services that they receive. This is an important measure for many participants, especially in markets that are immature or where there are few options for participants to choose from.

There is no requirement for providers to charge the maximum price for a given support. Participants and providers should negotiate prices, like other suppliers and consumers, based on the needs and preferences of the participants and the specific supports required. This allows the participant flexibility and control over their budget for supports.

Audience

The price guide is a useful reference for all participants, providers and plan managers under the NDIS. This Guide applies to each of these as follows:

- Providers for agency-managed plans must be registered providers and are subject to the pricing arrangements in the price guide (price caps, quotes etc.).
- Plan managers can purchase supports on behalf of participants from either registered or unregistered service providers, but they submit claims according to line items in the support catalogue, and **they are responsible for ensuring that these claims adhere to the arrangements in the NDIS Price Guide, including price limits for some supports**.

[2] http://www.ndis.gov.au/document/ndis-provider-portal-instructions

- Self-Managing participants can use registered or unregistered service providers and are ***not*** subject to the pricing arrangements in the NDIS Price Guide.

These rules are described in the NDIS Terms of Business. Specifically, plan managers are registered providers, and therefore subject to the following clause in Terms of Business - "*Registered Providers must adhere to the NDIA Price Guide or any other Agency pricing arrangements and guidelines as in force from time to time*."

Types of price controls

This guide includes a range of price controls that apply regardless of whether funding for the support is managed by National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA). Conversely, participants who are self-managing their supports, (with or without the assistance of an intermediary) are not subject to price controls; price controls are applicable in all other cases.

The types of price controls that may be applied under the NDIS are as follows:

1. Price limits –Maximum prices that providers are permitted to charge for NDIS services and supports under this line item.
2. Benchmarks – Where the provider must provide sufficient evidence to justify where the support being provided should be claimed at a rate higher that the benchmark.

For some supports 'benchmark prices' are listed, which may require a quote to be submitted. These benchmark prices indicate the NDIA has not specifically set a price limit. Instead the benchmark is an indication of the NDIA's view of efficient service delivery and should be the highest price charged by *most* providers. Through the quote process, an appropriate funding amount is agreed and included in the participant's budget. For example Supported Independent Living (SIL) uses benchmark prices.

The NDIS funding is sufficient to cover the full cost of provision of the support considered by the NDIA to be reasonable and necessary. In some cases, a participant is free to choose a more expensive option at their own expense, where the more expensive option is not considered to be reasonable and necessary. An example of this situation would be where a home modification has been approved for a participant, but the participant would like cosmetic or personalised fittings that are not deemed reasonable and necessary. In this situation, the NDIA will cover the reasonable and necessary component of the modification, and the participant will pay the extra costs. Please refer to resources available in relation to Home Modifications.

There are many support 'line items' within each support category

The NDIA Price Guide is not a comprehensive list of all available supports, nor does it prescribe the only supports funded by the NDIS.

Although they are not listed in this document, each support category has many specific supports and services that are recognised in the NDIS payment system. These are referred to as 'line items' and are not detailed in participant plans. A comprehensive listing of support line items is kept up to date as a separate file (csv format) on the NDIS website[3]. This file includes item descriptors to assist providers to claim payments using a "best-fit" approach, and to assist participants in engaging and negotiating with service providers.

Providers should claim payments against a support line item that most closely aligns to the service they have delivered.

[3] https://www.ndis.gov.au/providers/pricing-and-payment

NDIS Outcomes Framework: Supports should help participants achieve their goals

The NDIS Outcomes Framework has been developed to measure goal attainment for individual participants and overall performance of the Scheme. There are 8 Outcome Domains ('Domains') in the framework. These Domains help participants think about goals in different areas of their life and assist planners to explore where supports in these areas already exist and where further supports are required.

1. Daily Living
2. Home
3. Health and Well-being
4. Lifelong Learning
5. Work
6. Social and Community Participation
7. Relationships
8. Choice and Control

The outcomes framework directly relates to the 15 support categories outlined below. NDIS service providers should be aware that all supports and services for Scheme participants must contribute to the achievement of their individual goals as outlined in the participant's NDIS plan.

Participant budgets

Each participant with funding under the NDIS is given a budget that aligns with their individual plan and supports them in achieving their goals. These budgets are broken into three Support Purpose categories: core, capital and capacity building:

1. CORE – A support that enables a participant to complete activities of daily living and enables them to work towards their goals and meet their objectives. Participant budgets are flexible across the four sub-categories: Assistance with daily living, except where a budget is allocated to Supported Independent Living (SIL), which is always Agency managed; Transport; Consumables; and Assistance with Social and Community Participation. A participant may choose how to spend their core support funding, but cannot reallocate core support funding to other support purposes (i.e. capital or capacity building supports).

2. CAPITAL – An investment, such as assistive technologies - equipment, home or vehicle modifications, or for Specialist Disability Accommodation. Participant budgets for this support purpose are restricted to specific items identified in the participant's plan. Most items require quotes, which means that providers must negotiate a price with a participant in accordance with the specifications usually developed by an assessing therapist. The funding for supports will, as needed, include assessment, delivery, set-up, adjustment and maintenance costs.

3. CAPACITY BUILDING - A support that enables a participant to build their independence and skills. Participant budgets are allocated at a support category level and must be used to achieve the goals set out in the participant's plan. These supports include Support Coordination, Improved Living Arrangements, Increased Social & Community Participation, Finding and Keeping a Job, Improved Relationships, Improved Health & Wellbeing, Improved Learning, Improved Life Choices and Improved Daily Living Skills.

The support categories described above are designed to align with the outcomes framework. This helps participants chose supports that help them in achieving their goals, and providers to understand how the supports they provide contribute to the participant's goals.

These links are provided below: SUPPORT PURPOSE	OUTCOMES FRAMEWORK DOMAIN	SUPPORT CATEGORY (Plan Budgets)
CORE	Daily Living Daily Living Daily Living Social & Community Participation	Assistance with Daily Life Transport Consumables Assistance with Social & Community Participation
CAPITAL	Daily Living Home	Assistive Technology Home Modifications and Specialised Disability Accommodation (SDA)
CAPACITY BUILDING	Choice & Control Home Social and Community Participation Work Relationships Health & Wellbeing Lifelong Learning Choice and Control Daily Living	Support Coordination Improved Living Arrangements Increased Social and Community Participation Finding and Keeping a Job Improved Relationships Improved Health and Wellbeing Improved Learning Improved Life Choices Improved Daily Living Skills

Claiming for 2017-18 NDIS supports and services using this Guide

This Price Guide applies for services delivered from 1 July 2017 onwards. Providers and participants can make service agreements using the 2017/18 price limits as long as the service is delivered on or after 1 July 2017. Prices that have already been explicitly set in service agreements between providers and participants are not affected by changes to maximum prices, even if the service agreement is for the delivery of supports after 1 July 2017.

Registered Providers can make a claim for payment once that support has been delivered or provided. Prepayment is not permitted unless, the NDIA has given prior approval in writing to the Registered Provider. This will only occur in exceptional circumstances such as home modifications and remote area servicing.

Where price limits apply, prices charged to participants must not exceed the price level prescribed for that support in the Price Guide. No other charges are to be added to the cost of the support, including credit card surcharges, or any additional fees including any 'gap' fees, late payment fees or cancellation fees. Providers should refer to the NDIA Terms of Business for further details or *Other Considerations* section of this guide.

When claiming, it is the responsibility of the provider to ensure that the claim accurately reflects the supports delivered, including the frequency and volume of supports. Falsifying claims for any aspect of supports delivered, is a serious compliance issue and may result in action against the provider, including de-registration. Providers are also required to keep accurate records of claims, which are subject to audit at any time.

A claim for payment is to be submitted within a reasonable time (and no later than 90 days from the end of the Service Booking – see below).

Support Item Reference Numbers

NDIS payments system applies unique numbers for each support line item, according to the following structure:



For example:

Assistance with self-care - overnight - higher intensity line item number is: 01_018_0104_1_1

Support Category	Line Item	Reg'n Grp	Domain	Funding Type
1	018	0104	1	1

Support Connection line item number is: - 07_001_0106_8_3

Support Category	Line Item	Reg'n Grp	Domain	Funding Type
7	001	0106	8	3

Units of Measure

The NDIS payment system for 2017/18 includes units of measure to suit each support line item:

- Each
- Hour
- Daily
- Week
- Month
- Annual

Service Bookings

2017/18 NDIS operating system provides for Service Bookings to be created between the participant and their provider. This ensures that both parties are aware of the requirements for service, the length of time the service is required for, and that the participant will be able to pay for the service. For more information please see Section 5.2 of the Provider Toolkit[4].

To help participants keep track of their service bookings and budget, a Monthly Payment Statement will be available online. The Payment Statement is created from the system and available to the participant (and/ or their nominee) on the first business day of each month. This statement will contain a summary of the previous month's payments, available budget remaining, committed budget and spent budget. It will list which participant and provider claims have been received, which Service Bookings they relate to, which Support Categories the money was deducted from and on which dates the deductions were made. The Payment Summary will be available in their preferred document format, either pdf or word. The participant (and/or their nominee) will be sent an email or SMS notification when their statements are available online.

Special pricing and extra charges

In certain circumstances, providers may be entitled to charge at higher rates or for expenses incurred in the provision supports. These may include certain transport and travel, or providing in remote or very remote areas, which are outlined below.

[4] https://www.ndis.gov.au/providers/provider-toolkit

Remote and Very Remote

Services delivered in remote and very remote areas may have higher price limits, to accommodate additional service delivery costs. The Modified Monash Model (MMM) is used to determine remote or very remote areas. There are separate Price Guides for Remote and Very Remote areas.

Providers should claim the price applicable to where the service is delivered. Prices are 20% higher in remote areas and 25% higher in very remote areas.

Provider Travel & Participant Transport

Provider travel and participant transport are different things. This section explains the differences and notes specific rules and arrangements for both travel and transport in NDIS pricing and payments system.

Provider Travel

Travel to provide personal care and community access

The time that a worker spends travelling from home to the workplace (or first participant) and from the workplace (or last participant) to home cannot be claimed at the hourly rate for the relevant support item.

Where a worker travels from one participant appointment to another, up to 20 minutes of time can be claimed against the next appointment at the hourly rate for the relevant support item.

Travel to provide therapeutic supports

Providers who travel to provide therapeutic supports to participants cannot claim any travel time at the hourly rate for the relevant support item where the distance travelled is less than 10km as this cost is included in the hourly rate.

Providers can claim travel time at the hourly rate for the relevant support item for travel in excess of 10km, up to a maximum annual limit of $1000 per participant (per annum). Travel time should be calculated using this formula[5]

Claimable travel time (in minutes) = (total km travelled – 10/60)

Providers who intend to claim travel costs from a participant's plan using this provision must seek the agreement of the participant prior to any claim being made (e.g. the service agreement between the participant and provider should specify if travel costs are to be claimed).

Participant Transport

Accompanying participants for community access

Providing community access supports may also involve a worker accompanying a participant on a community outing and/or transporting a participant from their home to the community. In these situations, the worker's time can be claimed at the hourly rate for the relevant support item for the total time the worker provides support to a participant(s), including time spent accompanying and/or transporting the participant. Where a provider is transporting two or more participants on the same trip, the worker's time should be claimed at the appropriate group rate for the relevant support.

[5] This formula published on the NDIS website implicitly assumes that, on average, travel speed is 60km/hour – see NDIS/provider/pricing and payments

Contribution towards costs of transport

If a provider incurs costs, in addition to the cost of a worker's time, when accompanying and/or transporting participants in the community, they may negotiate with the participant for them to make a reasonable contribution towards these costs. A plan may include funding for transport supports that are paid directly to the participant. This funding can be used to meet these types of contributions, which should be clearly specified in the service agreement.

Remote travel

If local providers are not available, the NDIA may enter into agreements (and at times contracts) with specific providers for provision of services to more remote regions. The contract with a service provider specify how the cost of travel and any other associated expenses in these areas.

Cancellations and "no shows" for scheduled supports

Providers need to have business arrangements in place to minimise the risk of cancellation, no show or late changes to the delivery of a scheduled support. Service agreements between participants and providers need to include details of these arrangements including: rescheduling the appointment; notice periods for cancellations and the cancellation fee that can apply; and changes to agreed appointments.

If there are unforeseen circumstances and the participant agrees that they did not comply with the agreed requirements, a fee may be charged against a participant's plan up to 8 times per year for personal care and community access supports. However, the provider should notify the NDIA that the participant is at risk of not receiving the supports, in case the participant needs special assistance.

Where participants fail to present for therapy services, the therapist can charge a cancellation fee for a maximum of 2 hours of service within the period of any Service Agreement.

Where a participant fails, without notice, to keep the scheduled arrangement for the support, the provider must make every effort to contact the participant to determine if there is an additional problem (e.g. the person has fallen out of bed and cannot raise an alarm, or there is a sudden break down in the informal supports and additional support is likely to be required).

Where there is a specific risk that a participant will frequently “not show” for a support due to the nature of a person’s disability or the nature of the support, for example behaviour intervention supports, the service provider should put in place suitable individual arrangements to maximise the likelihood that the person will receive all their required supports.

No fee is payable by the NDIA or the participant, for cancellation by a provider or due to the provider’s failure to deliver the agreed supports unless previously agreed to and documented in the Service Agreement with the Participant.

NDIA does not permit collection of deposits, or money as a bond from participants that a provider would retain in the event of cancellation of a support per the NDIA Terms of Business.

Other considerations

This section outlines various other considerations that may be relevant to participants and providers. These should be reviewed when engaging in a new service agreement or if something significant changes in the participants circumstances.

Medicare and insurance

Some elements of a participant's care may be covered by funds outside the NDIS. These expenses are generally medical, including those covered by private health insurance or Medicare. These medical expenses are not funded under the NDIS, even if they are related to, or a symptom of disability. These expenses should be claimed under the relevant health care scheme or insurance policy.

Prepayments

Prepayments are generally not required under the NDIS, unless the NDIA has given prior approval to the Registered Provider. Providers should make claims only for supports that have been delivered. Approval for prepayment may be given for certain assistive technologies where this has been agreed by the participant.

Co-Payments for Capital items including AT

Co-Payments by the participant are not required; however, where the participant would like a customisation to a support or assistive technology that is not considered reasonable or necessary, they are required to pay for this themselves. These may include an aesthetic customisation to an assistive technology or modifications to a vehicle that are additional to the assistive components.

GST

Most items are GST exempt, as per Australian Tax Office information about GST and NDIS and the application of section 38-38 of the GST Act. For a small number of items, where GST is applicable (for example delivery fees and building materials) the price is inclusive of GST.

Other fees (Commissions and exit fees)

Participants are generally not required to pay exit fees, even when changing providers part way through a plan. A core principle of the NDIS is choice and control for participants, allowing them to change providers without expense. Further information on establishment fees claimable by the incoming provider can be found below under Establishment fee for personal care/community access.

While commission based fee models may be appropriate for some providers, participants should never be charged a fee above the agreed rate, being the Service Provider advertised rate, the agreed rate in the Service Agreement or NDIA price limit (where one exists).

CORE SUPPORTS

This section describes the rules and arrangements that apply to core supports. It also notes price limits that apply to specific line items.

Assistance with Daily Living (Support Category 1.01)

Assistance with daily personal activities

Assisting with and/or supervising personal tasks of daily life to enable the participant to live as autonomously as possible. These supports are provided individually to participants and can be provided in a range of environments, including but not limited to, the participant's own home.

A hierarchy of price controls apply to the category of support, based on:

A. The **level of support** required :

A higher intensity support may be paid where a participant requires assistance from a support worker with additional qualifications and experience relevant to the participant's complex needs. The **higher intensity** rate may be considered when:

- Frequent (at least 1 instance per shift) assistance is required to manage challenging behaviours that require intensive positive behaviour support and/or
- Continual active support is required due to high medical support needs (such as unstable seizure activity or respiratory support)

B. The time of day that the support is provided:
    - Daytime starts at 6am and finishes at 8pm
    - Evening is where the support finishes after 8pm and before 12 midnight and the evening rate applies to the entire shift
    - Overnight is where the support finishes after 12 midnight and before 6am.

C. The day of the week that the support is provided:
    - A weekday is Monday to Friday
    - The extra rates paid for Saturday, Sunday and public holidays are in substitution for, and not cumulative upon, the shift premiums payable for evening and overnight supports
    - The extra rates for Saturday/Sunday/Public holidays do not increase further where the support finishes after 8pm.

Provisions for 'shadow shifts'

Shadow shifts may be considered where the participant has complex individual support needs that are best met by introducing a new worker to the participant before it is reasonable that they commence providing the support independently. These are considered where the specific individual support needs include:

- very limited communication;
- behaviour support needs; and/or
- medical needs/procedures such as ventilation or home enteral nutrition.

Where the individual would require shadow shifts to assist with the introduction of new workers, and this is the desired method by the participant or their family, the provider may claim for up to 6 hours of week-day support per year.

Introducing new workers is not designed to replace formal, recognised training that will be provided by an employer to their workforce e.g. Shadowing (or “Buddying”) less experienced staff (new staff) with experienced workers or informal carers to help build knowledge and social capital (worker retention), which is not claimable under the NDIS.

Establishment fee for personal care/community access

This fee applies to all plans for new NDIS participants in their first plan who receive at least 20 hours of personal care/community access support per month. This payment is to cover non-ongoing costs for providers establishing arrangements and assisting participants in implementing their plan. The establishment fee is claimable by the provider who assists the participant with the implementation of their NDIS Plan, delivers a minimum of 20 hours per month of personal care/community access support and has made an agreement with the participant to supply these services.

The establishment fee will operate as follows:

- providers can charge $500 against a plan if assisting a new participant, who is new to NDIS and new to the provider,
- a provider can charge $250 when they are maintaining an existing client of theirs who is commencing as a participant of the NDIS,
- should a participant wish to change providers on commencing their first NDIS plan, $250 is available to the new provider. This is to assist the participant in changing providers.
- A budget of $750 is included in the first Plan for NDIS participants. Providers must to charge in accordance with the definitions above. A change of providers after the first NDIS plan requires payment from the Core Budget for establishing a Care Plan.

Assistance with household tasks

This includes the provision of supports to enable the participant to maintain their home environment. This may involve undertaking essential household tasks that the participant is not able to undertake.

Meals on Wheels / preparation and delivery of meals

Providers will be invited to provide quotes for preparing and delivering the food for the participant on a weekly basis, taking their specific needs into account. The cost of the actual food is not covered by this Support Item.

This support uses benchmark prices which are based on preparation and delivery of meals for a single day. Costs to participants will vary depending on how many meals are prepared and how often they are delivered.

Assistance in Shared Living Arrangements – Supported Independent Living

This support category incorporates assistance with and/or supervising tasks of daily life in a shared living environment, with a focus on developing the skills of each individual to live as autonomously as possible. The support is provided to each person living in the shared arrangement in accordance with their need.

The benchmark prices do not include the cost of rent, board and lodging or other day to day usual living expenses such as food and activities. Further, any capital contribution (i.e. payments to cover costs associated with the house/accommodation facility) for participants residing in Specialist Disability Accommodation (SDA) is assessed and funded separately under SDA (refer to the Capital Support section of this document). Participants who receive Supported Independent Living supports in their plan may also be eligible to receive SDA.

Supported Independent Living is not price capped; however, benchmark pricing applies. Benchmarks are set at a level that most providers should be able to provide the support. However, a quote is required for all participants residing in Supported Independent Living. Sufficient evidence will be required for any above benchmark quotes.

To assist providers with quoting for supported independent living, the NDIA has developed a Provider SIL Pack. The Provider SIL Pack contains templates that assist providers in developing an individualised quote for the participant based on support requirements (link).

A hierarchy of funding levels applies to this support and is based on:

- ·the number of people in the living arrangements
- ·the level of need of the participant funded by NDIS, as set out below

<u>Lower needs:</u>

This support provides supervision of living arrangements as a whole including occasional to intermittent prompting to undertake household tasks and/or self- care activities:

- Supervision is not usually provided 24/7, supervision may be provided via off-site monitoring if appropriate
- If the participant has had incidents of challenging behaviour, a behaviour support plan is in place and it is demonstrated that the participant can be supported effectively within the available support
- Where a participant has additional support needs, they may be supported in this living arrangement through a mix of additional paid and informal supports

Standard needs:

This support provides 24/7 support which includes:

- Active assistance or supervision of most daily tasks
- Regular inactive overnight (sleepover)
- Participants may be able to spend some time with their family or a friend without paid support and may call on them for incidental assistance or companionship
- If the participant has episodic or occasional challenging behaviours there is a behaviour support plan in place which has been demonstrated to effectively support the person within the available support

Higher needs:

This support provides highly frequent (at least 1 instance per shift) assistance to the individual where features such as:

- Managing challenging behaviours that require intensive positive behaviour support;
- Continual, active assistance with all daily tasks;
- Active management of complex medical needs such as ventilation;
- Active support is provided 24/7 usually with an active overnight shift;
- Inactive overnight sleepover may be included as an exception, for example when family or friends sleepover;
- May include higher staffing ratios at peak periods, for episodic or incidental behaviour supports, or emergency medical needs (e.g. seizure management or discharge from hospital)

When it is reasonable and necessary for a participant to be supported in a shared living arrangement, a quote is required from a registered provider for delivery of the support.

The purpose of this quote is to identify:

- The individual supports that will be available for the person, focused on maximising the person's capacity to be as independent as possible with household decision making, personal care and domestic tasks
- The typical roster of supports that is shared between participants to maximise the efficient use of resources
- What supports are available to all residents to ensure the smooth operation and running of the household

The quotation process aims to identify a price for the NDIA funded supports associated with supports the household.

The service agreement also confirms the costs which are the responsibility of the participant, any additional arrangements between the provider and participant for home repair and maintenance and how vacancies and selection of new tenants will be managed.

Quoting for Supported Independent Living

When it is reasonable and necessary for a participant to be supported in a shared living arrangement, a quote is requested from a registered provider for delivery of the support.[6]

The purpose of this quote is to identify:

- The individual supports that will be available for the person, focused on maximising the person's capacity to be as independent as possible with household decision making, personal care and domestic tasks
- The typical roster of supports that is shared between participants to maximise the efficient use of resources
- What supports are available to all residents to ensure the smooth operation and running of the household

The quotation process aims to identify a price for the NDIS funded supports associated with the household.

[6] https://www.ndis.gov.au/providers/sil

The Service Agreement confirms the costs which are the responsibility of the participant, any additional arrangements between the provider and participant for home repair and maintenance and how vacancies and selection of new tenants will be managed.

Short term Accommodation and Assistance

Participants may require periods where their support arrangements are different from the support usually available in the family home. These are non-typical days and may include funding to provide substitute support "respite", in a group based facility or in home support.

Transport Allowance (replaces Mobility Allowance) (Support Category 1.02)

Travel enables participants to access the community for educational, recreational and vocational purposes. Transport supports generally do not have price controls; however, participants should use the least expensive transport that meets their needs. Transport funding is paid fortnightly in advance to the participant. Funding for transport assistance is limited to those who cannot use public transport due to their disability. If the participant has questions about the mobility allowance, providers may direct them to the Mobility Allowance and the NDIS factsheet available on the NDIS Website.

Consumables (Support Category 1.03)

Consumables are a support category available to assist participants with purchasing everyday use items. Supports such as continence and home enteral nutrition (HEN) products are included in this category. More information on these supports can be found in the Assistive Technology and Consumables Code Guide[7].

[7] https://www.ndis.gov.au/providers/assistive-technology

Assistance with Social and Community Participation (Support Category 1.04)

Provision of supports to enable a participant to engage in community/social or recreational activities within the community. These supports may be provided in a Centre or in open communities at standard or complex/higher intensity levels. If arranged in advance with participants, providers may charge up to 4 hours for each plan period to document the process and expected outcomes.

Providers should not claim payment for:

- Expenses related to recreational pursuits, such as tickets or sporting club fees for the participant because they are not covered by the NDIS.
- The cost of travel or entry for a paid support worker to attend a social or recreational event.

Community and social activity costs

This support is included in a participant's plan to enable them to pursue recreational activities and engage in the community. As a core support it may be used for activities such as camps, vacation and outside school hours' care, course or membership fees. The intent of this Support Item is to provide funding to enable a participant to participate in community activities, particularly when the participant is at risk of being socially isolated. Funded hours in a Community Access budget may be converted to a fee and claimed by a provider for these purposes.

When claiming for group activities providers are to claim as per the numbers of group members per individual staff assisting with the group.

Price controls for core supports

This section lists support item price limits and benchmarks for Core supports.

Assistance with self-care activities: day

Standard needs: assistance with self-care activities

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
Assistance with self-care activities during daytime weekdays	01_011_0107_1_1	Assisting with, and/or supervising, personal tasks of daily life to develop skills of the participant to live as autonomously as possible.	Hour	N	$44.72
Assistance with self-care activities per weekday evening	01_015_0107_1_1	Assisting with, and/or supervising, personal tasks of daily life to develop skills of the participant to live as autonomously as possible.	Hour	N	$49.04
Assistance with self-care activities on Saturdays	01_013_0107_1_1	Assisting with, and/or supervising, personal tasks of daily life to develop skills of the participant to live as autonomously as possible.	Hour	N	$62.03
Assistance with self-care activities on Sundays	01_014_0107_1_1	Assisting with, and/or supervising, personal tasks of daily life to develop skills of the participant to live as autonomously as possible.	Hour	N	$79.38
Assistance with self-care activities on Public Holidays	01_012_0107_1_1	Assisting with, and/or supervising, personal tasks of daily life to develop skills of the participant to live as autonomously as possible.	Hour	N	$96.69

High Intensity needs: assistance with self-care activities

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
Assistance with self-care activities during daytime weekdays - higher intensity	01_008_0104_1_1	Assisting with, and/or supervising, personal tasks of daily life to develop skills of the participant to live as autonomously as possible.	Hour	N	$47.20
Assistance with self-care activities per weekday evening - higher intensity	01_009_0104_1_1	Assisting with, and/or supervising, personal tasks of daily life to develop skills of the participant to live as autonomously as possible.	Hour	N	$51.76
Assistance with self-care activities on Saturdays - higher intensity	01_006_0104_1_1	Assisting with, and/or supervising, personal tasks of daily life to develop skills of the participant to live as autonomously as possible.	Hour	N	$65.48
Assistance with self-care activities on Sundays - higher intensity	01_007_0104_1_1	Assisting with, and/or supervising, personal tasks of daily life to develop skills of the participant to live as autonomously as possible.	Hour	N	$83.78
Assistance with self-care activities on Public Holidays - higher intensity	01_005_0104_1_1	Assisting with, and/or supervising, personal tasks of daily life to develop skills of the participant to live as autonomously as possible.	Hour	N	$102.08

Assistance with self-care activities: overnight

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
Assistance with self-care - night-time sleepover	01_010_0107_1_1	Assistance with, or supervision of, personal tasks of daily living where overnight support is needed, but the care giver can sleep when not required to provide support.	Each	N	$194.79
Assistance with self-care - active overnight	01_002_0107_1_1	Assistance with, or supervision of, personal tasks of daily living where overnight support is needed and the care giver will not have the option to sleep	Hour	N	$49.90
Assistance with self-care - overnight - higher intensity	01_018_0104_1_1	Assistance with, or supervision of, personal tasks of daily living where intensive overnight support is needed and the care giver will not have the option to sleep	Hour	N	$52.69

Assistance to access community, social and recreational activities

Standard needs

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
Assistance to access community, social and rec activities - individual -per weekdays	04_104_0125_6_1	Provision of support to enable a participant to independently engage in community, social and recreational activities during the week	Hour	N	$44.72
Assistance to access community, social and rec activities – individual -per weekday evening	04_103_0125_6_1	Provision of support to enable a participant to independently engage in community, social and recreational activities during the week	Hour	N	$49.04
Assistance to access community, social and rec activities - individual –Saturday	04_105_0125_6_1	Provision of support to enable a participant to independently engage in community, social and recreational activities on a Saturday.	Hour	N	$62.03
Assistance to access community, social and rec activities - individual –Sundays	04_106_0125_6_1	Provision of support to enable a participant to independently engage in community, social and recreational activities on a Sunday.	Hour	N	$79.38
Assistance to access community, social and rec activities - individual -per public holiday	04_102_0125_6_1	Provision of support to enable a participant to independently engage in community, social and recreational activities on a public holiday.	Hour	N	$96.69

High Intensity needs

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
Assistance to access community, social/rec acts - individual higher intensity - weekdays	04_101_0104_6_1	Individual participation support by a support worker with additional qualifications and experience relevant to the participant's complex needs during the week.	Hour	N	$47.20
Assistance to access community, social/rec acts- individual higher intensity- weekday evening	04_098_0104_6_1	Individual participation support by a support worker with additional qualifications and experience relevant to the participant's complex needs during the weekday evening.	Hour	N	$51.76
Assistance to access community, social/rec acts - individual - higher intensity - Saturday	04_099_0104_6_1	Individual participation support by a support worker with additional qualifications and experience relevant to the participant's complex needs on a Saturday.	Hour	N	$65.48
Assistance to access community, social/rec acts - individual higher intensity – Sundays	04_100_0104_6_1	Individual participation support by a support worker with additional qualifications and experience relevant to the participant's complex needs on a Sunday.	Hour	N	$83.78
Assistance to access community, social/rec acts- individual higher intensity- public holiday	04_097_0104_6_1	Individual participation support by a support worker with additional qualifications and experience relevant to the participant's complex needs on a public holiday.	Hour	N	$102.08

Group based community, social and recreational activities

Group rates are based on a staff/participant ratio of 1:2 or 1:3 or more participants

Standard needs ratio 1 staff - 2 participants

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
Group based community, social and recreational activities - weekdays	04_111_0136_6_1	Community, social and recreational activities in a group	Hour	N	$22.35
Group based community, social and recreational activities - weekday evening	04_114_0136_6_1	Provision of support to enable a participant to engage in community, social and recreational activities in a group during the weekday evenings	Hour	N	$24.52
Group based community, social and recreational activities - Saturday	04_112_0136_6_1	Provision of support to enable a participant to engage in community, social and recreational activities in a group on Saturdays	Hour	N	$31.02
Group based community, social and recreational activities - Sunday	04_113_0136_6_1	Provision of support to enable a participant to engage in community, social and recreational activities in a group on Sundays	Hour	N	$39.69

Standard needs ratio 1 staff - 3 participants

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
Group based community, social and rec activities - ratio 1:3	04_120_0136_6_1	Community, social and recreation activities in a group at a 1:3 ratio	Hour	N	$14.91
Group based community, social and rec activities - weekday evening - ratio 1:3	04_123_0136_6_1	Provision of support to enable a participant to engage in community, social and recreational activities in a group on weekday evenings when the activity finishes after 8pm at a 1:3 ratio	Hour	N	$16.35
Group based community, social and rec activities - Saturday - ratio 1:3	04_121_0136_6_1	Provision of support to enable a participant to engage in community, social and recreational activities in a group on Saturdays at a 1:3 ratio	Hour	N	$20.67
Group based community, social and rec activities - Sunday - ratio 1:3	04_122_0136_6_1	Provision of support to enable a participant to engage in community, social and recreational activities in a group on Sundays at a 1:3 ratio	Hour	N	$26.46

High Intensity ratio 1 staff – 2 participants

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
Group based community, social and recreational activities - higher intensity	04_116_0104_6_1	Community, social and recreational activities in a group with a staff ratio of a maximum of 2 persons per staff worker when the participant has challenging behaviour or high medical support needs.	Hour	N	$29.75
Group based community, social and rec activities - higher intensity - weekday evening	04_119_0104_6_1	Social and recreational activities, when the activity finishes after 8pm, with a staff ratio of a maximum of 2 persons per staff member.	Hour	N	$32.65
Group based community, social and rec activities - higher intensity - Saturday	04_117_0104_6_1	Community, social and recreational activities on a Saturday in a group with a staff ratio of a maximum of 2 persons per staff worker when the participant has challenging behaviour or high medical support needs.	Hour	N	$41.29
Group based community, social and rec activities - higher intensity - Sunday	04_118_0104_6_1	Community, social and recreational activities on a Sunday in a group with a staff ratio of a maximum of 2 persons per staff worker when the participant has challenging behaviour or high medical support needs.	Hour	N	$52.84

High Intensity ratio 1 staff – 3 participants

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
Group based community, social and rec activities - higher intensity - ratio 1:3	04_124_0104_6_1	Community, social and recreational activities in a group with a staff ratio of a maximum of 3 persons per staff worker when the participant has challenging behaviour or high medical support needs.	Hour	N	$19.83
Group based community, social and rec activities - higher int - weekday evening - 1:3	04_127_0104_6_1	Social and recreational activities, when the activity finishes after 8pm, with a staff ratio of a maximum of 3 persons per staff member.	Hour	N	$21.77
Group based community, social and rec activities - higher int - Saturday - ratio 1:3	04_125_0104_6_1	Community, social and recreational activities on a Saturday in a group with a staff ratio of a maximum of 3 persons per staff worker when the participant has challenging behaviour or high medical support needs.	Hour	N	$27.53
Group based community, social and rec activities - higher int - Sunday - ratio 1:3	04_126_0104_6_1	Community, social and recreational activities on a Sunday in a group with a staff ratio of a maximum of 3 persons per staff worker when the participant has challenging behaviour or high medical support needs.	Hour	N	$35.23

Centre Based Group

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
Group based activities in a centre - core	04_107_0136_6_1	social and recreational activities in a centre based program	Hour	N	$20.24
Group based activities in a centre - weekday evening	04_110_0136_6_1	Social and recreational activities in a centre based program when the activity finishes after 8pm.	Hour	N	$22.22
Group based activities in a centre - Saturday	04_108_0136_6_1	Social and recreational activities in a centre based program on Saturdays	Hour	N	$29.67
Group based activities in a centre - Sunday	04_109_0136_6_1	social and recreational activities in a centre based program on Sundays	Hour	N	$37.94

Assistance with daily life

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
Assistance with personal domestic activities	01_004_0107_1_1	Assist participant to undertake and/or develop skills to maintain their home environment where the participant owns their own home & has sole or substantial responsibility for its maintenance. Includes assisting participant to do basic house & yard work.	Hour	N	$42.43
Specialised home based assistance for a child	01_016_0104_1_1	Specialist assistance in the home required due to additional requirements of the child's disability; may be provided to strengthen the sustainability of informal supports.	Hour	N	$44.72
House and/or yard maintenance	01_019_0120_1_1	Performing essential house and or yard activities that the participant is not able to undertake.	Hour	N	$43.94
House cleaning and other household activities	01_020_0120_1_1	Performing essential house cleaning activities that the participant is not able to undertake.	Hour	N	$39.40
Assistance with the cost of preparation and delivery of meals	01_022_0120_1_1	Preparation and delivery of meals to a participant who is unable to do this themselves, and is not in receipt of other supports that would meet the same need. Food costs not included. Cost varies with the number of meals prepared and deliveries required.	Each	N	$11.61

Supported Independent Living – Lower needs

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
Assistance in a shared living arrangement for 2 persons - lower needs	01_047_0115_1_1	Assisting with and/or supervising tasks of daily life to develop the skills of the individuals with lower support needs to live as autonomously as possible. The benchmark is based on weekly costs, per participant.	Week	Y	$2,258.02
Assistance in a shared living arrangement for 3 persons - lower needs	01_040_0115_1_1	Assisting with and/or supervising tasks of daily life to develop the skills of the individuals with lower support needs to live as autonomously as possible. The benchmark is based on weekly costs, per participant.	Week	Y	$1,963.49
Assistance in a shared living arrangement for 4 persons - lower needs	01_041_0115_1_1	Assisting with and/or supervising tasks of daily life to develop the skills of the individuals with lower support needs to live as autonomously as possible. The benchmark is based on weekly costs, per participant.	Week	Y	$1,950.48
Assistance in a shared living arrangement for 5 persons - lower needs	01_042_0115_1_1	Assisting with and/or supervising tasks of daily life to develop the skills of the individuals with lower support needs to live as autonomously as possible. The benchmark is based on weekly costs, per participant.	Week	Y	$1,896.08
Assistance in a shared living arrangement for 6 persons - lower needs	01_043_0115_1_1	Assisting with and/or supervising tasks of daily life to develop the skills of the individuals with lower support needs to live as autonomously as possible. The benchmark is based on weekly costs, per participant.	Week	Y	$1,751.76
Assistance in a shared living arrangement for 7 persons or more - lower needs	01_044_0115_1_1	Assisting with and/or supervising tasks of daily life to develop the skills of the individuals with lower support needs to live as autonomously as possible. The benchmark is based on weekly costs, per participant.	Week	Y	$1,751.76

Supported Independent Living – Standard needs

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
Assistance in a shared living arrangement for 2 persons - standard	01_034_0115_1_1	Assisting with and/or supervising tasks of daily life to develop the skills of the individuals with standard (or mixed) support needs to live as autonomously as possible. The benchmark is based on weekly costs, per participant.	Week	Y	$3,879.68
Assistance in a shared living arrangement for 3 persons - standard	01_035_0115_1_1	Assisting with and/or supervising tasks of daily life to develop the skills of the individuals with standard (or mixed) support needs to live as autonomously as possible. The benchmark is based on weekly costs, per participant.	Week	Y	$3,203.09
Assistance in a shared living arrangement for 4 persons - standard	01_036_0115_1_1	Assisting with and/or supervising tasks of daily life to develop the skills of the individuals with standard (or mixed) support needs to live as autonomously as possible. The benchmark is based on weekly costs, per participant.	Week	Y	$2,481.57
Assistance in a shared living arrangement for 5 persons - standard	01_037_0115_1_1	Assisting with and/or supervising tasks of daily life to develop the skills of the individuals with standard (or mixed) support needs to live as autonomously as possible. The benchmark is based on weekly costs, per participant.	Week	Y	$2,376.30
Assistance in a shared living arrangement for 6 persons - standard	01_038_0115_1_1	Assisting with and/or supervising tasks of daily life to develop the skills of the individuals with standard (or mixed) support needs to live as autonomously as possible. The benchmark is based on weekly costs, per participant.	Week	Y	$2,302.95
Assistance in a shared living arrangement for 7 persons or more - standard	01_039_0115_1_1	Assisting with and/or supervising tasks of daily life to develop the skills of the individuals with standard (or mixed) support needs to live as autonomously as possible. The benchmark is based on weekly costs, per participant.	Week	Y	$2,302.95

Supported Independent Living – Higher needs

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
Assistance in a shared living arrangement for 2 persons - complex needs	01_028_0115_1_1	Assisting with and/or supervising tasks of daily life to develop the skills of the individuals with complex support needs to live as autonomously as possible. The benchmark is based on weekly costs, per participant.	Week	Y	$5,023.46
Assistance in a shared living arrangement for 3 persons - complex needs	01_029_0115_1_1	Assisting with and/or supervising tasks of daily life to develop the skills of the individuals with complex support needs to live as autonomously as possible. The benchmark is based on weekly costs, per participant	Week	Y	$4,350.44
Assistance in a shared living arrangement for 4 persons - complex needs	01_030_0115_1_1	Assisting with and/or supervising tasks of daily life to develop the skills of the individuals with complex support needs to live as autonomously as possible. The benchmark is based on weekly costs, per participant.	Week	Y	$3,453.85
Assistance in a shared living arrangement for 5 persons - complex needs	01_031_0115_1_1	Assisting with and/or supervising tasks of daily life to develop the skills of the individuals with complex support needs to live as autonomously as possible. The benchmark is based on weekly costs, per participant.	Week	Y	$3,036.31
Assistance in a shared living arrangement for 6 persons - complex needs	01_032_0115_1_1	Assisting with and/or supervising tasks of daily life to develop the skills of the individuals with complex support needs to live as autonomously as possible. The benchmark is based on weekly costs, per participant.	Week	Y	$2,722.86
Assistance in a shared living arrangement for 7 persons or more - complex needs	01_033_0115_1_1	Assisting with and/or supervising tasks of daily life to develop the skills of the individuals with complex support needs to live as autonomously as possible. The benchmark is based on weekly costs, per participant.	Week	Y	$2,722.86

Assistance in a shared living arrangement

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
Short term accommodation and assistance	01_045_0115_1_1	Integrated support for self-care, accommodation, food & activities in a centre or group residence for short periods. Includes all expenses in 24 hour period with no additional loading. May be used for up to 14 consecutive days, then weekly rates apply.	Day	N	$501.71

CAPITAL SUPPORTS

This section describes the rules and arrangements that apply to capital supports.

Assistive Technology (Support Category 2.05)

This category includes all aids or equipment supports that assist participants to live independently or assist a carer to support the participant. It also includes related assessment, set-up and training support items. More detailed information on assistive technologies and consumables can be found in the Assistive Technologies and Consumables Guide[8].

Vehicle Modifications

Vehicle modifications include the installation of, or changes to, equipment in a vehicle to enable a participant to travel safely as a passenger or to drive.

A participant is free to choose a more expensive option at their own expense, where the more expensive option is not considered to be reasonable and necessary. An example of this situation would be where a vehicle modification has been approved for a participant, but the participant would like cosmetic or personalised fittings that are not reasonable and necessary. In this situation, the NDIA will cover the reasonable and necessary component of the modification, and the participant will pay the additional cost.

[8] https://www.ndis.gov.au/providers/assistive-technology

Home (Support Category 2.06)

This category includes home modifications and Specialist Disability Accommodation (SDA) supports.

Home Modifications

Home modifications include design and construction, as well as installation of equipment or changes to non-structural components of the building and installation of fixtures or fittings to enable participants to live as independently as possible or to live safely at home. All home modifications are quotable.

Quotes will be requested and accepted for modifications that are reasonable and necessary for the participant. A participant is free to choose a more expensive option at their own expense, where the more expensive option is not reasonable and necessary. For example, where a home modification has been approved for a participant, but the participant would like cosmetic or personalised fittings that are not reasonable and necessary, the NDIA will cover the reasonable and necessary component of the modification, and the participant will pay the extra costs.

Specialist Disability Accommodation

Specialist Disability Accommodation (SDA) refers to accommodation for participants who require specialist housing solutions to assist with the delivery of supports that cater for their significant functional impairment and/or very high support needs. SDA does not refer to the support services, but the homes in which these are delivered. SDA may include special designs for people with very high needs or may have a location or features that make it feasible to provide complex or costly supports for independent living.

SDA payments are an adjusted contribution to the cost of capital required for the land and physical building required for specialist disability accommodation needs. Importantly, SDA funding is not intended to cover personal support costs, which are assessed and

funded separately by the NDIS. SDA also does not cover accommodation costs where these are not linked to a person's disability or where specialist accommodation with integrated supports is not required. SDA is a new support category and does not replace Supported Independent Living or any other support. Participants receiving SDA could also be eligible for Supported Independent Living supports in their package.

All providers who are registered with the NDIA for the Registration Group 'Specialist Disability Accommodation' will also be required to declare that the infrastructure meets the NDIA's specialist built form requirements and the relevant legislation and standards applicable to the state in which the accommodation is situated. These individual sites/locations must also be registered with the NDIA.

Due to the nature of the support, the identification of appropriate SDA prices and the process by which providers can claim for SDA are more complex than for most other supports. Providers should refer to the Specialist Disability Accommodation section of the NDIS website for detailed information about prices that can be charged, dwelling enrolment and participant assessments.

SDA has three support line items: Specialist Disability Accommodation, SDA person-specific adjustments and SDA Support Coordination.

Specialist Disability Accommodation

Each SDA dwelling has a unique price limit, based on a standard set of factors. There are also limits on the amount that providers of SDA can charge participants in addition to the SDA price. Providers should refer to the SDA section of the NDIS website for detailed guidance. Participants are free to move between SDA dwellings, as long as the dwelling is appropriate, based on their needs.

SDA vacancy payments

The NDIS will continue to make SDA payments on behalf of a participant who has moved out of an enrolled SDA dwelling in certain limited circumstances. Vacancy payments will only be payable if the vacancy is available to another NDIS participant and the NDIA has been notified. Provided all conditions are met, vacancy payments will continue to be made for a period of up to 90 days if the dwelling is enrolled to house four or five residents, or up to 60 days if the dwelling is enrolled to house two or three residents. Vacancy payments will not be made where a dwelling is only enrolled to house 1 resident. Providers should refer to the SDA Rules (r6.3) for detailed guidance.

CAPACITY BUILDING SUPPORTS

This section describes the rules and arrangements that apply to capacity-building supports. It also notes price limits that apply to specific line items.

Support Coordination (Support Category 3.07)

Support Coordination

There are three items in the NDIA Price Guide that describe different layers of support coordination activity:

Support Connection

Time limited assistance to strengthen participant's ability to connect with informal, mainstream and funded supports, and to increase capacity to maintain support relationships, resolve service delivery issues, and participate independently in NDIA processes.

One of the ways this is achieved is through Local Area Coordination (LAC). LACs are Partners of the NDIA that operate at a local community level, enabling the NDIS to be implemented with consideration of issues within local communities.

Support Coordination

Assistance to strengthen participant's abilities to connect to and coordinate informal, mainstream and funded supports in a complex service delivery environment. This includes resolving points of crisis, developing capacity and resilience in a participant's network and coordinating supports from a range of sources

Specialist Support Coordination

The provision of Support Coordination within a specialist framework necessitated by specific high level risks in the participant's situation. This support is time limited and focuses on addressing barriers and reducing complexity in the support environment, while assisting the participant to connect with supports and build capacity and resilience. It may also involve development of an intervention plan which will be put in place by disability support workers.

Improved Living Arrangements (Support Category 3.08)

Support is provided to guide, prompt, or undertake activities to ensure the participant obtains/retains appropriate accommodation. This may include assisting to apply for a rental tenancy or to undertake tenancy obligations in line with the participant's tenancy agreement.

Increased Social and Community Participation (Support Category 3.09)

This category is participation in skills based learning to develop independence in accessing community.

Innovative Community Participation

This support item is designed to allow mainstream and incumbent providers to offer new and innovative services to NDIS participants. Any standard applicable to the industry in which the provider operates would need to be met.

Community Participation Activities

This item will enable providers to claim for tuition fees, art classes, sports coaching and similar activities that build skills and independence. Camps, classes and vacation activities that have capacity building components can be claimed. Assistance to establish volunteer arrangements in the community, mentoring or peer support and individual skill development.

The group rates are based on a staff/participant ratio of 1:3. If the group size differs, providers should claim at the rate applicable for the group size. A higher staff ratio for groups may be indicated when a participant has challenging behaviour or high medical support needs which require additional assistance from another worker and this is referred to as a higher intensity support.

Community Participation Activity Costs

This item will enable providers to claim for tuition fees, art classes, sports coaching and similar activities that build skills and independence. Camps, classes and vacation activities that have capacity building components can be claimed.
All supports funded under this item need to be determined as reasonable and necessary given the participant's plan goals and could include, but are not limited to:

- Universal recreational activities: A limited number of lessons could be funded to enable a participant to try out this activity and test their capability and interest in pursuing this activity further – such as horse riding, art, dance or singing classes
- Funding to attend a "camp" or groups that build a person's relationship skills and offer a range of activities and opportunities to explore wider interests.

Other items or adjustments such as customised tools required because of the person's disability, could also be funded.

Finding and Keeping a Job (Support Category 3.10)

Workplace assistance enables a participant to successfully obtain and/or retain employment in the open or supported labour market. Australian Disability Enterprise's (ADEs) provide supported employment for people with disability who require ongoing support to find and maintain employment.

No price controls are set for ADEs, instead the NDIA allocates sufficient funding to allow participants to access these supports.

Improved Relationships (Support Category 3.11)

This supports provision of specialised assessment where the participant may have complex or unclear needs or requires long term and/or intensive supports to address behaviours of concern.

Behaviour support

Behaviour support requires a behaviour support plan to be developed that aims to limit the likelihood of behaviours of concern developing or increasing once identified. This plan outlines the specifically designed positive behavioural support strategies for a participant, their family and support persons that will achieve the intended outcome of eliminating or reducing behaviours of concern.

Improved Health & Well-being (Support Category 3.12)

Physical Well-being Activities

All activities to support and maintain well-being such as personal training, exercise physiology to support, maintain or increase physical mobility. Physical wellbeing activities promote and encourage improved physical capacity and health.

These supports can be funded by NDIS where the physical and wellbeing difficulties are directly attributable to their disability and to assist them to participate in community activities.

Dietetics

Individual advice to a participant on managing diet for health and wellbeing due to the impact of their disability.

Improved Learning (Support Category 3.13)

This category is provision of skills training, advice, assistance with arrangements, orientation to assist a person with disability moving from school to further education.

Improved Life Choices (Support Category 3.14)

Planning and Plan Management

This support focuses on strengthening the participant's ability to undertake tasks associated with the management of their supports. This includes building financial skills, organisational skills, and enhancing the participant's ability to direct their supports and/or develop self-management capabilities. Plan management is the overall management of the plan and includes assisting the

participant to select providers, develop service agreements, paying providers, developing monthly statements for participants and claiming payment from the NDIA. Plan Managers are expected to assist the participant to develop their skills for self-management in future plans, where this is possible.

Funding for plan management includes an establishment fee and payments at an hourly rate for completing this work.

Financial Intermediary

Financial Intermediary funding applies to registered providers who undertake financial assistance for the payment of providers on behalf of a participant.

Financial Intermediary funding includes a setup fee to establish the payment arrangements with providers and a monthly processing fee. The processing fee is for transaction processing and provider liaison during the month.

A financial intermediary will typically possess bookkeeping/accounting skills and have systems in place for efficiently processing payments on behalf of a participant.

When an invoice for a delivered support has been received by a financial intermediary, payment can be requested from the NDIA and paid to the provider after the claim has been processed.

Improved Daily Living (Support Category 3.15)

Assessment, training, development and/or therapy to assist in the development of, or increase in skills for independence and community participation. Service can be delivered in groups or individually.

Therapy services

The aim of Therapeutic Supports provided for a participant with an established disability, which has reached its maximum medical improvement, is to facilitate functional improvement through adjustment, adaptation and building capacity to participate in the broader community. Treatment modalities such as provision of aids and equipment, skill mastery, ergonomic adjustment, functional education, workplace assessment are all appropriate to this model of disability management.

Therapists will be expected to provide progress reports to the participant and NDIS at agreed times.

For some NDIS participants who access the Scheme as early intervention participants, the appropriate therapeutic supports are likely to be a blend of medical and disability therapy supports, with an increasing focus on therapy as time and stability of function progresses. Reasonable and necessary therapy supports funded by NDIS for early intervention participants must be predominantly disability therapy supports. In any early intervention therapy session, and in any course of therapy for early intervention, therapy must be aimed at adjustment, adaption and building capacity for community resettlement and participation.

For some NDIS participants whose medical condition, illness or disease requires a particular treatment to maintain the functioning of a body part, or slow/prevent the deterioration, the NDIS may fund reasonable and necessary training for non-skilled personnel to undertake this intervention as part of the usual daily personal care. For participants where such treatment can only be met through skilled rather than non-skilled care, this treatment is to be funded through medical funds, not NDIS.

Ongoing funding for therapy is subject to a detailed plan with expected further progress or change. Providers develop this plan with the participant and it should clearly state the expected therapy outcomes and demonstrate a link to the participant's goals, objectives and aspirations.

Maintenance Therapy

Where maintenance therapy is reasonable and necessary, it is funded as part of ongoing direct support hours (delivered by carers who can be trained in this if required), not funded as ongoing therapy.

For some participants whose medical condition or disability requires a particular regime to maintain functioning of a body part, or to slow the deterioration of a medical condition or body part, NDIS will fund reasonable and necessary training for non-qualified personnel to assist the individual as part of usual daily care.

Where a skilled therapist is involved in establishing a therapy program for a participant, funding can include the development of a plan and training for a therapy assistant or for informal or funded carers, as part of usual care. The NDIA's approach will include building capacity with family and carers to undertake therapy or exercises under the supervision of the skilled therapist, so that the benefit for the participant is not solely limited to therapy sessions.

Funding of a skilled therapist can be considered where monitoring and adjustment may be required to a program delivered by carers.

Massage Therapy

Massage, as a modality that is delivered directly to impact a body part or body system, is considered to be more appropriately provided by the health system and is therefore not reasonable and necessary to be funded by NDIS.

Where mobilisation and positioning helps a participant to be more comfortable, a physiotherapist should be funded to teach regular attendants to assist the person to achieve greater levels of comfort on a daily basis. A participant with such difficulties should not have to rely on occasional input from a therapist.

Multidisciplinary Team Intervention

This support item enables a coordinated multidisciplinary approach to be delivered to participants beyond the age covered by the Early Childhood Early Intervention approach. All team members will claim against a single support item, thereby increasing flexibility in service delivery to reflect the changing needs of a participant.

Early Childhood Intervention supports

Early childhood intervention supports will be determined under the Early Childhood Early Intervention (ECEI) approach. ECEI is a nationally consistent approach to early intervention based on best practice, for children 0-6 years old, which will provide appropriate individualised support for each child based on their needs.

The NDIS ECEI approach has been designed to support all children with developmental delay or disability and their families to achieve better long-term outcomes, regardless of diagnosis. All children and families will be treated as individuals to ensure that they receive the right support to meet their goals and aspirations. The type of supports will be different for every child and their family according to their needs.

Eligible participants will have budgets built by NDIA ECEI Partners to reflect the child and family individual needs applying the reasonable and necessary criteria. Early childhood intervention best practice and evidence base underpins the NDIS ECEI approach. Budgets will allow flexibility in service delivery by ECEI providers to reflect the changing needs of the participant.

The provision of supports under early childhood intervention are expected to deliver outcomes for the child that will enable participation in mainstream or education from commencement of school. Each child's NDIA plan will summarise the outcomes expected from early intervention and will be reviewed at least annually.

Travel for ECEI

Travel time can be claimed at the hourly rate for the relevant support item for travel in excess of 10km, up to $3000 per annum. The participant must agree to the travel expenses prior claim being made.

Travel time should be calculated using this formula: claimable travel time (in minutes) = (total km travelled – 10).

Please note the following:

- Providers are to ensure travel costs are ameliorated across participants at every opportunity.
- Therapy travel will not be approved for travel to areas where suitable early intervention providers are available.

Transport for ECEI

Providers may also claim reasonable transport costs incurred as part of delivering supports under the NDIS ECEI approach, as long as these costs are set out in a service agreement with the participant.

Support Coordination

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
Support connection	07_001_0106_8_3	Assistance to strengthen participant's abilities to coordinate supports & participate in the community. This includes resolving points of crisis, developing capacity & resilience in a participant's network & coordinating supports from a range of sources.	Hour	N	$57.71
Coordination of supports	07_002_0106_8_3	Further qualifications/experience required to strengthen a higher needs participant's ability to coordinate their supports & participate in the community. This may include resolving points of crisis, & developing resilience in the participant's network.	Hour	N	$94.06
Training in planning and plan management	07_003_0117_8_3	Training in planning and plan management for participants unable to do this independently but who could do all or part of the task with training.	Hour	N	$56.14
Specialist support coordination	07_004_0132_8_3	Time limited support coordination, within specialist framework necessitated by high risks in participant's situation, to address barriers and reduce complexity in environment, assisting to connect with supports, build capacity and resilience.	Hour	N	$178.98

Improved Living Arrangements

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
Assistance with accommodation and tenancy obligations	08_005_0106_2_3	Support is provided to guide, prompt, or undertake activities to ensure the participant obtains/retains appropriate accommodation. May include assisting to apply for a rental tenancy or to undertake tenancy obligations.	Hour	N	$57.71

Increased Social and Community Participation

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
Life transition planning including mentoring, peer support and individual skill development.	09_006_0106_6_3	Establishing volunteer assistance within the participant's home or community to develop skills. For instance, assistance in attending appointments, shopping, bill paying, taking part in social activities and maintaining contact with others.	Hour	N	$57.71
Skills development in a group	09_007_0117_6_3	Training for the participant in a group of 2 or more to increase their independence in daily personal activities.	Hour	N	$28.07
Individual skills development and training	09_009_0117_6_3	Individual life skills development and training including public transport training and support, developing skills for community, social and recreational participation.	Hour	N	$56.14

Finding and Keeping a Job

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
Employment related assessment and counselling	10_011_0128_5_3	Workplace assessment conducted by workplace rehabilitation provider to determine adjustments or modifications to workplace or work processes to ensure employment is maintained and matches the employees capabilities	Hour	N	$178.98
Individual employment support	10_016_0102_5_3	Time limited on-the-job training & post placement support related to participant's disability that enables them to adjust & manage demands of the job & workplace environment, & to assist employers to successfully manage the participant's placement.	Hour	N	$56.63
Employment preparation and support in a group	10_017_0102_5_3	In a group setting, build capacity by providing skills training such as transport, time/financial management, and self-care to support a participant to get a job post school. *assumes group of 3	Hour	N	$18.88
Supported employment start-up fee (ADE)	10_018_0133_5_3	Supported employment administrative start-up fee paid, paid once only when a Participant starts with an ADE	Each	N	$634.07

Improved Relationships

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
Specialist behavioural intervention support	11_022_0110_7_3	Highly specialised intensive support interventions to address significantly harmful or persistent behaviours of concern. Development of behaviour support plans that temporarily use restrictive practices, with intention to minimise use of these practices.	Hour	N	$196.45
Behaviour management plan, training in behaviour management strategies	11_023_0110_7_3	Training for carers and others in behaviour management strategies required due the persons disability.	Hour	N	$178.98
Individual social skills development	11_024_0117_7_3	Social skills development with an individual, for participation in community and social activities.	Hour	N	$56.14

Improved Health and Wellbeing

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
Dietitian consultation and diet plan development	12_025_0128_3_3	Individual advice to a participant on managing diet for health and wellbeing due to the impact of their disability	Hour	N	$178.98
Dietitian group session	12_026_0128_3_3	Group based (3) specialist dietary advice on managing diet for wellbeing due to the impact of their disability	Hour	N	$59.67
Exercise physiology	12_027_0126_3_3	Individual advice to a participant regarding exercise required due to the impact of their disability	Hour	N	$145.63
Exercise physiology in a group	12_028_0126_3_3	advice to a participant regarding exercise required due to the impact of their disability provided in group setting (3)	Hour	N	$48.54
Personal training	12_029_0126_3_3	Personal training provided to a participant required due to the impact of their disability.	Hour	N	$54.57

Improved Learning

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
Transition through school and to further education	13_030_0102_4_3	Provision of skills training, advice, assistance with arrangements, orientation to assist a person with disability moving from school to further education	Hour	N	$57.71

Improved Life Choices

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
Plan Management activities	14_031_0127_8_3	Setting up and Undertaking regular liaison with providers and monitoring support provision.	Hour	N	$54.13
Financial intermediary and Plan Management - set up costs	14_033_0127_8_3	A one-off setting up of the financial management arrangements for managing of funding of supports.	Each	N	$218.27
Financial intermediary monthly processing	14_034_0127_8_3	A monthly fee for the ongoing maintenance of the financial management arrangements for managing of funding of supports.	Monthly	N	$98.12

Improved daily living skills

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
Assistance with decision making, daily planning, budgeting	15_035_0106_1_3	Provision of time limited support to assist a person to develop and maintain daily budget, including assisting in planning purchases.	Hour	N	$43.62
Individual assessment and support by a Nurse	15_036_0114_1_3	Provision of care, training and supervision of a delegated worker to respond to the complex care needs of a participant where that care is not the usual responsibility of the Health System.	Hour	N	$95.77
Individual skills development & training, includes public transport training & support	15_037_0117_1_3	Individual training provided in the home for general life skills to increase independence.	Hour	N	$43.62
Training for carers/parents	15_038_0117_1_3	Training for carers in matters related to caring for a person with disability	Hour	N	$56.14
Specialised group early childhood interventions	15_039_0118_1_3	Group based specialist interventions to assist a child with disability or developmental delay and their family in home, care, community and education settings. Maximum group of 4.	Hour	N	$59.67
Specialised individual therapy for early childhood	15_040_0118_1_3	Individual specialist interventions to assist a child with disability or developmental delay and their family in home, care, community and education settings.	Hour	N	$175.57
Counselling group	15_042_0128_1_3	Facilitating self-knowledge, emotional acceptance and growth and the optimal development of personal resources through a group session. Assisting participants to gain their personal goals and gain greater insight into their lives. Group of 3	Hour	N	$49.93
Individual counselling	15_043_0128_1_3	Facilitating self-knowledge, emotional acceptance and growth and the optimal development of personal resources on a one to one basis. Assist participants to work towards their personal goals and gain greater insight into their lives.	Hour	N	$149.80

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
Group therapy	15_044_0128_1_3	Provision of interventions by more than one professional in a group session towards the participants agreed goals. Group of 3	Hour	N	$58.53
Therapy assistant	15_045_0128_1_3	Program to empower participants & improve interactions between participants & their social networks. Assistance to engage effectively in the community through a group approach to help achieve goals, gain insight into their lives & make informed decisions.	Hour	N	$41.71
Specialised driver training	15_046_0129_1_3	Driving lessons required due to the impact of disability. This item should be in response to a driver trained specialist Occupational Therapist Assessment.	Each	Y	$98.78
Selection and/or manufacture of customised or wearable technology	15_047_0135_1_3	Selection and/or manufacture of customised or wearable technology.	Hour	N	$161.52
Individual assessment, therapy and/or training (includes assistive technology)	15_048_0128_1_3	Assessment, therapy, training, fitting and any approved travel to deliver support.	Hour	N	$175.57
Community Nursing Care	15_051_0114_1_3	Continence aids: assessment, recommendation, and training delivered by a nurse	Hour	N	$95.77