



# NDIS Price Guide

**VIC/NSW/QLD/TAS**

**Valid from: 1 July 2016**



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# 2016/17 NDIS Price Guide

This document is a summary of NDIS prices and associated arrangements that will apply from 1 July 2016. It is designed to assist disability support providers, both current and prospective, to understand the way that pricing and payments work in the NDIS.

*The National Disability Insurance Scheme Act 2013* states that a funded support must represent “value for money” in that the costs of the support are reasonable, relative to both the benefits achieved and the cost of alternative support. This document describes the pricing and payment arrangements that will be in place for 2016/17 to support this objective.

This Guide should be read in conjunction with the NDIS *Terms of Business for Registered Support Providers* (the ‘Terms of Business’)<sup>1</sup>. Service providers should also make use of the information available in the NDIS provider portal<sup>2</sup>.

## There are three categories of Support Purpose in the NDIS

The NDIS provides funding to participants to purchase a range of supports aimed at increasing their independence, inclusion, and social and economic participation. This funding model is designed to be flexible and to allow service innovation. Importantly, the supports delivered will be chosen, and paid for, by individual participants. The range of supports funded by the Scheme will expand over time.

In the NDIS payment system, supports for participants fall into three Support Purpose categories: core, capital and capacity building.

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<sup>1</sup><http://www.ndis.gov.au/providers/registering-provider/terms-business>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.ndis.gov.au/document/ndis-provider-portal-instructions>

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.
2. CAPITAL – An investment, such as assistive technologies, equipment and home or vehicle modifications, funding for capital costs (e.g. to pay for Specialist Disability Accommodation).
3. CAPACITY BUILDING - A support that enables a participant to build their independence and skills.

## **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 life areas and assist planners to explore where supports in these areas already exist and where further supports are required.

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

NDIS service providers should be aware that all supports and services for Scheme participants should contribute to the achievement of their individual goals.

## Support Categories

This NDIA Price Guide is arranged into 15 categories that align to the purpose of the funded supports and the NDIA Outcomes Framework (see above).

SUPPORT PURPOSE	OUTCOMES FRAMEWORK DOMAIN	SUPPORT CATEGORY (Plan Budgets)
CORE	Daily Living Daily Living Daily Living Social & Community Participation	1. Assistance with Daily Life 2. Transport 3. Consumables 4. Assistance with Social & Community Participation
CAPITAL	Daily Living Home	5. Assistive Technology 6. Home
CAPACITY BUILDING	Choice & Control Home Social and Community Participation Work Relationships Health & Wellbeing Lifelong Learning Choice and Control Daily Living	7. Coordination of Supports 8. Improved Living Arrangements 9. Increased Social and Community Participation 10. Finding and Keeping a Job 11. Improved Relationships 12. Improved Health and Wellbeing 13. Improved Learning 14. Improved Life Choices 15. Improved Daily Living Skills

## **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’. A comprehensive listing of support line items is kept up to date as a separate file (csv format) on the NDIS website. 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 disability support workers and service providers.

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

## **Participant budgets are allocated according to support purpose**

Supports in participant plans are categorised according to the three support purposes noted earlier. Within a plan participant budgets are subject to the following rules in relation to support purposes:

**CORE SUPPORTS:** Participant budgets are flexible across the four sub-categories: Assistance with daily living, 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).

**CAPITAL SUPPORTS:** Participant budgets for this support purpose are usually restricted to specific items identified in the participant’s plan. These include Assistive Technology and Home Modifications, as well as Specialist Disability Accommodation. Most items are ‘quotable’, which means that providers must negotiate a price in a Service Agreement with a participant. Supports can include assessment, delivery, set-up, adjustment and maintenance costs.

**CAPACITY BUILDING:** Participant budgets are allocated at a support category level, and must be used to achieve goals in the participant’s plan. These supports include Coordination of Supports, Improved Living Arrangements, Increased Social & Community Participation, Finding & Keeping a Job, Improved Relationships, Improved Health & Wellbeing, Improved Learning, Improved Life Choices and Improved Daily Living Skills.

## Price limits apply for some supports and services

This Price Guide includes a price limit for some supports and services.

Unless stated otherwise, these price levels are the maximum that 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 disability support markets that are immature or where there are few options for participants to choose from.

The exceptions to this rule are 'benchmark prices' for some of the supports and services that are listed as 'quotable items'. These benchmark prices indicate the NDIA's view of efficient service delivery and should be the highest price charged by most providers. Supported Independent Living uses benchmark prices.

All registered NDIS providers should refer to the NDIA Terms of Business, which include details about the application of price limits and other requirements that providers must comply with when offering and delivering services to Scheme participants.

## PAYMENTS AND INVOICING IN 2016/17

This Price Guide applies for services delivered 1 July 2016 onwards. Claims against existing plans can be made using the 2016/17 prices as long as the service is delivered on or after 1 July 2016.

Registered Providers can make a claim for payment once that support has been delivered or provided. A requirement for prepayment is not permitted unless, in relation to particular supports or services, the Agency has given prior approval to the Registered Provider.

Where price limits apply, prices charged to participants must not exceed the price level prescribed for that support in the Price Guide, though less may be charged. 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.

A claim for payment is to be submitted within a reasonable time (and no later than 60 days from the end of the Service Booking – see below).

Providers should refer to the NDIS Terms of Business for further details. In particular, the Terms of Business specify that providers will charge for supports delivered in accordance with the NDIA pricing arrangements and guidelines, after the support has been provided. No additional co-payment is to be levied to the participant where an NDIA registered provider is submitting a claim as part of their negotiated service agreement with that participant.

### Service Bookings

2016/17 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. The system allows for ONE provider, ONE Service Booking – that is:

- A participant will create one Service Booking for each provider they have chosen to deliver their supports. The allocated funds will be 'locked' to the chosen provider for the life of the Service Booking.
- This Service Booking may include several supports across the participants plan from any of the Domains included in that plan.
- The Service Booking must be accepted by both parties.



- The Agency will not be party to any Service Booking created between the participant and their provider(s).
- The Service Booking may be cancelled with 28 days' notice. Under exceptional circumstances the participant or provider may elect to shorten this time.
- At the end of the Service Booking, the provider has up to 60 days to process a claim. If the claim is not lodged within this time, an off-line claim must be lodged. The Agency has up to 30 days to process the claim.
- No claim can be lodged by a provider without a Service Booking being created and claims lodged must be within the dates of the Service Booking.
- The Service Booking cannot be end dated prior to the date of the last claim lodged.
- Where the participant has a Plan Manager, only one Service Booking will be created. The Service Booking is created for all services for which the Plan Manager has been requested to arrange supports for. Where a Plan Manager has already been appointed for a Participant, a Participant will not be required to approve Plan-Management Agreements submitted by the Provider Supports which are in-kind will not be included in the Service Booking.
- A Service Booking may contain the all of the allocated funds attributed to the support category or some of the budget.
- More than two providers may have a Service Booking for the same support category – ie: where 30 hours of individual support is allocated in the participants plan, the participant may choose to split the allocation of these resources across providers, allowing for one provider to deliver supports say on a weekend, assisting with social and recreational events and another during the week to support in-home and employment outcomes.
- When the Plan ends, so do all Service Bookings, these are also created within the dates of the Plan.
- Service Bookings are typically created at the Support Category level, rather than the line item – this allows for flexibility across the support categories. The exception is within Core Supports, where a Service Booking may be created across the entire budget inclusive of Daily Supports, Transport, Consumables and Community and Social Activities. Capital and Capacity Building supports delivered are claimed at the identified support category level.
- A Service Booking cannot be made for more than the value of the budget allocated to the plan.

- All claims lodged by the provider must be at the line item level and in accordance with the Terms of Business and Service Agreement.
- At the time the Service Booking is cancelled, an assessment must be made regarding the amount of locked funds that should be returned back to the available Support Category balance. This ensures that providers can continue to claim for services rendered, but the participant can utilise the unspent funds in a new Service Booking.
- A Service Booking can be created by the participant (their nominee, or a plan management provider acting on the participant's behalf), a provider or an authorised agent of the Agency.
- A participant cannot create/ change Service Bookings effective retrospectively (in the past), from the current date or a future date.
- Where a Service Booking is changed by the participant or provider, the other party (participant/ provider) must approve the new version of the Service Booking before it takes effect.
- A Service Booking can be changed only as follows:
  - If the end date of the Service Booking is not already in the past, extend the end date into the future, but not beyond the end of the Participant Plan end date;
  - Increase the budget available against a category/ item (assuming budget remains available to do so), this can occur whether the Service Booking is already ended or not;
- The provider must be registered to provide the item or items in the Support Category.
- The Service Booking must be approved by both the participant (their nominee or a plan management provider acting on the participant's behalf), and the provider.
  - When a Service Booking has not been approved after 21 days, then the system will automatically reject the Service Booking with the reason "No Action after 21 days (Auto)"
- Online notifications are created when the participant initiates a Service Booking with the selected provider. Likewise, when a provider creates a Service Booking with the participant, the system will automatically send an Online Notification Advice to the participant (or their nominee/ representative). If the either party has not approved a Service Booking assigned to them, an Online Reminder notice is sent to the other party as a reminder.

- When a participant (or their nominee/ representative) changes a Service Booking, the system should automatically send an Online Notification Advice to the applicable provider.

A Monthly Payment Statement will be available online to participants. 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, provide the participant with the available budget remaining, committed budget and spent budget. It will list which participant and provider claims have been received, which Service Agreements they related 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.

### Introduction of new Support Item Reference Numbers

From 1 July 2016, the NDIS payments system is adopting a new reference system for supports and services.

Unique numbers have been allocated for each support line item, with each number is allocated 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 20161/7 includes units of measure to suit each support line item:

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

## 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. If the service is delivered in the participants' community, then the remote or very remote price may be claimed. Prices are 18% higher in remote areas and 23% higher in very remote areas.

If local providers are not available, the Agency may enter into agreements with specific providers for provision of services including to more remote regions. The contract with a service provider will allocate the cost of travel and associated expenses among the participants and other clients of the provider who receive services under the contract/ arrangement in these areas.

## Service providers must offer quotes for some supports

Quotes are required from providers for a number of specific service offers. This most commonly occurs for the following supports:

- Early childhood intervention services
- Multidisciplinary programs
- Customised assistive technology,
- Home modifications, and
- Specialist Disability Accommodation.

If the quote received is higher than the benchmark rate for that support item, specific approval will be required from the NDIA.

Identification of supports and approval of quotes could require an assessment by a specialist.

## 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 second 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: claimable travel time (in minutes) = (total km travelled – 10)<sup>3</sup>.

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 workers 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 workers time should be claimed at the appropriate group rate for the relevant support.

### **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 a participant for the participant to make a reasonable contribution towards these costs. A participant's plan may include funding for transport supports and this funding can be used to meet these types of contributions.

### **Remote travel**

If local providers are not available, the Agency may enter into agreements with specific providers for provision of services including to more remote regions. The contract with a service provider will allocate the cost of travel and associated expenses among the participants that receive services under the contract/ arrangement in these areas.

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<sup>3</sup> This formula implicitly assumes that, on average, travel speed is 60km/hour

## **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 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 Agency that the participant is at risk of not receiving the budgeted supports as a plan review might be indicated.

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.

No fee is payable by NDIA for a therapeutic support that is not delivered.

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.

## **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 taxi fares) the price is inclusive of GST.

## Co-Payments

Generally, a participant is not required to contribute to the payment of delivery of a product or service that has been included on their plan. The NDIS will cover the full cost of provision of the support considered reasonable and necessary. In most 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 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. Also refer to resources available on considerations in relation to Home Modifications.



# 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 prices applies to this support, based on:

A. The level of support provided:

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
- 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
- No additional rates are payable for Saturday/Sunday/Public holidays where the support finishes after 8pm.

## **Provisions for ‘shadow shifts’**

- A. 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.
- B. Introducing new workers is not designed to replace formal, recognized 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).
- C. Preparation of meals

## **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.

### **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, which is either temporary or ongoing, 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 item 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 under separately by the NDIS (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.

A hierarchy of prices 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

### Lower needs:

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 requested from a registered provider for delivery of the support.\*

If the provider charges are at or below benchmark pricing for Supported Independent Living (SIL) support items, there is not a requirement to provide a quote. This is only applicable to shared living arrangements. Where there is no prescribed benchmark price and/or provider pricing is above benchmark pricing, then a quote must be provided to the participant.

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 the household and related community activities.

The quote 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.

### **Short term Accommodation and Assistance (e.g. Respite care)**

Participants are likely to have a number of days where their support arrangements will be different. These are non-typical days and may include funding to provide replacement support, or respite, in group based facility or in home support.

Evidence from consultations to date indicates that support can generally fall into one of three levels:

- Between the equivalent of 7 and 14 days per year: where the family provides support most days. This support is provided to the participant so that the informal carers can attend key activities relevant to other members of the family.
- Between the equivalent of 14 and 28 days per year: where respite is a strategy to build capabilities for independence.
- No more than the equivalent of 28 days per year: where the family provides support most days and informal care is at risk of not being able to be sustained due to severe behavioural issues or where the person requires intensive informal support.

These supports will be funded over a standard 24 hour period and participants or nominees will be able to choose how and when they use this funding in relation to weekdays, weekends or public holidays.

A higher level of support may also be appropriate for a defined period of time to ensure that a family or carer is able to sustain employment, complete their education or put more sustainable support arrangements in place.

In some limited circumstances NDIS will contribute to the cost of accommodation, food and activities. For example, where an integrated package is required to support the participant in emergency or "respite" circumstances for a short period (less than 2 weeks)

### **Travel and Transport - Mobility Allowance (Support Category 1.02)**

Travel enables participants to access the community for educational, recreational and vocational purposes. Participants receive funds fortnightly in advance to pay for services of their choice. Funding for transport assistance is generally limited to those who cannot use public transport due to their disability and considers any relevant taxi subsidy schemes. 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 interpreting, translating, continence and home enteral nutrition (HEN) products are included in this category.

## **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. Supports may be provided in a Centre or in open communities within this category, and support may be required at standard or complex/higher intensity levels.

Participants may be funded for 4 hours for each plan period for the provider to document process and expected outcomes. In this model, the provider can negotiate to spend some funds to build the capability of mainstream services to better support the participant where there is a defined transition plan about building capacity and identifying mainstream activities.

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 entry for a paid support worker to attend a social or recreational event attended by the participant because agency prices for group based activities are inclusive of transport for social outings.

### **Community and social activity costs**

This support is included in a participant's plan to enable a participant to pursue recreational activities and engage in broader community participation. 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.

## 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
<b>Assistance with self-care activities during daytime weekdays</b>	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	\$42.79
<b>Assistance with self-care activities per weekday evening</b>	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	\$46.93
<b>Assistance with self-care activities on Saturdays</b>	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	\$59.36
<b>Assistance with self-care activities on Sundays</b>	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	\$75.96
<b>Assistance with self-care activities on Public Holidays</b>	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	\$92.53



## 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	\$45.17
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	\$49.53
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	\$62.66
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	\$80.17
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	\$97.68

## Assistance with self-care activities: overnight

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
Overnight monitoring of self-care - off site or onsite, on call (incl 1 hr assist)	01_017_0107_1_1	Overnight on-call assistance with, or supervision of, personal tasks of daily living.	Each	Y	Quote
Assistance with self-care - night-time sleeper	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	\$186.40
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	\$47.75
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	\$50.42

# 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	\$42.79
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	\$46.93
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	\$59.36
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	\$75.96
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	\$92.53

## 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	\$45.17
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	\$49.53
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	\$62.66
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	\$80.17
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	\$97.68

## 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
<b>Group based community, social and recreational activities - weekdays</b>	04_111_0136_6_1	Community, social and recreational activities in a group	Hour	N	\$21.39
<b>Group based community, social and recreational activities - weekday evening</b>	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	\$23.46
<b>Group based community, social and recreational activities - Saturday</b>	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	\$29.68
<b>Group based community, social and recreational activities - Sunday</b>	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	\$37.98

### Standard needs ratio 1 staff - 3 participants

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
<b>Group based community, social and rec activities - ratio 1:3</b>	04_120_0136_6_1	Community, social and recreation activities in a group at a 1:3 ratio	Hour	N	\$14.27
<b>Group based community, social and rec activities - weekday evening - ratio 1:3</b>	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	\$15.65
<b>Group based community, social and rec activities - Saturday - ratio 1:3</b>	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	\$19.78
<b>Group based community, social and rec activities - Sunday - ratio 1:3</b>	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	\$25.32

## High Intensity ratio 1 staff – 2 participants

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
<b>Group based community, social and recreational activities - higher intensity</b>	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	\$28.47
<b>Group based community, social and rec activities - higher intensity - weekday evening</b>	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	\$31.24
<b>Group based community, social and rec activities - higher intensity - Saturday</b>	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	\$39.51
<b>Group based community, social and rec activities - higher intensity - Sunday</b>	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	\$50.56

## High Intensity ratio 1 staff – 3 participants

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
<b>Group based community, social and rec activities - higher intensity - ratio 1:3</b>	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	\$18.98
<b>Group based community, social and rec activities - higher int - weekday evening - 1:3</b>	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	\$20.83
<b>Group based community, social and rec activities - higher int - Saturday - ratio 1:3</b>	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	\$26.34
<b>Group based community, social and rec activities - higher int - Sunday - ratio 1:3</b>	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	\$33.71

## Centre Based Group

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
<b>Group based activities in a centre - core</b>	04_107_0136_6_1	social and recreational activities in a centre based program	Hour	N	\$19.37
<b>Group based activities in a centre - weekday evening</b>	04_110_0136_6_1	Social and recreational activities in a centre based program when the activity finishes after 8pm.	Hour	N	\$21.26
<b>Group based activities in a centre - Saturday</b>	04_108_0136_6_1	Social and recreational activities in a centre based program on Saturdays	Hour	N	\$28.39
<b>Group based activities in a centre - Sunday</b>	04_109_0136_6_1	social and recreational activities in a centre based program on Sundays	Hour	N	\$36.31

## Assistance with daily life

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
<b>Assistance from live-in carer</b>	01_003_0107_1_1	A person lives in the house of, or travels with the participant and provides assistance with, and/or supervision of, personal tasks of daily life to develop skills of the participant to live as autonomously as possible.	Hour	Y	Quote
<b>Assistance with personal domestic activities</b>	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	\$40.60
<b>Specialised home based assistance for a child</b>	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	\$42.79
<b>House and/or yard maintenance</b>	01_019_0120_1_1	Performing essential house and or yard activities that the participant is not able to undertake.	Hour	N	\$42.05
<b>House cleaning and other household activities</b>	01_020_0120_1_1	Performing essential house cleaning activities that the participant is not able to undertake.	Hour	N	\$37.70
<b>Linen service</b>	01_021_0120_1_1	Provision of clean linen to a participant unable to do their own laundry without assistance.	Each	Y	Varies
<b>Assistance with the cost of preparation and delivery of meals</b>	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	\$11.11
<b>Community, social and recreational activities</b>	04_115_0125_6_1	Annual support to enable a participant to independently engage in community, social and recreational activities when costs of participation exceed an affordable level and without, the participant would be at risk of social isolation.	Annual	N	Varies

## Supported Independent Living – Lower needs

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
<b>Assistance in a shared living arrangement for 2 persons - lower needs</b>	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	\$2,160.78
<b>Assistance in a shared living arrangement for 3 persons - lower needs</b>	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	\$1,878.94
<b>Assistance in a shared living arrangement for 4 persons - lower needs</b>	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	\$1,866.49
<b>Assistance in a shared living arrangement for 5 persons - lower needs</b>	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	\$1,814.43
<b>Assistance in a shared living arrangement for 6 persons - lower needs</b>	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	\$1,676.33
<b>Assistance in a shared living arrangement for 7 persons or more - lower needs</b>	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	\$1,676.33

## Supported Independent Living – Standard needs

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
<b>Assistance in a shared living arrangement for 2 persons - standard</b>	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	\$3,712.61
<b>Assistance in a shared living arrangement for 3 persons - standard</b>	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	\$3,065.16
<b>Assistance in a shared living arrangement for 4 persons - standard</b>	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	\$2,374.71
<b>Assistance in a shared living arrangement for 5 persons - standard</b>	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	\$2,273.97
<b>Assistance in a shared living arrangement for 6 persons - standard</b>	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	\$2,203.78
<b>Assistance in a shared living arrangement for 7 persons or more - standard</b>	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	\$2,203.78

## Supported Independent Living – Higher needs

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
<b>Assistance in a shared living arrangement for 2 persons - complex needs</b>	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	\$4,807.14
<b>Assistance in a shared living arrangement for 3 persons - complex needs</b>	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	\$4,163.10
<b>Assistance in a shared living arrangement for 4 persons - complex needs</b>	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	\$3,305.12
<b>Assistance in a shared living arrangement for 5 persons - complex needs</b>	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	\$2,905.56
<b>Assistance in a shared living arrangement for 6 persons - complex needs</b>	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	\$2,605.61
<b>Assistance in a shared living arrangement for 7 persons or more - complex needs</b>	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	\$2,605.61



## Assistance in a shared living arrangement

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
<b>Short term accommodation and assistance</b>	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	\$480.11
<b>Assistance in individual living arrangement for person with complex needs</b>	01_046_0115_1_1	Assistance in individual living arrangement for person with complex needs	Each	Y	Quote
<b>Assistance in living arrangements (host family/alternative family situation)</b>	01_026_0115_1_1	Agreement for a participant with high support needs to stay with a host family. The host family will have minimum qualifications & provide support in the home for the agreed time. The quote will reflect the hours of assistance required & length of stay.	Day	Y	Quote

## Transport

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
<b>Transport</b>	02_051_0108_1_1	Where a participant is unable to use public transport because of their disability, transport can be funded for a taxi, carer or community transport.	Annual	Y	Varies
<b>Specialised transport to school/educational facility/employment/community</b>	02_050_0108_1_1	Transport required to get a person with disability to school/educational facility/employment/community when they are unable to travel by other means due to their disability	Day	Y	Varies

## 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.

#### **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 extra costs.

### **Home (Support Category 2.06)**

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

#### **Home Modifications**

Home modifications covers design and construction, and includes installation of equipment or changes to building structures, fixtures or fittings to enable participants to live as independently as possible or to live safely at home.

All items 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

SDA Vacancy allows an adjustment to the period for which a provider may claim SDA payments, to cover the vacancy created when a participant moves out. Access to this payment is limited and not all providers will be able to claim for this payment. SDA Vacancy claims will only be considered for providers where the dwelling accommodates 4 or more residents. Limits on vacancy-related payments correspond to the relevant SDA dwelling price and are payable for up to 60 days from the first day of vacancy. All items are quotable. Providers should refer to the Specialist Disability Accommodation section of the website for detailed guidance.

### SDA Support Coordination

SDA support coordination is a type of specialist support coordination required to facilitate the assessment of participants for SDA and assist participants to find a suitable SDA following assessment.

## Specialist Disability Accommodation

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
<b>Specialist Disability Accommodation</b>	06_431_0131_2_2	SDA is an adjusted contribution to the cost of the physical building, including the land it is on. The quote will reflect unique dwelling price based on the SDA enrolment process.	Each	Y	Quote
<b>SDA Vacancy</b>	06_432_0131_2_2	A temporary payment for providers, available in limited circumstances when a participant moves out of an SDA dwelling accommodates 4 or more residents.	Each	Y	Quote
<b>SDA Support Coordination</b>	06_433_0131_2_2	Specialised assistance for participant with high support needs or complex needs to find an SDA dwelling.	Hour	Y	TBA <sup>4</sup>

<sup>4</sup> This support item will have a price limit, but the level for 2016/17 is not settled. The NDIA will add the price limit to the NDIS payment system and this Price Guide as soon as possible.

## 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.

### Coordination of Supports (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.

##### Coordination of Supports

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.

Employment related assessment and counselling

Australian Disability Enterprise’s (ADEs) provide supported employment for people with disability who require ongoing support to find and maintain employment.

ADEs will claim weekly in accordance with the price limit that applies to each ADE.

### **School Leaver Employment Supports (SLES) (Support Category 3.10)**

The NDIS funds reasonable and necessary supports that help a participant to reach their goals, objectives and aspirations. SLES is a new reasonable and necessary support for Year 12 school leavers, to assist them transition from school and into employment.

Supports may include work experience generally in open employment, job site training, travel training and activities that contribute to achieving an employment outcome and linkages to ongoing employment support.

Participants in some NDIS areas can have SLES and other reasonable and necessary funded supports in their NDIS plan.

SLES will not be available in all areas in 2016/17. It will be rolled out in the following States / Territories for 2016/17.

- ACT (territory wide)
- Tasmania (state-wide)
- NSW (as per Local Government Area in the phasing schedule)
- Victoria (Barwon, Central Highlands, North East Metropolitan Area and Loddon)

## **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 physical well-being, including exercise and health diets.

These supports are provided due to the additional requirements of the participant's disability and to assist them to participate in physical well-being.

### **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 financial management of the plan and includes making payments to providers, expense claims processing, developing monthly statements for participants and claiming payment from the NDIA. Plan Managers also liaise with providers and participants to implement and manage the plan.

### **Financial Intermediary**

Financial Intermediary funding applies to registered plan management providers who deliver plan management supports.

Financial Intermediary funding includes a setup fee to establish and implement support arrangements with providers and a monthly processing fee. The processing fee is for the plan management support across each month such as transaction processing and provider liaison.

A financial intermediary will typically possess good knowledge of providers and supports, developed through interaction with and processing payments to providers over time. As part of their plan management role, a financial intermediary should support participants and strengthen their capacity to find and implement alternative support options if the participant asks for assistance.

Payment process arrangements for financial intermediaries have changed. 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. The previous process required the financial intermediary to pay the invoice prior to receiving funds from the NDIA.

## 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 to participate.

For some NDIS participants whose medical condition, illness or disease requires a particular maintenance treatment to maintain the status of a medical condition or the functioning of a body part, or slow the deterioration of a medical condition or body part, NDIS may fund reasonable and necessary training for non-skilled personnel to undertake these treatments 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 therapist 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 Trans-disciplinary team 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.

Providers may 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.

## Coordination of Supports

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
<b>Support connection</b>	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	\$56.61
<b>Coordination of supports</b>	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	\$92.27
<b>Training in planning and plan management</b>	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	\$55.07
<b>Specialist support coordination</b>	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	\$175.57

## Improved Living Arrangements

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
<b>Assistance with accommodation and tenancy obligations</b>	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	\$56.61

## 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	\$56.61
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	\$27.54
Innovative Community Participation	09_008_0116_6_3	Mainstream services that promote inclusion of people with disability to expand opportunities for community participation and employment.	Each	N	Varies
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	\$55.07
Community participation activities	09_010_0125_6_3	Participation in community based activities that build skills and independence.	Annual	N	Varies

## 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	\$175.57
Assistance in specialised supported employment Level 1 DMI	10_012_0133_5_3	Provision of Level One ongoing on- the- job support to enable a participant to maintain/retain supported employment. Pricing guidance is weekly.	Week	N	\$84.92
Assistance in specialised supported employment Level 2 DMI	10_013_0133_5_3	Provision of Level Two ongoing on- the- job support to enable a participant to maintain/retain supported employment. Pricing guidance is weekly.	Week	N	\$143.54

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
<b>Assistance in specialised supported employment Level 3 DMI</b>	10_014_0133_5_3	Provision of Level Three ongoing on- the- job support to enable a participant to maintain/retain supported employment. Pricing guidance is weekly.	Week	N	\$215.54
<b>Assistance in specialised supported employment Level 4 DMI</b>	10_015_0133_5_3	Provision of Level Four ongoing on- the- job support to enable a participant to maintain/retain supported employment. Pricing guidance is weekly.	Week	N	\$285.92
<b>Individual employment support</b>	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	\$55.55
<b>Employment preparation and support in a group</b>	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	\$18.52
<b>Supported employment start-up fee (ADE)</b>	10_018_0133_5_3	Supported employment administrative start-up fee paid, paid once only when a Participant starts with an ADE	Each	N	\$622.00

## Improved Relationships

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
<b>Specialist behavioural intervention support</b>	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	\$192.71
<b>Behaviour management plan, training in behaviour management strategies</b>	11_023_0110_7_3	Training for carers and others in behaviour management strategies required due the persons disability.	Hour	N	\$175.57
<b>Individual social skills development</b>	11_024_0117_7_3	Social skills development with an individual, for participation in community and social activities.	Hour	N	\$55.07

## Improved Health and Wellbeing

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
<b>Dietician consultation and diet plan development</b>	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	\$175.57
<b>Dietician group session</b>	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	\$58.53
<b>Exercise physiology</b>	12_027_0126_3_3	Individual advice to a participant regarding exercise required due to the impact of their disability	Hour	N	\$142.86
<b>Exercise physiology in a group</b>	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	\$47.62
<b>Personal training</b>	12_029_0126_3_3	Personal training provided to a participant required due to the impact of their disability.	Hour	N	\$53.53

## Improved Learning

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
<b>Transition through school and to further education</b>	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	\$56.61

## Improved Life Choices

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
<b>Financial and service intermediary activities</b>	14_031_0127_8_3	Undertaking regular liaison with providers and monitoring support provision.	Hour	N	\$53.10
<b>Financial intermediary - set up costs</b>	14_033_0127_8_3	A one-off setting up of the financial management arrangements for managing of funding of supports.	Each	N	\$214.12
<b>Financial intermediary monthly processing</b>	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	\$96.25



## Improved daily living skills

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
<b>Assistance with decision making, daily planning, budgeting</b>	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	\$42.79
<b>Individual assessment and support by a Nurse</b>	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	\$93.95
<b>Individual skills development &amp; training, includes public transport training &amp; support</b>	15_037_0117_1_3	Individual training provided in the home for general life skills to increase independence.	Hour	N	\$42.79
<b>Training for carers/parents</b>	15_038_0117_1_3	Training for carers in matters related to caring for a person with disability	Hour	N	\$55.07
<b>Specialised group early childhood interventions</b>	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	\$58.53
<b>Specialised individual therapy for early childhood</b>	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
<b>Transdisciplinary early childhood intervention</b>	15_041_0118_1_3	A coordinated & integrated program where multiple professionals share responsibility in evaluating, planning & implementing supports to improve capacity of a child with disability or developmental delay & their family. Quote based on annual amount.	Each	Y	Varies
<b>Counselling group</b>	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	\$48.98
<b>Individual counselling</b>	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	\$146.95
<b>Group therapy</b>	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

Support Item	Support Item Ref No.	Description	UOM	Quote Required	Price
<b>Therapy assistant</b>	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	\$40.92
<b>Specialised driver training</b>	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	\$96.90
<b>Selection and/or manufacture of customised or wearable technology</b>	15_047_0135_1_3	Selection and/or manufacture of customised or wearable technology.	Hour	N	\$158.45
<b>Individual assessment, therapy and/or training (includes assistive technology)</b>	15_048_0128_1_3	Assessment, therapy, training, fitting and any approved travel to deliver support.	Hour	N	\$175.57
<b>Multidisciplinary team</b>	15_049_0128_1_3	Multidisciplinary model of support delivered to participants over 6 years to improve community outcomes for participant.	Each	N	Varies