

Understanding NDIS Plan Funding

This guide provides:

- A table containing an overview of NDIS funding.
- Guidance for providers, which offers more detailed explanations of these terms.

You can also find an example of NDIS funding in Appendix 1: Example of NDIS Funding at nds.org.au/stpvic/resource-library

NDIS Funding Overview

Support area	The funding support category will be identified here.
Budget	The funding allocated to the support category above will be detailed here. This is the total amount funded for the length of the plan term.
Details	Outlines some suggestions as to how the participant might use their funding. This will often reflect the discussions during first plan or plan review process.
How the supports will be paid	This details how providers will receive payment for supports provided.

Guidance for Providers

Please see below for a more detailed explanation of the above-mentioned terms.

Support area

Support categories are grouped into three areas to align to the purpose of the funded supports. These include Core, Capital and Capacity Building:

- **Core** supports are flexible within Core categories. This means that participants can use their Core funding to purchase any support items under all four sub-categories (including: assistance with daily life, transport, consumables and assistance with social and community participation), that fall under the Core ‘Support Purpose’, as long as they refer back to the participant’s goals and are not stated supports or periodic transport payments.
- **Capacity Building** supports are only flexible within each sub-category. This means that participants can purchase all support items that fall under the respective support

category (note: there are some exceptions to this, dependent on registration requirements i.e. specialised early-childhood intervention). Providers will need to use the [NDIS Price Guide](#) to determine what support items are included under each support category.

- **Capital** supports are generally restricted to specific items identified in the participant's plan. These may include Assistive Technology supports. Most Capital supports require a quote, and can include assessment, delivery, set-up, and adjustment and maintenance costs. For more information refer to the [Assistive Technology and Consumables Code Guide](#).

Budget

Providers may need to calculate the type of support and number of hours the participant's funding will allow for. For the price of supports, please refer to the [NDIS Price Guide](#). The Support Coordinator or Local Area Coordinator (LAC) will work with the participant to determine how the budget will be allocated between support types (unless in-kind or stated) and work with providers and/or the plan manager to explain the breakdown of funding.

Details

This section reflects discussion in the planning or review process and aims to provide both provider and participant with guidance regarding the use of funding, (however, this does not mean that participants need to use their funding in the way described in 'Details'). Providers are encouraged to discuss with participants how they would like to use their funding (with the aim of enabling *greater choice and control* for people with disability). In these discussions it is important to consider the goals and outcomes identified by the participant in their plan. All plans will be individually tailored, therefore, may have a varying amount of detail in this section.

If 'Details' includes the term 'Stated', funding must be used as specified. Participants can contact their Support Coordinator or LAC to understand rationale, as to why some supports have been described as 'Stated'. For example, if a participant uses their funding in excess and runs out of funding before the plan review date, the NDIA may include 'Stated Supports' in their plan to mitigate the risks to the participant if they have no more funding remaining for key supports - and to ensure the financial viability of the scheme.

How will the supports be paid

The following phrases may be found in this section:

'NDIS will pay my support provider directly for these supports.' This indicates that the provider will need to access the Provider Portal to submit a payment request for supports provided.

'NDIS will pay my plan manager directly for these supports.' This indicates that the provider will need to submit an invoice to a financial intermediary. Providers will need to request information about the financial intermediary from the participant, if the Financial Intermediary has not already made contact with the provider. The financial intermediary will advise the provider about how to submit an invoice.

'NDIS will pay me directly for these supports.' This indicates that the provider will need to submit an invoice directly to the participant. This process should be discussed during intake, or when the NDIS Service Agreement is signed.

If you have any further questions or require additional assistance please contact Stephanie Worsteling, National NDIS Advisor, at stephanie.worsteling@nds.org.au.

If you require more intensive practical guidance please consider your eligibility for Sector Support Consultancy. For more information contact sscvic@nds.org.au (this contact is for Victorian Providers only).

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