



# What you can buy with your NDIS funding

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## You can buy whatever helps you best...

The NDIS is all about choice and control. Once you have received your funding – also known as your ‘plan’ – you can decide for yourself which therapies and aids will help you live your best life.

There are boundaries to your spending, though. Your core supports budget is the most flexible. Other funds in your plan are pegged to a specific purpose.

For example, if the NDIS fills your capital supports bucket with funding for a wheelchair ramp or a hearing aid, you cannot spend this money on anything else.

## ...as long as it’s ‘reasonable and necessary’.

You can buy whichever support you like – as long as it’s **reasonable and necessary** and it fits a category in your plan. Not sure if the product or service you have in mind is a ‘reasonable and necessary’ support?

**Take the test** and see if you can answer ‘yes’ to all of the following questions:

1	Is this a product or service you need because of the disability?	YES
2	Does it help you meet the goals in your plan?	YES
3	Is it reasonable value for money?	YES
4	Is there evidence that it works?	YES
5	Is it a support you couldn’t get from family or a community service?	YES
6	Is this the right government scheme to fund this support?	YES

## Your plan (and what it means)

### CORE SUPPORTS

#### What's this funding for?

You can spend it on people and products that help you master your everyday life.

#### Examples:

Pay for help to get dressed, cook meals and move around – be it to go shopping or watch the footy. You usually receive funding for transport fortnightly and directly to your bank account.

#### Flexibility: High

You may use this funding flexibly across all four categories in the 'core supports' bucket. However, where transport is separate and is paid directly into your bank account on a fortnightly basis, this cannot be used for the other categories.

Category	What does it mean?	What does it cover?
1. Assistance with Daily Activities	Helps you master everyday activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Support workers to help with daily activities</li> <li>✓ Respite (short-term accommodation)</li> <li>✓ Cleaning</li> <li>✓ Preparation of meals</li> <li>✓ Gardening</li> <li>✓ Linen service</li> <li>✓ Support coordination services <b>NEW!</b> <i>(temporary funding change during Covid-19)</i></li> <li>✓ Allied therapy services <b>NEW!</b></li> </ul>

<b>2. Consumables</b>	<p>Helps you buy everyday items and services related to your disability.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ iPads or similar equipment</li> <li>✓ Continence products</li> <li>✓ Noise cancelling headphones</li> <li>✓ Specialised clothing</li> <li>✓ Adapted clothes</li> <li>✓ Eating and drinking aids</li> <li>✓ Vision assistance</li> <li>✓ Products that help with household tasks</li> <li>✓ Communication apps</li> <li>✓ Translator or interpretation services</li> </ul>
<b>3. Assistance with Social &amp; Community Participation</b>	<p>Helps you improve your social life. Use it for support to take part in community groups and recreational activities, and to make new friends.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Support workers to help you in the community</li> <li>✓ Camps or day trips to local attractions</li> <li>✓ Going fishing or ten pin bowling in a group</li> <li>✓ Going to the movies</li> <li>✓ Communication apps</li> </ul>
<b>4. Transport</b>	<p>Helps you travel to work, to school or move freely around the community.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Taxis</li> <li>✓ Ubers</li> <li>✓ Fuel</li> <li>✓ Specialised transport</li> </ul>

## CAPACITY BUILDING SUPPORTS

### What's this funding for?

You can spend it on all sorts of services to help you reach longer-term goals and become more independent in life.

### Examples:

Think of any therapies and training programs that help you strengthen your skills. This is what capacity building is all about.

### Flexibility: Moderate

You can use this funding flexibly on any service listed *within* each category below, but you cannot move funds *across* these categories.

Category	What does it mean?	What does it cover?
<b>5. Improved Daily Living</b>	This is money you can use to improve your skills, become more independent and take part in your community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Occupational therapy</li> <li>✓ Psychology</li> <li>✓ Speech pathology</li> <li>✓ Physiotherapy</li> <li>✓ Exercise physiology</li> <li>✓ Counselling</li> <li>✓ Training for carers &amp; parents</li> <li>✓ Programs to improve general life skills like budgeting and daily planning</li> <li>✓ Individual skills development and training</li> <li>✓ Specialised driver training</li> </ul>



<p><b>6. Increased Social and Community Participation</b></p>	<p>Helps you improve your social life. Use it to join community groups and recreational activities, and to make new friends.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Develop life skills like public transport training or learn how to manage your money</li> <li>✓ Camps and weekend programs</li> <li>✓ Taekwondo</li> <li>✓ Art Class</li> <li>✓ Yoga</li> <li>✓ Public speaking coaching</li> <li>✓ Mentoring</li> <li>✓ Peer support</li> </ul>
<p><b>7. Improved Relationships</b></p>	<p>This funding exists to improve your social skills and build positive relationships with others.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Specialist behaviour intervention support</li> <li>✓ Behaviour management training</li> <li>✓ Individual social skills development</li> </ul>
<p><b>8. Improved Health and Wellbeing</b></p>	<p>Money you get for exercise and diet advice to make life with disability easier for you.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Dietician</li> <li>✓ Exercise physiology</li> <li>✓ Personal training</li> </ul>
<p><b>9. Support Coordination</b></p>	<p>This money funds a support coordinator, who helps participants turn their plans into practice.</p> <p><b>Support coordinators</b> are links between you, your community and government services.</p> <p>They usually have hands-on knowledge about the NDIS and help you find the right therapists, services and products.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Support Coordinator</li> <li>✓ Specialist Support Coordinator</li> </ul>

<b>10. Improved Life Choices</b>	<p>Plan Managers handle all your invoices and other plan paperwork. They also show you how to make the most of your funding.</p> <p>Every NDIS participant is entitled to a Plan Manager – free of charge. You only need to ask for it.</p>	<p><b>Plan Managers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Pay your invoices</li> <li>✓ Help you keep track of your budget</li> <li>✓ Teach you how to self-manage your plan</li> </ul>
<b>11. Finding and Keeping a Job</b>	<p>Money you can use for employment-related support, training and assessments that help you find and keep a job.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Employment-related assessment &amp; counselling</li> <li>✓ assistance in specialised supported employment</li> <li>✓ individual employment support</li> <li>✓ Support in employment (ADE)</li> <li>✓ School Leavers Employment Supports (SLES)</li> </ul>
<b>12. Improved Living Arrangements</b>	<p>Support to help you find and maintain an appropriate place to live.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Assistance with accommodation and tenancy obligations</li> </ul>
<b>13. Improved Learning</b>	<p>This is funding to help you keep learning new things once you've graduated from school.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Advice and training to transition from school to higher education (such as TAFE or university)</li> <li>✓ Help to research and apply for study or training opportunities</li> </ul>

## CAPITAL SUPPORTS

### What's this funding for?

This is funding you can use for larger investments.

### Examples:

Anything that requires you to spend a bigger chunk of money: home modifications, car fitouts, expensive assistive technology and equipment, and even specialist disability accommodation.

### Flexibility: Low

You may only use this funding for the specific purpose you mention to the NDIS and cannot spend it on anything else.

Category	What does it mean?	What does it cover?
<b>14. Assistive Technology</b>	Helps you maintain or improve the way you live everyday life, from moving around to caring for yourself, communicating with others and being active.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Wheelchairs and other mobility aids</li> <li>✓ Communication technology</li> <li>✓ Hearing aids</li> <li>✓ Vision equipment</li> <li>✓ Orthotics</li> <li>✓ Prostheses</li> <li>✓ Vehicle modifications</li> <li>✓ Adapted furniture</li> <li>✓ Assistance animals</li> </ul>
<b>15. Home modifications</b>	These are changes to the structure, layout or fittings of your home, so that you can safely access it and move around comfortably.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Elevators</li> <li>✓ Ramps</li> <li>✓ Home modifications</li> <li>✓ Consultations</li> </ul>

## NDIS PLAN EXPLAINER

### What can you really buy with your plan?

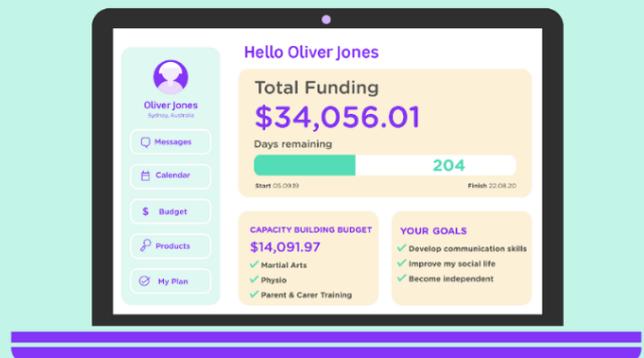
**Can you pay for taekwondo lessons with your plan? Can you get gym equipment? A smartwatch?**

Our NDIS experts have built an easy-to-use **Plan Explainer** to help you figure out what you can and cannot buy with your unique funding package.

Simply upload your plan and let the Plan Explainer translate your plan's complex bureaucratic terms into plain English within seconds.

#### The Plan Explainer...

- ✔ shows what you can buy with your specific plan
- ✔ clarifies how the NDIS price guide applies to you
- ✔ explains how to set up a service agreement
- ✔ is always up-to-date for NDIS changes such as Covid-19



The Plan Explainer is free for all NDIS participants - whether they're self-managed, agency-managed or plan-managed.



**Learn how it works. Watch the video at**  
[www.providerchoice.com.au/plan-explainer](http://www.providerchoice.com.au/plan-explainer)

## NDIS PLAN REVIEW READY

### Is your review meeting coming up?

#### **We help you get a new NDIS plan that truly works for you.**

Your new plan should give you the funding you need so you can live your best life. Our free Plan Review Ready tool increases your chances of getting your next plan right. It puts you back in control over your funding.

#### **A free and easy online tool to prepare you for your plan review:**

-  **Meeting-ready.** We guide you through the most common meeting questions in a few simple online steps.
-  **More control over your funding.** We help you reassess your goals and circumstances, so you know exactly how to communicate your needs during the critical plan review.
-  **Practical examples & expert tips.** We show you what's possible. Did you know a small goal change can make a big budget difference?
-  **Easy to understand.** We make the NDIS more transparent for you – in plain English.



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Try the Plan Review Ready tool today: [www.providerchoice.com.au/plan-reviewer](http://www.providerchoice.com.au/plan-reviewer)

**It's free for all NDIS participants!**

# Who is Provider Choice?

We are NDIS experts. We provide plan management services and easy-to-use technology for all NDIS participants.

If you have any plan management questions or queries, please get in touch with:

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