

NDIA Price Guide VIC/ NSW/ TAS

(effective 1 August 2015)

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Introduction

The NDIA Price Guide (the Guide), as published on 1 August 2015, accompanies the release of a revised participant plan format. The new NDIA plan format aligns funded supports to participant goals and outcomes.

The NDIA Price Guide is significantly different from the Catalogue of Supports (*Support Clusters and Pricing* document) that preceded it. The range of services that can be delivered to participants, as a minimum, remains the same, provided they are related to the participant's disability, achievement of outcomes and ultimately their goals. The new Price Guide reinforces the concept that these services are not constrained by rigid definitions of a support item as listed in a "catalogue".

The NDIA Price Guide applies to the delivery of supports to participants whose plans are finalised from 1 August 2015.

Participants with plans approved before 1 August will continue to have the cost of supports claimed as described in the existing [NDIA "Support Clusters and Associated Pricing" document](#).

All assistive technology has been separated and is now listed in the [NDIA Price Guide – Assistive Technology](#).

Overview of NDIA Price Guide

The NDIA Price Guide will help Agency staff estimate and approve the cost of funded supports in a participant's plan. The Plan and Price Guide have been structured to reinforce the links between the participant's goals, selected outcomes and funding in their Plan.

The Terms of Business for Registered NDIA service providers specify that providers will charge for supports delivered in accordance with the NDIA pricing arrangements and guidelines, after the support has been provided.

The redesign of the participant plan and the Price Guide enable measurement of the supports delivered towards the achievement of outcomes as outlined in a participant's plan.

Features of the NDIA Price Guide (effective 1 August 2015)

Categories of supports

This NDIA Price Guide is arranged into 14 categories that align to the purpose of the funded supports and the NDIA Outcomes Framework (see Table 1).

The participant's plan includes a separate budget for each Support Category relevant to the participant's goals and expected outcomes. The Plan will include a general description of the supports the participant requires to achieve the outcomes outlined in their plan.

Providers will deliver supports against these outcomes and claim against a support line item (see the NDIA Price Guide) that most closely aligns to the service they have delivered using a "best fit" approach. The details of the actual support delivered, the time and duration of service delivery is to be maintained in provider records.

Table 1 - NDIA Support Category aligned to Support Purpose and Outcome

Support Purpose	Outcome Domain	Support Category	Description
Core	Daily Living	Assistance with daily life at home, in the community, education and at work	includes personal care and community access delivered in a variety of settings to enable participant engagement in daily life. Everyday use items such as interpreting, translating, continence and home enteral nutrition (HEN) products are included.

Support Purpose	Outcome Domain	Support Category	Description
Core	Daily Living	Transport to access daily activities	enables participants to access the community for educational, recreational and vocational purposes. The amount of funding aligns with the Mobility Allowance payable by Centrelink and is paid fortnightly in advance.
Core	Daily Living	Supported independent living	includes personal care and other assistance to enable a participant to live in a secure, more independent environment in the community.
Capacity Building	Daily Living	Improved daily living skills	training, development and therapy, where needed, to assist a participant to acquire or increase their skills in independence and community participation. Services can be delivered individually or in groups.
Capacity Building	Relationships	Improved relationships	social skills development and behaviour intervention supports, where necessary.
Capacity Building	Home	Improved living arrangements	assistance to improve and increase a participant's satisfaction with their living arrangements.
Capacity Building	Health and wellbeing	Improved health and wellbeing	dietetics, personal training and exercise to increase a participant's health, fitness and wellbeing.

Support Purpose	Outcome Domain	Support Category	Description
Capacity Building	Lifelong learning	Improved learning	ongoing assistance with transition into and from school and into, and throughout, further education
Capacity Building	Work	Finding and keeping a job	enables a participant to successfully obtain and/or retain employment in the open or supported labour market
Capacity Building	Social and community participation	Increased social and community participation	development to build skills (individually or in groups), mentoring and peer support to develop capability for community participation.
Capacity Building	Choice and control	Improved life choices	strengthens a participant's ability to identify preferred options, exercise control in selection and management of their supports, including engagement and payment of providers, when required.
Capital	Daily living	Assistive technology	all items and equipment for daily living
Capital	Daily living	Vehicle modifications	all vehicle modifications for driving and transportation of a person with disability
Capital	Home	Home modifications	minor to major home modifications

Table 2 - Definition of terms

Term	Definition
Support item number	This is the unique number that NDIA assigns to a particular support. The support item reference number includes the relevant code from ISO 9999 for Assistive Technology.
Varies/Indicative	Where “varies” or “indicative” is used, the support will be specific to the person or situation. The planner enters a price based on available data, discussion with the participant (and in some cases the provider) to determine the relevant price for inclusion in the plan. The provider will charge the actual cost of the item within a reasonable margin of the indicative rate.
Price	The Agency provides guidance on the price to be paid for each support item. For some items, such as personal care and community access, the amount indicates the maximum price that the Agency will pay for that support. For other items a quote is required and this is indicated in the NDIA Price Guide. When the term “varies” is used, the planner will enter a price based on available data.
Outcome Domain	The NDIA Outcomes Framework comprises eight domains: daily living, home, relationships, health and wellbeing, lifelong learning, work, social and community participation and choice and control.
Support Category	There are 14 support categories in the NDIA Price Guide that align to the Outcome Domains. Individual support items relate to each of the Support Categories.
Support Clusters	Support items in the NDIA Price Guide are also grouped into ‘support clusters’ to simplify registration for providers who are only required to register at the cluster level. This has not changed from earlier requirements of providers.

Features common to the existing catalogue and the revised NDIA Price Guide

Maximum prices

Maximum prices remain for personal care, community access, domestic assistance and professional services. These have been indexed at the appropriate rates for the 2015/16 Financial Year to take effect from 1 August 2015.

Indicative prices

There are several items that lend themselves to a small variation in pricing. This is particularly the case with Assistive Technology. These support items are indicated in the Price Guide as a range or “varies”. The planner uses the indicative price for approval of the plan.

A supplier/provider needs to notify NDIA of any necessary increase above the amount in the plan providing reasons for this increase above the Agency’s indicative rate.

Quotes

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

- supported accommodation
- early childhood intervention services
- multidisciplinary programs
- customised assistive technology, and
- home modifications.

The NDIA Price Guide is **not** a comprehensive list of all available supports to assist participants to achieve their outcomes, nor does it prescribe the only supports funded by the NDIS. It includes an item descriptor (support item) against which the cost of the delivery of support can be claimed. This descriptor is expressed as the most commonly used support in a Support Category (see Table 1).

The NDIA Price Guide is intended to assist providers to claim using a “Best Fit” approach and to assist participants in engaging and negotiating with disability support workers and organisations.

Providers are to maintain accurate records of service provision, including the type, time of day and duration, in accordance with the Service Agreement developed with the participant. Provider claims are monitored by the Agency and provider records are subject to audits conducted or commissioned by the Agency.

GST

Most items in the NDIA Price Guide are GST exempt as described in s38-38 of the GST Act. For the small number of items where GST is applicable, (e.g., delivery fees and taxi fares) the price is inclusive of GST.

For the supply of the support to be GST-free, it must be made under a written agreement between the provider or supplier, and the participant. Further information can be obtained from the [ATO website](#)

Remote and very remote loading

For supports provided to participants in remote and very remote regions of Australia, the Independent Hospital Pricing Authority loading (which was increased in 2015-16 by 1% to 16% in remote areas and 22% in very remote areas) is applied to the unit price of the support.

Provider travel for personal care and community access

Workers Travel for personal care and community access

A worker's travel time from home to work (or first participant) and from work to home cannot be deducted from a participant's budget.

For workers travelling between participants, a provider may deduct up to a maximum of 20 minutes from the hours of service for each participant.

If 4 or more hours is delivered to one client, no worker travel time is to be deducted.

Accompanying Participants for Community Access

When workers accompany participants on community outings no travel time is to be deducted from the participant's budget.

If providers incur a cost for transporting participants in the community, they may negotiate a reasonable contribution from the participant. The participant may be allocated transport funds within their package to assist with such contributions.

The cost of public transport when training a participant in the use of public transport can be deducted from the budget of the participant when a cost is incurred (taking account of arrangements for companion cards).

Provision of Therapeutic Supports

The newly designed NDIA Price Guide and accompanying processes require practitioners to claim for all costs of delivering a service against the single support item: Individual assessment, therapy and/or training.

Travel costs are now incorporated in the funding for the provision of all therapy and are not payable as additional items.

There is no change to the requirements for providers charging for travel when delivering therapeutic supports:

- travel of less than 10 km cannot be claimed; and
- travel costs over \$1000 cannot be claimed in any one year.

Remote travel

Services delivered by a provider located in a remote or very remote region attract the Independent Hospital Pricing Authority (IHPA) loading – 16% for remote and 22% for very remote in 2015/16.

If local providers are not available, the Agency will enter into agreements with specific providers for provision of services including 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.

Cancellations and “no shows” of 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 provider will 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.

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

When an NDIS participant dies, they cease to be a participant of the Scheme and no further NDIA funded supports can be delivered. The NDIS legislation does not allow for post-bereavement supports intended for the participant's family to be funded. However there may be some circumstances where support for a family is required that cannot be adequately delivered from mainstream services. The provider should contact the Agency to discuss their concerns.

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.

Changes to supports from 1 August, 2015

As part of the catalogue redesign for 1 August, 2015, there are:

- a small number of new support items;
- name changes to some support items; and
- support items that will not be included in new plans from 1 August as they have been discontinued. Some examples include:
 - supports with the same intention and price that have been wrapped up into a single support item; and
 - supports delivered by an allied health practitioner that are now grouped under a single support item, not according to the specific discipline of the practitioner. A new support item has been created to cover the range of services delivered by these practitioners.

Plans approved prior to 1 August 2015

Providers will still be able to claim against the discontinued support items for the duration of the participant's plan (for plans finalised prior to 1 August).

New Support Items (that do not replace existing support items)

Not every support available to be delivered is defined in the NDIA Price Guide. However the following new support items have been introduced for inclusion in the Price Guide where it was considered that they would increase options and flexibility in service provision.

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.

Establishment fee for personal care/community access

This fee applies to all plans for new NDIS participants from 1 August 2015 who receive at least 20 hours of personal care/community access support per month, for three consecutive months. This payment is to cover providers establishing arrangements and assisting participants in implementing their plan.

The establishment fee will operate as follows:

- a one-off maximum amount is included in a participant's plan of \$750;
- providers can charge \$500 against a plan if assisting a new participant, who is new to NDIS and new to the provider;
- providers 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, \$250 is available to the new provider from the balance of the establishment fee. This is to assist the participant in changing providers.
- If further changes beyond the \$750 are required, the participant must negotiate with the Provider to have no charge or utilise hours of support they have within their package up to a maximum of \$250.

The intention of the Agency is to review this fee after 12 months following its introduction.

Activity costs

There are three support items in the NDIA Price Guide that enable planners to cost supports as a unit or episode amount and claim as a fee for service.

Value for money for these supports will be assessed against the cost of delivery if the hourly rate for delivery of similar supports were used.

Importantly, use of the "activity fee" offers the ability to convert amounts initially calculated as hourly rates into "episode fees"

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 cost of the anticipated activity should be entered into the participant's plan and not exceed \$500 per year if only for recreational purposes.

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.

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:

- Horse riding lessons. The first course 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;
- An initial set of 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

Innovative community participation

This support item is designed to allow mainstream providers to offer services to NDIS participants. Any standards applicable to the industry in which the provider operates would need to be met. Details of registration for such providers are still to be finalised and further information will be advised when available.

NDIA Price Guide – VIC/NSW/TAS

This Guide provides details of the types of supports participants can purchase with their NDIS funding.

Support categories

The table below shows the names of support categories that may appear in a participant's plan.

Participants who are managing their own funds can use the support category number shown in the table below when claiming in the NDIS Participant Portal.

For details of the types of supports, prices and item numbers for supports under each support category, refer to the relevant list.

Support categories	Support Category Number
1. Assistance with daily life at home in the community, education and at work	0001
2. Transport to access daily activities	0002
3. Supported independent living	0003
4. Improved daily living skills	0004
5. Assistive technology*	0005
6. Vehicle modifications*	0006
7. Home modifications*	0007
8. Improved living arrangements	0008
9. Increased social and community participation	0009
10. Finding and keeping a job	0010
11. Improved relationships	0011
12. Improved health and wellbeing	0012
13. Improved learning	0013
14. Improved life choices	0014

*See the NDIA Price Guide for Assistive Technology

Support Clusters

Organisations or individuals apply to be a registered provider with the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) to deliver a group of support items in a support cluster. This simplifies registration for providers.

The support cluster is listed beside each support item in the following tables, so that participants can more easily find a provider in their area for a support they wish to purchase. This is available here: [registered service providers on the NDIS website](#).

1. Assistance with daily life at home, in the community, education and at work (0001)

Establishment Fee for Personal Care/Community Access

(Support Cluster Assist–Personal Activities)

Name	Item	Price	Support Cluster
Establishment Fee for Personal Care/Community Access (>20 hours per month)	09 027	Varies	Assist-Personal Activities

Assistance with self-care activities: day

Standard needs: assistance with self-care activities day

Time	Price	Item
Weekday	\$41.18	09 011
Weekday evening	\$45.17	09 015
Saturday	\$57.13	09 013
Sunday	\$73.11	09 014
Public Holiday	\$89.06	09 012

Higher intensity needs: assistance with self-care activities day

Time	Price	Item
Weekday	\$43.47	09 008
Weekday evening	\$47.67	09 009
Saturday	\$60.31	09 006
Sunday	\$77.16	09 007
Public Holiday	\$94.01	09 005

Assistance with self-care activities: overnight

(Support Cluster Assist-Personal Activities)

Support type	Price	Item
monitoring of self-care - off site or onsite, on call	Quote	09 025
night time sleepover (incl 1 hr assist)	\$179.40 night	09 010
active overnight	\$45.96 hour	09 001
overnight - higher intensity	\$48.53 hour	09 026

Assistance to access community, social and recreational activities

(Support Cluster Participate Community)

Standard needs: assistance to access community, social and recreational activities

Time	Price	Item
Weekday	\$41.18	23 008
Weekday evening	\$45.17	23 007
Saturday	\$57.13	23 009
Sunday	\$73.11	23 010
Public Holiday	\$89.06	23 006

Higher intensity needs - assistance to access community, social and recreational activities

Time	Price	Item
Weekday	\$43.47	23 005
Weekday evening	\$47.67	23 002
Saturday	\$60.31	23 003
Sunday	\$77.16	23 004
Public Holiday	\$94.01	23 001

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.
(Support Cluster Participate Community)

Standard needs: Group based community, social and recreational activities

Ratio 1 staff – 2 participants

Time	Price	Item
Weekday	\$20.59	23 016
Weekday evening	\$22.58	23 019
Saturday	\$28.57	23 017
Sunday	\$36.55	23 018

Ratio 1 staff – 3 or more participants

Time	Price	Item
Weekday	\$13.73	23 029
Weekday evening	\$15.06	23 032
Saturday	\$19.04	23 030
Sunday	\$24.37	23 031

Centre Based Group

Time	Price	Item
Weekday	\$18.64	23 011
Weekday evening	\$20.46	23 015
Saturday	\$27.32	23 013
Sunday	\$34.95	23 014

Higher intensity needs: Assistance to access community, social and recreational activities

Ratio 1 staff – 2 participants

Time	Price	Item
Weekday	\$27.40	23 024
Weekday evening	\$30.07	23 027
Saturday	\$38.03	23 025
Sunday	\$48.66	23 026

Ratio 1 staff – 3 or more participants

Time	Price	Item
Weekday	\$18.27	23 033
Weekday evening	\$20.05	23 036
Saturday	\$25.35	23 034
Sunday	\$32.44	23 035

Name	Item	Price	Support Cluster
assistance from live-in carer	09 002	Quote	Assist-Personal Activities
assistance with personal domestic activities	09 004	\$39.08 hour	Assist-Personal Activities
specialised home based assistance for a child	09 016	\$41.18 hour	Assist-Personal Activities
community and social activities	23 023	Varies	Participate Community
house and/or yard maintenance	20 001	\$41.23 hour	Household Tasks
linen service	20 003	varies	Household Tasks
house cleaning and other household activities	20 002	\$36.96 hour	Household Tasks
assistance with the cost of preparation and delivery of meals	20 005	\$10.89 each	Household Tasks
telephone or video interpreting	21 006	\$83.97 hour	Interpret/Translate
auslan or signed english training	21 001	\$115.46 hour	Interpret/Translate
interpreting and translating	21 003	\$117.55 hour	Interpret/Translate
transitional support	01 003	Quote	Accommodation/Tenancy
continence products	See the NDIS Price Guide for Assistive Technology		Assist Prod-Pers Care/Safety
home enteral nutrition (HEN)			Assist Prod-Pers Care/Safety

2. Transport to access daily activities (0002)

Name	Number	Price	Support Cluster
transport	10 001	Varies	Assist-Travel/Transport
specialised transport to school/educational facility/employment/community	05 003	Varies	Assist-Integrate School/Ed

3. Supported Independent Living (0003)

Assistance in a shared living arrangement

(Support Cluster Daily Tasks/Shared Living)

Indicative prices

Number of people in accommodation – cost per week

Level of Need	2	3	4	5	6	7+
Lower	\$2079.67 Item 14 027	\$1808.41 Item 14 015	\$1796.43 Item 14 016	\$1746.32 Item 14 017	\$1613.41 Item 14 018	\$1613.41 Item 14 019
Standard	\$3573.25 Item 14 009	\$2950.11 Item 14 010	\$2285.57 Item 14 011	\$2188.61 Item 14 012	\$2121.06 Item 14 013	\$2121.06 Item 14 014
Higher	\$4626.70 Item 14 003	\$4006.83 Item 14 004	\$3181.06 Item 14 005	\$2796.50 Item 14 006	\$2507.81 Item 14 007	\$2507.81 Item 14 008

Name	Item	Price	Support Cluster
short term accommodation and assistance	14 022	\$462.09 day	Daily Tasks/Shared Living
assistance in living arrangements (host family/alternative family situation)	14 001	Quote	Daily Tasks/Shared Living
assistance in individual living arrangement for person with complex needs	14 026	Quote	Daily Tasks/Shared Living

4. Improved daily living skills (0004)

Name	Item	Price	Support Cluster
training for carers/parents	15 008	\$53.99 hour	Development-Life Skills
assistance with decision making, daily planning, budgeting	08 001	\$41.18 hour	Assist-Life Stage, Transition
specialist driver training	28 004	\$95.00 hour	Training-Travel Independence
individual assessment, therapy and/or training (includes assistive technology)	27 034	\$172.13 hour	Therapeutic Supports
group therapy	27 024	\$57.38 hour	Therapeutic Supports
therapy assistant	27 029	\$40.12 hour	Therapeutic Supports
multidisciplinary team intervention	27 035	Varies	Therapeutic Supports
individual counselling	27 005	\$144.07 hour	Therapeutic Supports
counselling group	27 003	\$48.02 hour	Therapeutic Supports
selection and/or manufacture of customised or wearable technology	17 021	\$155.34 hour	Equipment Special Assess Setup
individual assessment and support by a Nurse	13 002	\$92.11 hour	Community Nursing Care
specialised group early childhood interventions	16 003	\$57.38 hour	Early Childhood Supports
transdisciplinary early childhood intervention	16 006	Varies	Early Childhood Supports
specialised individual therapy for early childhood	16 005	\$172.13 hour	Early Childhood Supports

5, 6 and 7 - Assistive technology, Vehicle and Home modifications

See the NDIA price guide for [Assistive technology, Vehicle and Home modifications](#)

8. Improved living arrangements (0008)

Name	Item	Price	Support Cluster
assistance with accommodation and tenancy obligations	01 001	\$55.50 hour	Accommodation/Tenancy

9. Increased social and community participation (0009)

Name	Item	Price	Support Cluster
individual skills development and training	15 011	\$53.99 hour	Development-Life Skills
skills development in a group	15 002	\$17.99 hour	Development-Life Skills
community participation activities	23 028	Varies	Participate Community
innovative community participation	14 028	Varies	Innov Community Participation
Life transition planning including mentoring and peer support, focussing on individual skill development	08 005	\$55.50 hour	Assist-Life Stage, Transition

10. Finding and keeping a job (0010)

Name	Item	Price	Support Cluster
employment preparation and support in a group	03 010	\$18.16 hour	Assist Access/Maintain Employ
individual employment support	03 007	\$54.46 hour	Assist Access/Maintain Employ
employment related assessments and counselling	02 005	\$172.13 hour	Assist Access/Maintain Employ
assistance in specialised supported employment level 1 DMI	03 002	\$83.08 week	Assist Access/Maintain Employ
assistance in specialised supported employment level 2 DMI	03 003	\$140.77 week	Assist Access/Maintain Employ
assistance in specialised supported employment level 3 DMI	03 004	\$211.15 week	Assist Access/Maintain Employ
assistance in specialised supported employment level 4 DMI	03 005	\$280.38 week	Assist Access/Maintain Employ
support in employment (ADE)	03 018	Varies	Assist Access/Maintain Employ
supported employment start-up fee (ADE)	03 012	\$610.00 plan	Assist Access/Maintain Employ

11. Improved relationships (0011)

Name	Item	Price	Support Cluster
intensive behavioural intervention-development and monitoring of management plan	11 004	\$188.93 hour	Behaviour Support
behaviour management plan, training in behaviour management strategies	11 006	\$172.13 hour	Behaviour Support
individual social skills development	15 005	\$53.99 hour	Development-Life Skills

12. Improved health and wellbeing (0012)

Name	Item	Price	Support Cluster
exercise physiology	25 004	\$140.06 hour	Physical Wellbeing
exercise physiology (group)	25 005	\$46.69 hour	Physical Wellbeing
personal training	25 008	\$52.48 hour	Physical Wellbeing
dietitian consultation and plan development	25 001	\$172.13 hour	Physical Wellbeing
dietitian group session	25 003	\$57.38 hour	Physical Wellbeing

13. Improved learning (0013)

Name	Item	Price	Support Cluster
transition into and through school and to further education	05 004	\$55.50 hour	Assist-Integrate School/Ed

14. Improved life choices (0014)

Name	Item	Price	Support Cluster
support connection	08 002	\$55.50 hour	Assist-Life Stage, Transition
coordination of supports	08 003	\$90.46 hour	Assist-Life Stage, Transition
specialist support coordination	08 006	\$172.13 hour	Assist-Life Stage, Transition
financial intermediary - set up costs	26 003	\$209.92 once	Plan Management
financial intermediary monthly processing	26 004	\$31.49 month	Plan Management
financial and service intermediary set up costs	26 002	\$314.88 once	Plan Management
financial and service intermediary activities	26 001	\$52.06 hour	Plan Management
training in planning and plan management	15 009	\$53.99 hour	Development-Life Skills

Appendix 1 – Additional information related to the NDIA Price Guide

Supported Independent Living

This support category incorporates assistance with and/or supervising tasks of daily life in a shared living environment or other domicile of the participant's choice.

A focus on developing the skills of each individual to live as autonomously as possible is integral to such arrangements. The support is provided to each person at a level in accordance with their need.

The Agency prices do not include the cost of rent, board or other living expenses such as food and social activities, as these are not funded by NDIS.

In limited circumstances, NDIS will contribute to the cost of food and social activities in funding accommodation, for example, where an integrated package is required to support the participant in emergency or "respite" circumstances for a short period.

A hierarchy of prices applies to this category of supports based on:

- the number of people in the living arrangements
- the level of needs of the participant funded by NDIS, as follows:

Lower needs

- Supervision of living arrangements with occasional or 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 can be supported in this living arrangement through a mix of additional paid and informal supports

Standard needs

- 24/7 support which includes:
 - Active assistance or supervision of most daily tasks
 - Regular inactive overnight support (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 level of support available in the selected accommodation

Higher needs

- Frequent (at least 1 instance per shift) assistance to manage 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)

Assistance with daily life at home, in the community, education and at work

The prices paid by NDIA for these personal care supports take account of delivery of services at different times of the day and days of the week (hence penalty rates) and the level of support required by the participant.

- 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
 - Frequent (at least 1 instance per shift) assistance to manage challenging behaviours that require intensive positive behaviour support
 - High medical support needs requiring continual active support

Inclusion of penalty rates applies as follows:

Time of Day

- Daytime starts at 6am and finishes at 8pm
- Evening is when the support finishes after 8pm and before 12 midnight
- Overnight is where the support finishes after 12 midnight and before 6am.

Day of the Week

- 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.

The night time sleep over (inactive) support includes 1 hour of assistance where required.

Assistance to access community, social and recreational activities

Prices for these supports do not cover the cost of the standard expenses related to recreational pursuits, such as ticket prices or sporting game fees. Where a participant requires additional assistance to access community activities an amount will be allocated in the plan to assist with this.

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.

Early childhood intervention supports

The provision of a mix of therapies with a key worker operating in a family centred service model expected to fall into one of three categories:

- **Level 1** – low needs – up to \$6000 to \$8397 per annum,
- **Level 2** – medium needs - \$8398 to \$12595 per annum, or
- **Level 3** – high needs - \$12 596. to \$16 794 per annum.

Level 1 (low needs) is generally appropriate for a child with a developmental delay, or mild disability, who is developing more slowly than their peers.

Level 2 (medium needs) is generally appropriate for a child with a disability or developmental delay who has moderate single and/or multiple areas of needs that require specific intervention, behavioural concerns or family complexities that require additional support and/or referral to other agencies.

Level 3 (high needs) is generally appropriate for a child with a disability and/or/severe developmental delay, multiple disabilities, severe behavioural difficulties, rapid deterioration and/or complex health/medical needs who has severe and/or multiple needs that require specific intervention.

The provision of supports under early childhood intervention is 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.

Children who require assistance beyond school commencement (or after the age of 8) will need to be assessed under the disability requirements for the Scheme.

Improved life choices

Support coordination

The NDIA defines Support Coordination as:

'Assistance to strengthen participants' abilities to coordinate and implement supports and participate more fully in the community.' It can include initial assistance with linking participants with the right providers to meet their needs, assistance to source providers, coordinating a range of supports both funded and mainstream and building on informal supports, resolving points of crisis, parenting training and developing participant resilience in their own network and community.'

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.

Management of funding for supports in a participant's plan

This support focuses on strengthening the participant's ability to undertake tasks associated with the management of their supports. Plan management is the financial management of the plan supports including making payments to providers, expense claims processing, developing monthly statements for participants and claiming for payment from NDIA.

This support may include a small component of liaison with providers on the engagement and provision of supports and the implementation of the participant's plan, service intermediary activities. Support may be provided in two ways: financial support combined with service intermediary assistance or financial intermediary assistance. Plan Management Providers need to make payments directly to the participant's providers and then seek reimbursement from the agency.

Providers are required to submit a quote to NDIA for delivery of the plan management support items.

Improved relationships

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.