

Funding Options

Accessing Therapy

To access therapy services, you can contact your:

- 1. Local Hospital:** Contact your local hospital to find out what in-patient or out-patient services they provide.
- 2. Disability Organisation or Non-Government Organisation (NGO):** Some employ therapists as part of their team. Contact your local council for a list of disability services/ organisations in your area. Surf the internet to find local services.
- 3. ACAT (My Aged Care):** If you are over 65 years old, you might be eligible for an ACAT assessment. If you need to meet with a member of an Aged Care Assessment Team (ACAT) to help work out what types of care and services you need, you can search for ACATs using the ACAT Finder on the My Aged Care website: www.myagedcare.gov.au A member of the ACAT can travel to your home to complete the assessment. Call My Aged Care on 1800 200 422 to discuss further information about ACAT assessments and how they work.
- 4. Private Clinic:** Read the information below on how to access and fund private therapy sessions.



Private Therapy

To access **private therapy**, you can find any allied health professional by either:

1. Visiting the Therapy Choices website www.therapychoices.org.au and clicking on “Therapy Services”, then selecting the service that you are searching for
2. Visiting the association’s website, such as OT Australia or Speech Pathology Australia. Then clicking on “Find a Private Practice OT” or “Find a Speech Pathologist”
3. Searching the Yellow Pages: www.yellowpages.com.au
4. Speaking to your GP about local therapy options

Private therapy is not free.

The following are some funding options to access private therapy:

- National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS): Visit: www.ndis.gov.au. Check if you have included therapy as part your package or use the Online Access Checker to see if you are eligible. On the second page, you will find more information about the NDIS
- Medicare Chronic Disease Management Items (for 5 sessions/year) - discuss with your GP
- Private insurance
- Self-funding

Accessing Assistive Technology (National)

National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

The NDIS supports people with significant and permanent disability that affects how they can independently take part in everyday activities.

By developing individualised and personal support plans with NDIS participants, the Scheme takes into account the circumstances of families and carers as well as the person with disability.

To receive an individualised support plan you must meet certain eligibility criteria:

- you have a significant and permanent disability. This can include a disability that is 'episodic', meaning that some days are more affected by it than others
 - you are an Australian citizen, a permanent resident or a New Zealand citizen who holds a Protected Special Category Visa
 - you are younger than 65 when you make a formal request to join the NDIS (once you are in though, you have the NDIS for life)
- **Website:** www.ndis.gov.au
 - **Ph:** 1800 800 110

Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA)

The Department of Veterans' Affairs provides aids and appliances through the Rehabilitation Appliances Program. The program provides safe and appropriate equipment according to the specific needs of the entitled person.

- **Website:** www.dva.gov.au
- **Ph:** 133 254

JobAccess

JobAccess is a free information and advice service about the employment of people with disability. They administer The Employment Assistance Fund which helps people with disability and mental health condition by providing financial assistance to purchase a range of work related modifications and services.

- **Website:** www.jobaccess.gov.au
- **Ph:** 1800 464 800

Charitable Organisations and Foundations

Some charitable organisations may provide assistance in purchasing assistive technology, such as the local club. Contact your local disability service provider or ask your allied health professional for assistance in contacting charitable organisations.

ndis

National Disability
Insurance Scheme



Australian Government
Department of Veterans' Affairs

Job Access

Driving disability employment



Accessing Assistive Technology (By State/Territory)

State	Organisation	Contact Details
NSW	<p>Enable NSW <i>A state government program providing equipment to assist eligible residents of NSW with a permanent or long-term disability by providing assistive technology in the areas of: communication, mobility, respiratory support, or self-care.</i></p>	<p>Website: www.enable.health.nsw.gov.au Ph: 1800 362 253</p>
	<p>icare Insurance and Care NSW <i>For a person severely injured in the workplace or on the road, to support their long-term care needs to improve quality of life outcomes, including helping people return to work. The schemes included are: Dust Diseases Scheme, Home Building Compensation Fund, Lifetime Care and Support Scheme, Treasury Managed Fund (state's self insurance fund), NSW Workers Compensation Scheme and NSW Sporting Injuries Compensation Scheme.</i></p>	<p>Website: www.icare.nsw.gov.au</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • icare dust diseases care: 02 8223 6600 • icare hbcf: 02 9216 3224 • icare lifetime care: 1300 738 586 • icare self insurance: 02 9216 3327 • icare workers insurance: 13 44 22
VIC	StateWide Equipment Program (SWEP)	<p>Website: www.dhs.vic.gov.au/for-individuals/disability/aids-and-equipment Ph: 1300 650 172</p>
QLD	Medical Aids Subsidy Scheme (MASS)	<p>Website: www.health.qld.gov.au/mass Ph: 1300 443 570</p>
WA	Community Aids and Equipment Program (CAEP)	<p>Website: www.disability.wa.gov.au Ph: 08 9426 9200, 1800 998 214</p>
ACT	ACTES, the ACT Equipment Scheme	<p>Website: www.assistance.act.gov.au/adult/health_and_dental/act_equipment_scheme Ph: 02 6205 2599</p>
TAS	Community Equipment Scheme (or Tas Equip)	<p>Website: www.dhhs.tas.gov.au Ph: 1300 885 886 or 1800 171 233</p>
SA	Domiciliary Equipment Service (DES)	<p>Website: www.des.domcare.sa.gov.au/des/ Ph: (08)8193 1232</p>
NT	The Disability Equipment Program (DEP)	<p>Website: www.health.nt.gov.au Ph: (08) 8922 7244</p>

For more information, please contact

Assistive Technology Australia™

(previously known as Independent Living Centre NSW)

Shop 4019, Level 4, Westpoint Shopping Centre, 17 Patrick Street, Blacktown NSW 2148

Infoline: 1300 452 679 Email: help@at-aust.org Web: www.at-aust.org



www.facebook.com/ilcnsw



www.youtube.com/ilcnsw

Disclaimer: Assistive Technology Australia™ provides information on assistive technology and services. Visit our website to search for products on our @Magic database. We do not sell or hire any products. The provision of this information does not constitute a recommendation. Responsibility for final selection of items rests with the individual.

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