

What is Reasonable and Necessary?

When wanting to purchase an item or service using NDIS funding (no matter how your funds are managed), you need to be sure that you can say 'yes' to all six of these questions.



1. DO YOU NEED THIS BECAUSE OF YOUR DISABILITY?

In other words, would you have to purchase it regardless of whether you had a disability? If so, it doesn't meet this criteria. This includes things that are a daily living expense, like food, mobile phone, internet bill, etc.

2. DOES IT HELP ME ACHIEVE MY GOALS OR PARTICIPATE MORE IN THE COMMUNITY?

The supports you purchase should be helping you to achieve the goals you identified in your NDIS plan, and/or help you become more independent or more involved in your community.



3. IS IT VALUE FOR MONEY?

You need to make sure that the product or service you want to purchase is the most cost-effective solution to help you achieve your goals.

4. IS THE SUPPORT LIKELY TO BE BENEFICIAL?

You should have some evidence that the support you want to purchase is likely to work for you.



5. IS IT SOMETHING YOUR INFORMAL SUPPORTS CAN'T DO?



Your informal supports are people like family members and friends. If it's realistic for someone else to provide this support (e.g. a parent providing this support for a child), NDIS may not fund it.

6. IS NDIS THE BEST SYSTEM TO PAY FOR THIS?

Think about whether there might be another government system (e.g. Centrelink, education, health) that might be better to fund this support.



It's good to remember that even if something might be considered 'reasonable and necessary' for one person, it doesn't mean that it will be 'reasonable and necessary' for someone else, even if you might have the same disability.

If you need some advice about whether something might be considered reasonable and necessary, you can ask us - but at the end of the day, you know best what supports will help you live a fulfilling life.

Want more information?

Get in touch with us today, and we can help you to make sense of your NDIS plan.