

Individual Support Package

Information Sheet

August 2008

Since the release of the *Victorian State Disability Plan 2002-2012*, there has been progressive reorientation of disability services to an individualised planning and support approach. This approach includes:

- planning that is directed by the person to the greatest extent possible
- individually tailored and flexible supports based on the needs expressed by the person and
- a focus on community participation and strengthening informal supports.

To ensure that as many people as possible can benefit from this reorientation, Disability Services is increasingly making funding available through Individual Support Packages.

What is an Individual Support Package?

An Individual Support Package is Disability Services funding that has been allocated to a person for assistance with meeting their disability support needs. The funds may be used to buy a range of supports chosen by the person to help achieve their goals. This may include individually delivered supports and/or group based supports such as a day service.

Is help available to develop an Individual Support Package?

Yes, an individualised planning process will assist the person and their family to consider how their needs may be met and to develop the person's support plan.

A facilitator can help to bring together the important people in the person's life, such as family, friends or advocates, to think about what supports are needed, and how they should be provided. The facilitator can help to write this into a plan and a funding proposal. The funding proposal is sent to the regional office for approval of the funding.

What type of support can be provided?

An Individual Support Package can help people to continue to live in the community by providing supports to:

- Live as independently as possible
- Strengthen relationships with family, friends and other community members
- Participate in the community
- Learn new skills

Who can get an Individual Support Package?

You may get an Individual Support Package if:

- you have a disability as defined by the *Disability Act 2006*
- you need on-going disability support
- you meet the priority for access criteria
and
- your need for support is recorded on the Disability Support Register.

If you would like more information

Contact your regional Disability [Intake and Response Service](#) to find out more information about Individual Support Packages and how to apply.

Regions

Eastern Metropolitan	9843 6312
TTY	9843 6638
North & West Metropolitan	9412 2741
TTY	9412 2647
Southern Metropolitan	1300 131 079
TTY	1800 008 149
Barwon South West	1800 675 132
TTY	5226 4062
Gippsland	5136 2474
TTY	5136 2494
Grampians	1800 670 143
TTY	5333 6815
Hume	1300 650 152
TTY	5722 0623
Loddon Mallee	1800 229 822
TTY	5434 5669

If you don't know which region to contact, call 1800 783 783 or TTY 1800 008 149 for referral.

If you need an interpreter

Telephone the Translating and Interpreting Service on 13 14 50 and ask to be connected to the relevant regional number.

If you have other communication needs

If you are deaf, have a hearing impairment, or complex communication needs telephone the National Relay Service on 13 36 77, or the Speech to Speech Relay Service on 1300 555 727 and ask to be connected to the relevant regional number.

For more information

Disability Services webpage: www.dhs.vic.gov.au/disability

Disability Online: www.disability.vic.gov.au