

# Your Guide to Getting Assistive Technology

## What is Assistive Technology (AT)

Assistive technology is equipment or devices that help you do things you can't do because of your disability. Assistive technology may also help you do something more easily or safely so you can reach your goals of independence. This could be small things like non-slip mats, or special knives and forks. It could be bigger things like wheelchairs and powered adjustable beds. It could also be technology like an app to help you communicate with other people if this is hard for you.

## What We Do At **indigo.**

Our experienced team work closely with you to help find, trial and choose the best assistive technology solutions for you. Our occupational therapists and speech pathologists can work with you to decide the best option for your budget and needs, and will keep in mind your abilities, goals, and where you will use your equipment or device.





# How To Get AT In Your NDIS Plan



There are a few ways to get AT in your NDIS plan. You can talk to the NDIS staff in your planning meeting about getting assistive technology in your next plan. If you already have a plan, you might be able to use funding in your current plan, or you could ask for a plan reassessment.

To access for AT funding under your NDIS plan you must provide different evidence to help them understand your goals, what AT you need, and what your budget is.

There are three categories of AT funding under the NDIS:

	<b>Low-Cost (up to \$1, 500 item)</b>	<b>Mid Cost (\$1,500 to \$15, 000)</b>	<b>Higher Cost (more than \$15, 000)</b>
<b>Example</b>	A walking stick or non-slip bathmat	A customised shower chair or a standing hoist	Complex AAC devices or a custom wheelchair
<b>What is it?</b>	Easy to set up and use, and available from local or general non-disability stores	More difficult to choose and set up on your own	Complex and needs specialised knowledge to set up
<b>Where in your NDIS Plan?</b>	Under the Core Consumables section in your budget	Under the Capital Supports budget in your plan	Under the Capital Supports budget in your plan
<b>What do you need to access it?</b>	No evidence needed, but advice from an allied health professional is recommended	A letter or report from an allied health professional that includes how and why the AT will help you	An assessment from an allied health professional, and a quote
<b>How do we help you access it?</b>	We provide you with advice on what AT will meet your needs and how to use it safely	We provide you with advice on what AT will meet your needs, how to use it safely, and will write it in a letter or report	We assess you and provide you with advice on what AT will meet your needs, and how to use it safely
<b>Delivery Time</b>	Can be accessed instantly or can include delivery time, depending on supply	Can be accessed instantly, or can include delivery time, depending on supply (days or weeks)	Often takes weeks or months, depending on supply (includes trials and fittings)
<b>Can you use leftover budget?</b>	Yes, can be used on any Core Support needs	Yes, can be used on any Assistive Technology in your Capacity Building budget	No, can't be used

# What evidence do you need?

## Mid-Cost Evidence

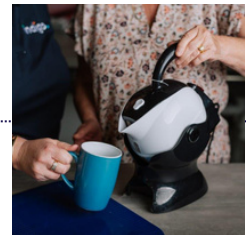
Evidence can be a letter, email, or report from an assistive technology advisor, which can be your allied health professional. They will need to include:

- The assistive technology you need.
- Why the assistive technology is the best value, over other supports, to help your disability support needs.
- How the assistive technology will help with your disability support needs and help you pursue the goals in your plan.
- An estimate of how much the assistive technology costs.

## High Cost Evidence

Evidence needs to be from a qualified assistive technology assessor, which can be your allied health professional. They will need to include:

- A recent assessment or report that shows what assistive technology you need.
- A quote for how much it will cost (unless NDIS have another way to find out the right amount of funding that you need).



## Indigo is a registered NDIS provider

As part of your NDIS plan, our occupational therapists and speech pathologists can support you with:

- Information and Advice
- Therapy Services

For more details see our 'Your journey with Indigo' information, which outlines the steps required to work hand in hand with us.

We can assist in the implementation of your AT by supporting you with:

- making the best assistive technology choices, suitable for your needs
- trialling and sourcing assistive technology
- setting up and training in the use of your assistive technology