

Commonwealth Home Support Program and Home Care Packages

Understanding the supports available to help you age well can be tricky. Find out more about these two government-funded programs, their different levels of care, eligibility criteria and payment models.

CHSP OR HOME CARE PACKAGE

The Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP) and Home Care Package Program (HCP) are both designed to provide help at home.

While both programs can include services such as personal care, allied health, home and garden maintenance, carer respite and meal preparation, CHSP is designed for people with lower support needs. In fact, it's described as 'entry-level support', with most people who access CHSP only needing one or two services to help them stay independent.

Home Care Packages, on the other hand, can provide more intensive support, with care needs being assessed over four levels and the Australian Government's contribution reaching a maximum of approximately \$61,000 each year.

CHSP COSTS

There is no formal means testing for CHSP, however service providers are encouraged to seek payment from clients who can afford to contribute to the cost of their care. Payment guidelines indicate, for example, a 'reasonable contribution' in the region of \$10-\$20 per hour for domestic assistance.

HOME CARE PACKAGE COSTS

Home Care Packages are means-tested however, individuals on a full pension or an income up to \$33,027.80 are exempt from having to contribute to their care.

If you are uncertain about whether you might need to pay, My Aged Care has provided a fee estimator on their website to assist you in making this calculation myagedcare.gov.au/how-much-will-i-pay





Commonwealth Home Support Programme

Home Care Package

WHO IS IT FOR?	People who need a small amount of support to remain independent at home	People who have varying support needs but need choice and flexibility over their care options to remain independent at home
ELIGIBILITY	 Aged 65 years or over 50 years or over for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples Functional limitations or assistance needs 	 Aged 65 years or over 50 years or over for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples Functional limitations or assistance needs
INITIAL ASSESSMENT	Regional Assessment Service (RAS) – services vary from state to state	Aged Care Assessment Team (ACAT)
ANNUAL FUNDING LEVELS	• Up to \$10,500 per year	Level 1: \$10,588.65Level 2: \$18,622.30Level 3: \$40,529.60Level 4: \$61,440.45
DO I HAVE TO CONTRIBUTE MONEY TO MY SERVICES?	 Services subsidised by Federal Government grant funding Clients may need to pay a contribution fee, if they can afford to do so 	 Services subsidised by Federal Government grant funding Clients may need to pay a contribution fee, if they can afford to do so
WILL MY APPROVED BUDGET AFFECT MY AGE PENSION?	• No	• No
WHAT CAN MY BUDGET COVER?	 Help around the home (cleaning, washing etc) Transport to appointments and activities Meals (food preparation) Personal care (showering or dressing) Home modifications (ramps, rails and other accessibility aids and assistive technology) Social support Nursing and allied health Planned respite care 	 Help around the home (cleaning, washing etc) Transport to appointments and activities Meals (food preparation) Personal care (showering or dressing) Medication management Home modifications (ramps, rails and other accessibility aids and assistive technology) Social support Nursing and allied health Planned respite care
CARE PLAN	In conjunction with your RAS assessor	In conjunction with your approved service provider
REVIEWS	Annually by your primary service provider	Annually via your approved service provider
CAN I CHOOSE MY OWN SUPPORT PROVIDERS?	Yes, via your RAS assessor	Self-managed service providers allow you to choose your own support providers

Trilogy Care provide self-management options for those with an approved Home Care Package. For more information, call the number below or visit our website. trilogycare.com.au | 1300 459 190