



Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP) funding boost for meals services

The Australian Government is boosting funding for all CHSP providers delivering meal services to alleviate cost pressures. This fact sheet outlines what providers and older people need to know.

Introduction

The Government acknowledges that all CHSP providers are facing inflation and high overhead costs. The CHSP supports over 835,000 older people to access entry-level aged care services. With increasing demand for meals services, this has put significant pressure on meal delivery.

To give immediate relief, the Government is providing a 10% top up in 2024-25 meals funding to assist CHSP providers with these challenges. This will ensure providers can continue to deliver high-quality, nutritious meals to older people in their homes.

This is in addition to 2 targeted CHSP growth funding rounds in 2024-25, totalling \$110 million, which was in response to increasing service demand pressures for domestic assistance, allied health and therapy, transport and home maintenance.

What will happen and when?

From December 2024, the Department of Health and Aged Care will make an additional one-off payment to over 500 CHSP providers who are funded for the 'Meals' service type in their 2024-25 CHSP grant agreement. This includes providers who have the service sub types – 'Meals at Centre' and/or 'Meals at Home'.

Do providers need to do anything to receive this funding?

There will be minimal changes for CHSP providers, and they will not need to do anything to receive this funding boost.

Each provider will receive a Notice of Change that details their change in funding.

The one-off funds will then be automatically deposited into each provider's nominated bank account in early 2025.

The Notice of Change will form part of each provider's existing CHSP agreement. Providers do not need to take any direct action when they receive the Notice of Change.

This is an indexation boost and contracted outputs will not change as part of this initiative.

What is a Notice of Change?

A Notice of Change is a document used to communicate minor administrative changes that do not increase a grantee's obligations under the agreement.

Reporting and compliance requirements

There will be no changes in reporting or compliance requirements. Providers are responsible for managing performance against contract deliverables.

What does this mean for CHSP clients?

CHSP providers delivering meals also regularly provide valuable social support, which helps older people to stay connected to their local community and live at home for longer.

This funding boost aims to ensure that CHSP providers can continue to deliver high-quality meal services, better nutrition and social support for older people across Australia.

Further information

For more information and clarification, CHSP providers should contact their Funding Arrangement Manager.

CHSP clients can contact their meals service provider or My Aged Care on [1800 200 422](tel:1800200422), Monday to Friday from 8am to 8pm, and Saturdays from 10am to 2pm.