

# Support at Home program – classifications and budgets

When you are assessed as eligible for the Support at Home program, you will be assigned a classification based on your needs.

Support at Home has 8 classifications for ongoing services and these are linked to different levels of care. The more care you need, the higher your classification will be. Each classification has a quarterly budget.

Along with the 8 ongoing classifications, there are 3 short-term classifications:

- the **Restorative Care Pathway** can help you maintain and improve your independence through primarily allied health services.
- the **End-of-Life Pathway** can provide dedicated funding to access services to support older people to remain at home in their last 3 months of life.
- the **Assistive Technology and Home Modifications (AT-HM)** scheme for separate funding for products, equipment and home modifications.

# How do I know what my classification is?

Following approval for Support at Home you will receive a Notice of Decision and your support plan to share with your provider. This will include your classification and your budget.

The Notice of Decision will include:

- a summary of your aged care needs and goals
- a classification and your ongoing quarterly budget
- a list of your approved services if eligible, your classification and budget for short-term supports (AT-HM scheme, Restorative Care Pathway, End-of-Life Pathway).

#### Home Care Package care recipients

Home Care Package (HCP) care recipients will move to the Support at Home program. This means you will automatically be approved for services under the Support at Home program.

When Support at Home starts, HCP recipients will move to a Support at Home classification.

HCP classification	Support at Home classification
HCP Level 1	Transitioned HCP Level 1
HCP Level 2	Transitioned HCP Level 2
HCP Level 3	Transitioned HCP Level 3
HCP Level 4	Transitioned HCP Level 4

Your provider will continue to provide support and deliver services to you when you move to Support at Home.

#### What is the funding for each classification?

We will confirm the final budget amounts for each classification before Support at Home starts from 1 November 2025. If you are a HCP recipient, you will continue to receive the same funding level on Support at Home as you do with your Home Care Package.

Amounts for each classification are indicative and are subject to indexation.

Classification	Quarterly budget	Annual amount
1	\$2,674.18	\$10,697.72
2	\$3,995.42	\$15,981.68
3	\$5,479.94	\$21,919.77
4	\$7,386.33	\$29,545.33
5	\$9,883.76	\$39,535.04
6	\$11,989.35	\$47,957.41
7	\$14,530.53	\$58,122.13
8	\$19,427.25	\$77,709.00

Restorative Care Pathway	~\$6,000 (12 weeks) May be increased to ~\$12,000 when eligible
End-of-Life Pathway	~\$25,000 (12 weeks)
Assistive Technology and Home Modifications scheme	Low, medium or high funding tiers as assessed

#### What are the new quarterly budgets?

Your assigned annual budget will be split into 4 quarterly budgets.

You will have access to the full amount of your quarterly budget at the start of each quarter. If you join Support at Home during the middle of a quarter, you will receive a pro-rata amount.

You can spend your budget on services that you need in line with your Notice of Decision and support plan.

#### Who will manage my budget?

Your budget will be held by Services Australia on your behalf. This means you will not need to manage the expenses yourself. Your provider will work with you to decide how you want to spend your budget across your approved services.

# What if I have HCP unspent funds?

If you have unspent HCP funds, you will keep these funds under Support at Home. These can be used for assistive technology and home modifications, if approved. You can also put your unspent funds towards your ongoing services once your quarterly budget has been used in full. There are no caps on the amount of HCP unspent funds that you can use.

# Can I see how my budget is being spent?

Each month, your provider must issue you with an itemised statement that shows how your budget has been spent and your current budget. This will include information about the contributions you have made.

### Will I have to contribute?

Support at Home will include participant contributions. You can find out more in the fact sheet on <u>participant contributions</u>.

#### Can I accrue funds under Support at Home?

You will be able to save some funding between quarters if you are receiving ongoing services. These accrued funds can be used to meet any of your unplanned needs. For example, if you have an informal carer and they are away on holiday. The amount you can carry over will be capped at \$1,000 or 10% of your quarterly budget, whichever is higher.

#### For more information

To find out more about the classifications and budgets under Support at Home, visit **myagedcare.gov.au/improving-australias-aged-care-system**.

If you have questions or concerns about your aged care, including Support at Home, you can speak to an aged care advocate by calling the **Aged Care Advocacy Line on 1800 700 600**. Provided by the Older Persons Advocacy Network (OPAN), this free and confidential service is independent of both government and aged care providers. OPAN will connect you with a local advocate in your state or territory.



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#### Getting started with aged care

If you need help around the house or are thinking about aged care homes, contacting My Aged Care is the first step.

Visit myagedcare.gov.au S Phone 1800 200 422

Face-to-face by speaking with an Aged Care Specialist Officer (to book an appointment call 1800 227 475 or visit any Services Australia Service Centre).