



Changing Places

The Commonwealth Accessible Australia Initiative: Increasing Inclusion in Australian Communities

The Australian Government is investing \$17.1 million from 2024–25 to 2027–28 to make community spaces more inclusive for people with disability.

This is known as the Commonwealth Accessible Australia (Accessible Australia) initiative.

Accessible Australia provides funding to enhance the accessibility of built environments and natural spaces. This includes buildings, playgrounds, beaches, and parks.

As part of this, it supports the installation of Changing Places toilet facilities.

What are Changing Places?

Changing Places are toilet facilities designed for people with high support needs who can't use standard accessible toilets.

Changing Places facilities come in two types: **fixed** and **portable**. Both provide the same essential features for people with disability and their carers. This includes a height-adjustable adult change table, a hoist, and enough space for a wheelchair and two carers.

- **Fixed Changing Places** are permanent facilities. They can be built as standalone buildings or included within larger public spaces.
- **Portable Changing Places** are mobile versions, such as Placeable Pods or Marveloos. They are ideal for locations where building a permanent facility isn't possible or practical.

Whether fixed or portable, both types offer the full Changing Places experience, just in different formats.

What funding is available for Changing Places?

The Australian Government provides funding to help cover building costs **up to**:

- 50 per cent of the cost for fixed Changing Places facilities
- 100 per cent of the cost for portable Changing Places facilities.

To apply, you need to include a detailed quote.

How to apply

Organisations can apply for funding through their relevant **state or territory government**.

Your state or territory contact will explain the deadlines and guide you through the steps.

There are 4 stages of annual funding available, which commenced from the 2024–25 financial year. The final stage of funding will be offered in 2027–28.

Are there restrictions on where Changing Places can be built?

- Funding is only available for Changing Places facilities that are open to the general public.
- Your proposed location for build or installation will be assessed by your state or territory government contact as part of the application process. They will look at the location in relation to meeting community need, how many people visit the area, and how close it is to other accessible amenities.
- Final applications must be approved by the Commonwealth.

What costs are not covered?

Not all costs can be covered by Accessible Australia funding.

For example, funding does **not** include:

- costs for Changing Places assessor or accreditation
- demolition costs
- costs that are not directly related to building the Changing Places facility, like fencing, decorations or parts of a bigger project.

Accessible Australia funding helps with the building costs only. Funding recipients must pay for all ongoing maintenance and running costs.

The above list is not exhaustive. Accessible Australia reserves the right not to fund items it considers ineligible.

How long after receiving funding is building expected to commence?

- Funding recipients must start building or buying the Changing Places facility within 12 months of receiving funding. Proof of this will need to be provided.
- The facility must be finished within 18 months of starting.
- All Changing Places facilities must be accredited by a Changing Places assessor.
- The facility must comply with the [Changing Places Design Specifications 2020](#).
- Fixed Changing Places must also be listed on the [National Public Toilet Map](#). Portable facilities don't need to be listed as they move around depending on where they are needed.
- A Changing Places facility is considered complete when it is accredited and open for public use.