

# 1997, 2001 and 2005 schemes for the viability supplement

Some older residential aged care services are in the 1997, 2001 and 2005 schemes for the [viability supplement](#).

## 1997 scheme

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The 1997 scheme uses the Rural, Remote and Metropolitan Areas (RRMA) classification. The RRMA has seven categories:

- **Metropolitan zone M1** — capital cities
- **Metropolitan zone M2** — other metropolitan centres (urban centre population > 100,000)
- **Rural zone R1** — large rural centres (urban centre population 25,000 to 99,999)
- **Rural zone R2** — Small rural centres (urban centre population 10,000 to 24,999)
- **Rural zone R3** — other rural areas (urban centre population < 10,000)
- **Remote zone Rem1** — Remote centres (urban centre population > 4,999)
- **Remote zone Rem2** — other remote areas (urban centre population < 5,000)

A residential care service is eligible for the viability supplement under the 1997 scheme if:

- it was operating on 31 December 2004 and had a score of at least 60 points based on the 1997 points system — see [1997 scheme service](#) in the Subsidy Principles 2014
- the amount payable to the service using the [2005 scheme](#) would be less than the amount payable under the 1997 scheme

## 2001 scheme

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The 2001 scheme uses the [Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia \(ARIA\) scale](#).

A residential care service is eligible for the viability supplement under the 2001 scheme if:

- it was operating on 31 December 2004 and had a score of at least 40 points based on the 2001 points system — see [2001 scheme service](#) in the Subsidy Principles 2014
- the amount payable to the service using the [2017 scheme](#) would be less than the amount payable under the 2001 scheme

## 2005 scheme

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The 2005 scheme uses the [Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia \(ARIA\) scale](#).

A residential care service is eligible for the viability supplement under the 2005 scheme if:

- it was operating on 31 December 2016 and had a score of at least 50 points based on the 2005 points system — see [2005 scheme service](#) in the Subsidy Principles 2014
- the amount payable to the service using the [2017 scheme](#) would be less than the amount payable under the 2005 scheme

## Safety net

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The safety net is for services that were:

- previously eligible for the 1997 or 2001 scheme
- defaulted to the 2005 or 2017 scheme

These services are eligible for the safety net payment rate if they:

- score below the 50 points required to be eligible under the 2005 or 2017 scheme
- have at least 40 points

## Contact

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If you have questions about the viability supplement, email [subsidiesandsupplements@health.gov.au](mailto:subsidiesandsupplements@health.gov.au)

## More information

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- [Viability supplement expansion](#)
- [2017 scheme for the viability supplement](#)
- [Viability supplement for care providers](#) on the Department of Human Services website