# Assistive Technology – Guide for Low Cost support funding

This fact sheet gives you an idea of how much funding you may need to buy Low Cost assistive technology (AT) supports.

The NDIS might use this to work out how much funding you need when you are not sure how much your Low Cost AT costs.

You should always try to get the best value AT support.

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## Low Cost AT supports

This list is a guide. There are other Low Cost AT supports that are not listed.

For Low Cost AT supports that are not listed you can research the cost and provide this at your next review. You do not need to give this to us but it would be helpful if you do.

### Basic domestic AT

| Category and price range | Example assistive technology items |
| --- | --- |
| Basic domestic AT – $50 | * Laundry and washing line adaptations. * Assistive items and devices for dishwashing. |
| Basic domestic AT – $150 | * Kitchen trolley. * Assistive utensils and devices for household tasks. For example, cleaning, food and drink preparations. |
| Basic domestic AT – $250 | * Kitchen stool. * Over bed tables. |

### Basic Seating

| Category and price range | Example assistive technology items |
| --- | --- |
| Basic seating – $50 | * Bed or chair raiser 40mm or 100mm height. |
| Basic seating – $300 | * Standard chair adjustable height. |

### Basic transfer equipment

Transfer equipment can be high risk for you or someone supporting you. Talk to your allied health practitioner to trial and choose the right equipment for you.

| Category and price range | Example assistive technology items |
| --- | --- |
| Basic transfer equipment – $50 | * Removable handle on the car pillar. * Slide sheet. * Swivel disc. |
| Basic transfer equipment – $150 | * Slide board. * Car transfer pad. * Transfer belt. |
| Basic transfer equipment – $300 | * Hoist sling replacements. |

### Communication

Talk to your speech pathologist before buying communication AT. Your speech pathologist will help you try different AT and find the best option for you.

| Category and price range | Example assistive technology items |
| --- | --- |
| Communication – $100 | * Talking buttons. * Picture Exchange Communication Symbols (PECS) books, small number of symbols. |
| Communication – $200 | * Low tech visual schedules. * Electronic switches. For example, button or finger switches. |
| Communication – $500 | * Low technology communication books and boards. * Small electronic communication devices. For example, “BIGmack”, “Step by Step” communicator. |
| Communication – $1000 | * Picture Exchange Communication Symbols (PECS) Books 100+ symbols. |
| Communication – $1500 | * Pragmatic Organisation Dynamic Display (PODD) books. |

### Continence

| Category and price range | Example assistive technology items |
| --- | --- |
| Continence – $100 | * Incontinence alarm (not for infants and toddlers). |

### Daily living solutions

| Category and price range | Example assistive technology items |
| --- | --- |
| Daily living solutions - $50 | * Everyday use products with specific features that address functional limitations for the individual. For example, medication management devices, nonslip bathmat, long-handled or adapted grip equipment, cutlery and similar supports for daily living. * Small devices to assist with dressing and undressing, eating and drinking. |

### Hearing

An Audiologist or Audiometrist can help you choose AT items for your hearing needs that work with your hearing aid/sound processor.

| Category and price range | Example assistive technology items |
| --- | --- |
| Hearing – $500 | * Doorbell and phone alerting system. * Hearing aid remote control. * Wireless communication accessories for Cochlear implant speech processors. * Streamers for the TV, mobile phone or as a remote microphone. |
| Hearing – $1000 | * Alerting system e.g. vibrating/flashing smoke alarm. |

### Mobility

Mobility items can be high risk. Talk to your allied health practitioner to help you select the right support and have it adjusted for you.

| Category and price range | Example assistive technology items |
| --- | --- |
| Mobility – $50 | * Replacement mobility sticks/cane, replacement covers. * Walking sticks and canes. * Quad stick. |
| Mobility – $150 | * Tactile sticks or white canes. * Elbow crutches. |
| Mobility – $500 | * Rollator/4 wheeled walker frame. |

### Prosthetics and Orthotics

| Category and price range | Example assistive technology items |
| --- | --- |
| Prosthetics and Orthotics – $200 | * Other Low Cost consumables (e.g. lubricant) that may be required to extend the working life of the AT. * Replacement socks or soft covering between the residual limb and the prosthesis, or specialty limb covering under an orthotic. Standard socks (pair) normally worn in boots/shoes are not NDIS funded. |
| Prosthetics and Orthotics – $500 per item | * Extra depth/extra width footwear (orthopaedic footwear). * Replacement knee sleeves for a year. |
| Prosthetics and Orthotics – $1500 | * Ankle-Foot Orthoses (AFOs). * Foot orthoses. * Pre-fabricated orthoses. * Custom made footwear. * Replacement silicone liner. |

### Simple bathing and toileting

Some bathing and toileting supports can be high risk. Talk to your allied health practitioner to help you try different AT and find the right option for you.

| Category and price range | Example assistive technology items |
| --- | --- |
| Simple bathing and toileting devices – $150 | * Bath-board. * Shower stool. * Adjustable toilet seat raise. * Basic over toilet frames supports. |
| Simple bathing and toileting devices – $250 | * Hand-showers with diverter. * Shower chair adjustable with arms and/or back.   Note: This does not include shower chairs for infants and toddlers. |
| Simple bathing and toileting devices – $350 | * Toilet rails fixed to toilet. For example, throne toilet rails. * Basic static bedside commode. |
| Simple bathing and toileting devices – $500 | * Bath transfer bench no back. |

### Vision

| Category and price range | Example assistive technology items |
| --- | --- |
| Vision – $50 | * Some vision specific apps for a smart phone. For example, blind square ($40). * Replacement canes or cane tips throughout the year. This is ONLY for replacement canes/tips to a device recommended after a mobility assessment. |
| Vision – $100 | * Low risk activity of daily living equipment. For example, liquid level indicator, talking kitchen scales. |
| Vision – $150 | * KNFB reader. * Rental of an Audiobook player.   Note: Renting helps you test whether the Audiobook player is going to work for you.  If the you have an iOS device (iPad/iPhone/iPod) you can listen to talking books for free through the Vision Australia connect app. |
| Vision – $250 | * Penfriend 2 labeller. You will usually need some training to use this. |
| Vision – $300 | * Replacement magnifier. |
| Vision – $350 | * Vision-related software upgrade. For example, JAWS or Zoomtext. |
| Vision – $500 | * Purchase of an Audiobook player.   Note: You should trial the Audiobook player before buying it. There may be lower cost AT which meet your needs. You may also need training to learn how to use an Audiobook player.  If you have an Apple (iOS) device (iPad/iPhone/iPod) you can listen to talking books for free through the Vision Australia connect app. |
| Vision – $1500 | * Replacement electronic portable hand held magnifier.   Note: If you need an electronic magnifier you should get advice/assessment from an orthoptist. They will help to decide if this is the best AT for you. There may be other supports that will give you the same outcome at a lower cost. For example, a magnification app on a smart phone. |