

FOI 25/26-3477

Caveats

If approved, funding for Assistance Animal maintenance is included within a participant's total Consumables budget or Assistive Technology (Repairs and Maintenance) budget.

The structured plan data does not include a separate breakdown of approved Assistance Animal maintenance funding.

The responses below are based on actual payments and claims made by participants against specific Assistance Animal maintenance support items.

Where participants have inadvertently claimed Assistance Animal maintenance costs against other general low-cost consumables or Assistive Technology support item codes, the figures may be understated.

Data is current as at 30 June 2026.

Scope of request	<i>How many assistance dogs has the Agency provided maintenance funding for each of the past five years? How many of these were new approvals vs dogs that have previously received funding?</i>
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Response:

Number of Participants claiming from Assistance Animal - Maintenance item codes

	Claimed in previous financial year(s)	New claims in this financial year	Total Number Participants claimed in FY
Maintenance claims FY21/22			901
Maintenance claims FY22/23	565	527	1,092
Maintenance claims FY23/24	710	387	1,097
Maintenance claims FY24/25	687	254	941
Maintenance claims FY25/26	619	162	781

Scope of request	<i>How many of the participants currently receiving assistance dog funding are children, adolescents and adults?</i>
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Response:

Number of Participants who claimed from Assistance Animal maintenance support item codes during financial year 25/26

Age group	Number Participants
0 to 14	32
15 to 18	23
19 to 24	39
25 to 34	82
35 to 44	91
45 to 54	138
55 to 64	194
65+	182
TOTAL claimed in FY25/26	781

Scope of request

How many participants currently receiving assistance dog funding have met access criteria for hearing or vision-related impairments?

Response

Number of Participants who claimed from Assistance Animal maintenance support item codes during financial year 25/26

Primary Disability Grouping	Number Participants
Vision Impairment	410
Hearing Impairment	25

Scope of request

How many participants currently receiving assistance dog funding have met access criteria for PTSD?

Response

Number of Participants who claimed from Assistance Animal maintenance support item codes During Financial Year 25/26

Primary Disability Grouping	Number Participants
PTSD	<11

Scope of request

How many participants currently receiving assistance dog funding have met access criteria for psychosocial disabilities (other than PTSD)?

Response:

Number of Participants who claimed from Assistance Animal maintenance support item codes during financial year 25/26

Primary Disability Grouping	Number Participants
Psychosocial (excluding PTSD)	69

Scope of request

How many participants currently receiving assistance dog funding have met access criteria for Autism?

Response:

Number of Participants who claimed from Assistance Animal maintenance support item codes during financial year 25/26

Primary Disability Grouping	Number Participants
Autism	76

Scope of request

How many participants currently receiving assistance dog funding have met access criteria for either a physical or neurological disability?

Response:

Number of Participants who have met access criteria for either a physical or neurological disability during financial year 25/26

Primary Disability Grouping (a)	Number Participants
Other Physical	31
Other Neurological	35
Spinal Cord Injury	11
Acquired Brain Injury	24
Stroke	<11
Cerebral Palsy	12
Multiple Sclerosis	18
Other (a)	17

(a) Other category includes physical and neurological conditions

Caveats

Physical and neurological conditions appear across multiple NDIS disability groupings as used in public reporting.