

Community residential support services

What are community residential support services?

Community residential support services are one of a range of services funded by Disability Support Services, Ministry of Health. These services assist disabled people to live in a supported community-based environment.

Community residential support services are provided to meet your individual needs and goals. Services can support you 24-hours a day depending on your needs. This may include supporting you with:

- planning and preparation of meals
- your personal care
- participating in your community
- developing skills for everyday living
- household tasks such as laundry and housework.

Where are community residential support services provided?

Community residential support services are supplied by a provider who has a contract with Disability Support Services. Services are provided in a range of community settings such as small or large homes, groups of small homes or flats. The home or flat should provide an accessible, homelike environment including individual bedrooms where you can have your own personal belongings. The services should also be designed to ensure you have access to community places and groups, leisure activities and have opportunities to socialise and meet other people.

The options available to you will depend on the disability you experience, where you wish to live and what is available in that region.

Can I get community residential support services?

You can get community residential support services if you:

- are under 65 years old (unless you are already in community residential support services before turning 65 years where you can remain if this is assessed as appropriate), and
- have an intellectual, physical or sensory disability, and
- meet Disability Support Services' definition of being disabled, and
- are assessed by a Ministry of Health funded Needs Assessment Service Co-ordination (NASC) organisation as having your support needs best met by community residential support services, and
- are not eligible for ACC funding.

Who pays for my community residential support services?

If you receive a benefit, community residential support services are paid for by you and the Ministry of Health. You make a contribution of a set amount from the benefit you receive from Work and Income. You will keep the left-over portion of your benefit called a Personal Allowance for your personal needs such as shampoo, magazines and postage stamps. The Ministry of Health pays

the remaining cost of your community residential support services. Work and Income can tell you what the usual rates of the Personal Allowance are and the amount of the contribution you make towards the cost of your services. They can also tell you about other entitlements you may be able to receive such as the Disability Allowance.

How can I get more information?

You can contact your local NASC which can be found online at www.moh.govt.nz/disability under contact details. Your doctor should also be able to refer you to your local NASC.

You can also contact your local Disability Information Service (look in the phone book under 'D'), or online at www.moh.govt.nz/disability under contact details (DIAS).

For information on benefits and allowances contact Work and Income on <http://www.workandincome.govt.nz/> or 0800 559 009.

For more information on Disability Allowances for people on a Residential Support Subsidy you can contact the Residential Subsidy Unit on freephone 0800 999 779 or you can write to them at Private Bag 9032, Whangarei.

For more information on Disability Services, and the services we fund look online at www.moh.govt.nz/disability, email disability@moh.govt.nz, or call 0800 DSD MOH (373 664).

Other Fact Sheets in this series:

- Carer Support
- Disability Information Advisory Service (DIAS)
- Home and Community Support Services (HCSS)
- Needs Assessment and Service Co-ordination (NASC)
- Respite Services
- Environmental Support Services (ESS)
- Frequently asked questions
- How do I make a complaint?

Other pamphlets in this series:

- Information on Disability Support Services
- Equipment and Modifications