

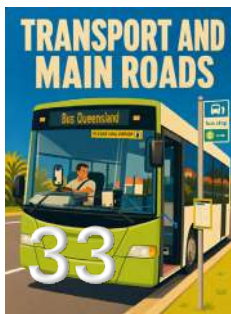
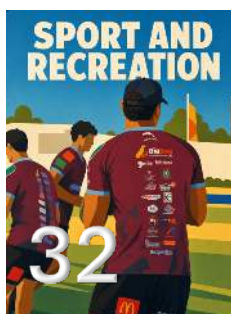
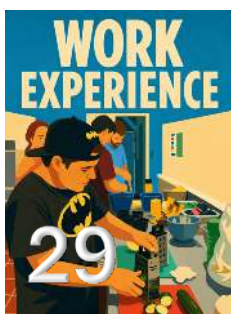
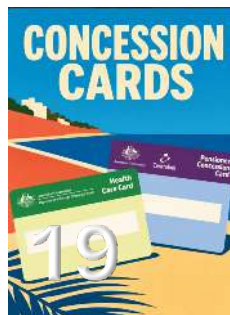
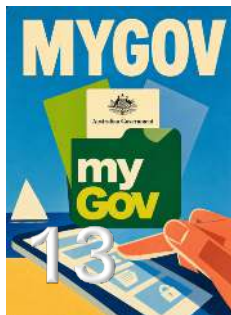
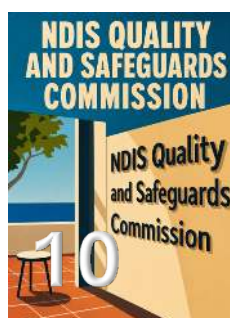
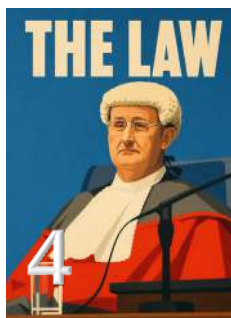
NOW YOU'RE 16



September 2026



**A guide for students
with disability**





Preparing school leavers with the knowledge, skills and confidence to participate successfully in the community and the economy is essential to securing young people's future and the future of Queensland.

Careful planning and preparation helps ensure a smooth transition into employment, further education, vocational training and life in the community.

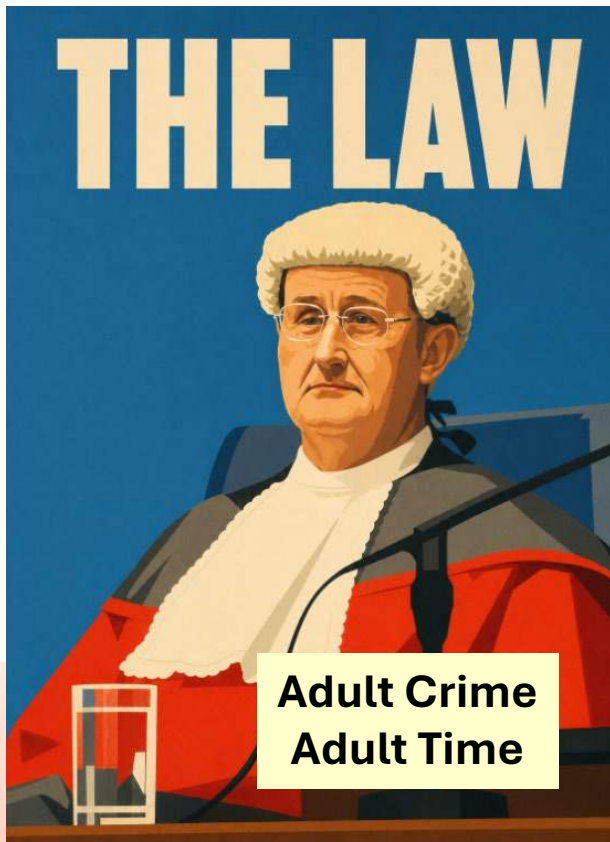
This guide is designed to give young people an overview of the supports available through government agencies and the community. As a live document it contains links to websites, Facebook, Twitter and other online pages.

More than ever, there is a need to empower young men and women living with a disability.

Ensuring that they are informed and prepared will help them seize opportunities at high school and ultimately prepare them for life beyond school in the broader community.

The Guide is well researched and connects students with a range of services and resources that will make a difference to their lives.

Every student should have the opportunity to work towards their heart-felt desires and aspirations – and this Guide is an important step to helping them get there.



As you grow up and become more independent, you might be wondering how old you need to be before you can do things like open a bank account, join a political party, get a tattoo, see a doctor alone or consent to medical treatment, learn to drive, get a part-time job or be left at home alone.

Some of these issues are covered by law, and the laws vary from state to state.

Health, Love and Sex

In Queensland, the age of consent is 16, and “Consent” means giving your free and voluntary agreement to sex.

If you are aged 16 or over but under 18 you cannot consent to sexual contact with someone who is caring for you or supervising, you (e.g. a teacher or a foster carer).

There is no set age from which you can consent to medical treatment but generally if you are aged over 18, you are most likely able to consent.

Smoking

It is not against the law to smoke or carry cigarettes, but it is illegal to sell cigarettes to you as you are under 18.

Working

Anyone over 15 can get a job. If you are between 13 and 15, your employer will need a permit for you to work (unless you are working for your family’s business).

If you are under 18 there are some jobs you are not allowed to do. Those jobs include door-to-door sales, working on a fishing boat, working on a building or construction site before buildings are at lock-up stage.

UN Convention Rights of the Child

In 1990 the Australian Government entered an agreement to adopt the United Nations CROC. This is a formal protection of human rights for children, that is, everyone under 18 years of age including the right to say what you think and to be listened to, the right to privacy and the right to an education.

AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT





The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is Australia's national regulatory and funding framework designed to support individuals with permanent and significant disabilities.

Established under the National Disability Insurance Scheme Act 2013, the scheme represents a fundamental economic and social reform, shifting disability support from a historical grant-based welfare system to a market-driven, consumer-directed funding model.

The scheme is governed and administered by an independent statutory agency, the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA).

The NDIA manages the scheme's financial sustainability, assesses individual access requests, and oversees the allocation of individualized budgets. Separately, the NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission acts as the independent corporate regulator, ensuring provider compliance, safety standards, and complaint management across the market.

The core operational philosophy of the NDIS is founded on the principle of "Choice and Control." Rather than providing block funding directly to disability service organisations, the NDIS allocates individualized, demand-driven budgets directly to qualified participants. This mechanism effectively transforms participants into active consumers within a competitive marketplace.

The scheme is pool-funded by both Commonwealth and State/Territory governments, supported in part by the Medicare Levy.

Further Information

 1800 800 110

www.ndis.gov.au

Core Supports

Designed to assist participants with everyday functional activities

Assistance with Daily Life: Funds support worker labour to assist with personal care (such as showering, dressing, and hygiene), house cleaning, yard maintenance, or meal preparation. It also covers short-term accommodation (respite care) if a primary carer requires a break.

Consumables: A specific budget allocation for purchasing everyday items directly linked to a participant's disability. This includes high-volume items like continence products, specialized feeding tubes, nutritional supplements, or low-cost assistive technology items under \$1,500.

Assistance with Social, Economic, and Community Participation: Covers the costs of a support worker to accompany a participant to community events, recreational activities, social clubs, or volunteering opportunities, directly reducing social isolation.

Transport: Provides funding to cover transport costs associated with a participant's disability, such as specialized taxi vouchers or travel costs for support workers to transport the participant to activities.

Capital Supports

Fixed-purpose funding earmarked for high-cost equipment, technology, and physical structural modifications.

Assistive Technology

Encompasses complex physical hardware, equipment, or digital tools that improve or maintain a participant's functional abilities.

Home Modifications

Funds structural alterations to a participant's permanent residence to ensure safe, independent access.

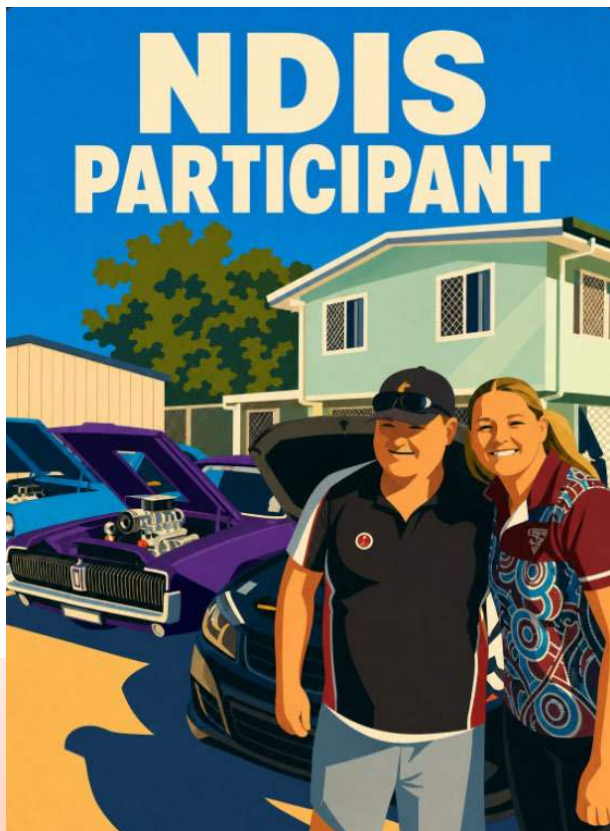
Vehicle Modifications

Covers the installation of specialised equipment into a participant's vehicle, such as wheelchair lifts.

Capacity Building

Its primary objective is to build the participant's independence, reduce their reliance on systemic support over time, and help them achieve long-term professional or personal goals.

Includes Improved Daily Living; Improved Living Arrangements; Increased Social and Community Participation; Finding and keeping a job; Improved Relationships and Support Coordination and Plan Management.



The NDIS acts as a gatekeeper to public funding, enforcing strict statutory entry criteria.

To transition from an applicant to an active scheme participant, an individual must fulfill 3 primary legislative tests:

Age and Jurisdiction

The applicant must be aged between 7 and 65 years at the time the access request is lodged. They must permanently reside in Australia and hold Australian citizenship, a permanent visa, or a Protected Special Category Visa.

Disability Criteria

The applicant must demonstrate a permanent intellectual, cognitive, neurological, sensory, or physical impairment. The impairment must be lifelong and result in substantially reduced functional capacity across at least one core area of daily life: communication, social interaction, learning, mobility, self-care, or self-management.

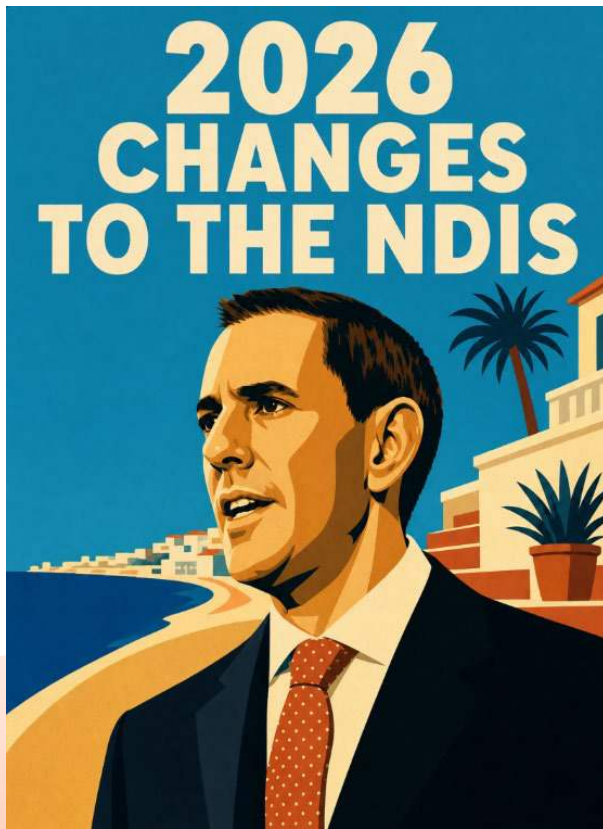
Sustainability and Market Impact

By funding early intervention and ongoing tailored support, the business objective of the NDIS is to reduce an individual's long-term reliance on welfare, optimise social and economic participation, and foster a robust commercial ecosystem of specialised disability service providers.

Access Request Form (ARF)

The document is split into 2 primary operational responsibilities

1. Covers personal logistics, contact details and legally appointed nominees.
2. Must be completed by a qualified treating practitioner who must also complete the NDIS Supporting Evidence Form (SEF).



The focus of this Budget is slowing the growth of the NDIS by making major cuts to spending and bringing down the number of participants by 160,000 people.

With more than 1 in 2 (52%) participants aged under 18, this may significantly impact how and where children and young people access supports.

Reducing funding for the NDIS will happen by limiting who is eligible for the Scheme and unscheduled plan reviews, reducing social and community participation funding, and targeting fraud.

The NDIA will deliver a new payment system, a Fraud Fusion Taskforce, New Framework Planning, and mandatory registration of high-risk NDIS providers. It includes funding to support NDIS reform consultation and implementation, and for the NDIS Appeals program.

Community Participation

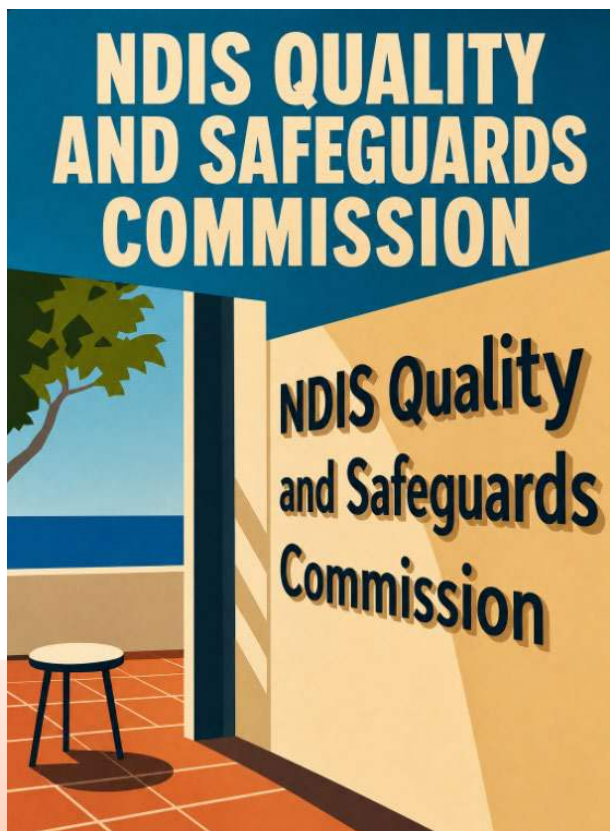
A new Inclusive Communities Fund to support community organisations to deliver group-based social and community participation activities and individual capacity building support for NDIS participants. However, overall, funding for social and community participation is decreasing in this Budget.

Thriving Kids

The program is meant to be an alternative to the NDIS for some children with developmental delay and autism under nine. States and territories will begin to roll out these supports from October 2026 and includes a Medicare-funded three-year-old health assessment.

Safety

Funding the National Office for Child Safety (NOCS), to strengthen responses to child sexual abuse.



The NDIS Commission works with NDIS participants, NDIS providers and the community to uphold the rights of people with disability and build the capacity of providers to deliver safe and quality services and supports.

The NDIS Commission operates a nationally consistent system to safeguard the rights of NDIS participants and will achieve this by working with people with disability, providers and the community.

It's OK to complain – speaking up can help to improve services for you and other people.

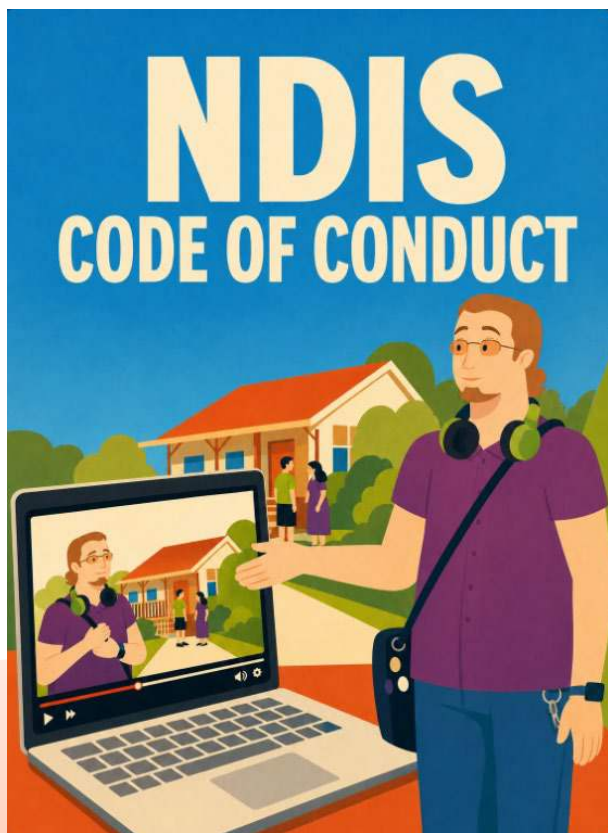
NDIS Commission is responsible for:

- registration and regulation of NDIS providers, including through the new NDIS Practice Standards and an NDIS Code of Conduct
- Compliance monitoring, investigation and enforcement action
- Responding to concerns, complaints and reportable incidents, including abuse and neglect of a person with disability
- National oversight of behaviour support, including monitoring the use of restrictive practices within the NDIS with the aim of reducing and eliminating such practices
- Leading the work with states and territories to design and implement nationally consistent NDIS worker screening
- Facilitating information sharing arrangements with the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA), State and Territory and other Commonwealth regulatory bodies.

Further Information

 1800 035 554

www.ndiscommission.gov.au



The NDIS Code of Conduct is a mandatory national standard under the National Disability Insurance Scheme Rules that applies to all registered and unregistered providers and workers to ensure safe, ethical service delivery and protect participant rights.

The NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission investigates breaches and can enforce penalties including banning orders, civil financial penalties, or referrals to police and the Federal Court.

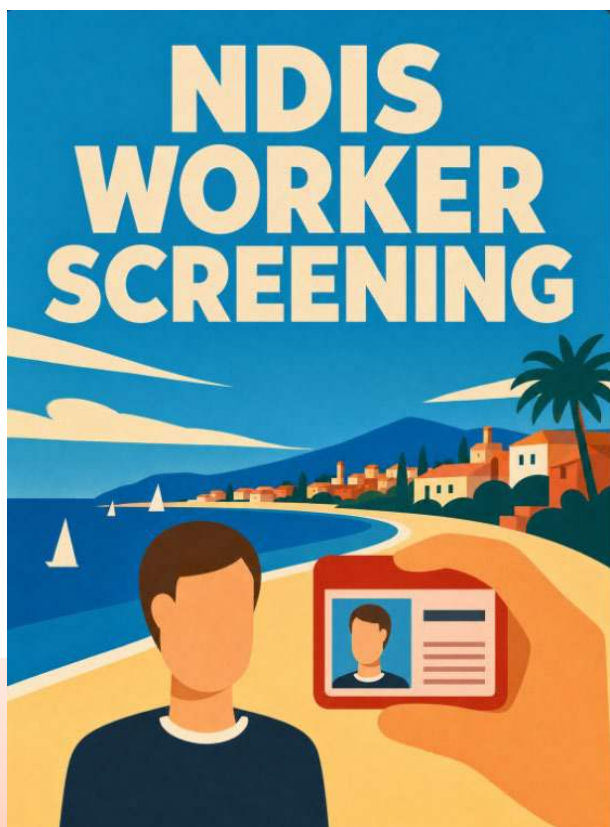
The Code of Conduct requires workers and providers who deliver NDIS supports to:

- Act with respect for individual rights to freedom of expression, self-determination and decision-making in accordance with applicable laws and conventions
- Respect the privacy of people with disability
- Provide supports and services in a safe and competent manner, with care and skill
- Act with integrity, honesty and transparency
- Promptly take steps to raise and act on concerns about matters that may impact the quality and safety of supports and services provided to people with disability
- Take all reasonable steps to prevent and respond to all forms of violence against, and exploitation, neglect and abuse of, people with disability
- Take all reasonable steps to prevent and respond to sexual misconduct

Further Information

 1800 800 110

www.ndis.gov.au



Registered NDIS providers are required to ensure that they only engage workers who have been cleared in certain roles, called risk assessed roles and include management positions with a registered provider and those delivering NDIS supports or services.

If you already hold a Queensland issued worker screening card, you can access a range of services to manage your existing clearance, including letting us know of any changes in your circumstances or details, or to request a replacement card.

The NDIS Worker Screening Check is an assessment of whether a person who works, or seeks to work, with people with disability poses a risk to them. The assessment determines whether a person is cleared or excluded from working in certain roles with people with disability.

The NDIS Worker Screening Check is conducted by the Worker Screening Unit in the state or territory where a person applies for it. The Worker Screening Unit also decides whether a person is cleared or excluded.



Further Information

 1800 183 690

www.workerscreening.qld.gov.au



myID is your authenticator

myID (formerly known as myGovID) is the Australian Government's official Digital ID app.

It acts as a secure, reusable way to prove your identity online, functioning like a digital version of a 100-point ID check on your smartphone. Administered by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO), it allows you to log into participating federal, state, and territory government platforms—such as myGov, the ATO online services, and Centrelink—without constantly re-uploading physical documents.



myGov is the portal where you actually manage your government services, tax, health records, and payments. You can connect your myID to your myGov account to use it as a highly secure, password-free login method.

It is common to confuse the two, but they serve completely distinct purposes.

Further Information

 1300 287 539

www.myid.gov.au

<https://my.gov.au/>



People with Disability

Services Australia delivers social service payments and services to Australians through Centrelink.

People who receive support from Centrelink come from many different backgrounds and the benefits people receive reflect this. There are payments for people with disabilities, for older people, people who live in rural or remote communities, indigenous Australians, those affected by a natural disaster such as bush fire, families, job seekers and students – to name just a few.

The easiest way to claim, update your details, give us documents, report your income and get reminders is online. report your income and get reminders is online.

Centrelink will give you a Customer Reference Number (CRN) when you get payments and services from them.

You may also be able to get extra payments to help with the cost of living such as Telephone Allowance, which helps with the costs of having a phone and home internet service or Rent Assistance, which is a regular payment if you pay rent.

Centrelink Express Plus

You can do most of your Centrelink business with them using this app.

1. If you don't have a myGov account or a Centrelink online account, you'll need to set them up.
2. You'll then need to link your Centrelink online account to myGov. You only need to do this once.
3. Download the Express Plus Centrelink app to your device.



Further Information

- ☎ 132 717 People with Disability
- ☎ 132 468 Payments and Services
- ☎ 132 850 Emergency Help

<https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au>

Services Australia

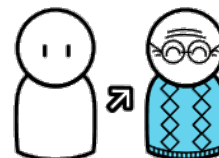
We deliver government payments and services



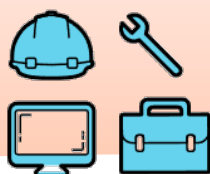
Raising kids



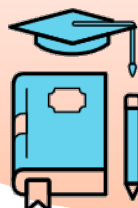
Living arrangements



Ageing



Work



Education



Health and disability

Services Australia purpose is to support Australians by efficiently delivering high-quality, accessible services and payments on behalf of the government.

Services Australia delivers all the following programs and services:

- Medicare
- Centrelink
- Child Support
- myGov



Disability Support Pension

Financial help if you have a permanent physical, intellectual or psychiatric condition that stops you from working.

Not everyone with disability or a medical condition can get DSP.

You can still access services under the NDIS if you're getting or claiming DSP.

You need to meet both non-medical and medical rules to get DSP.

Non-medical Rules

- you're between 16 and Age Pension age when you claim
- you meet the residency rules
- you meet the income and assets tests.

General Medical Rules

- your condition will last more than 2 years
- your condition is fully diagnosed, treated and stabilized
- you have an impairment rating of 20 points or more
- your condition stops you working at least 15 hours a week for the next 2 years.

Program of Support

You may need to participate in a Program of Support before you claim DSP.

- job preparation and job search
- work experience and training
- injury management



Further Information

<https://www.humanservices.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/disability-support-pension>

Other Services

Youth Allowance

To get Youth Allowance as a student or an Australian Apprentice you must be one of the following:

- 18 to 24 and studying full time
- 16 to 24 and doing a full-time Australian Apprenticeship
- 16 to 17 and independent or needing to live away from home to study
- 16 to 17, studying full time and have completed year 12 or equivalent.

Mobility Allowance

A payment to help with travel costs for work, study or looking for work if you have a disability, illness or injury that means you can't use public transport.

Centrepay

A free and voluntary service to pay bills and expenses as regular deductions from your Centrelink payments.

Financial Information Service

A free service that can inform and educate you about financial matters.

Youth Disability Supplement

An extra payment if you're a young person with disability and on an income support payment.

You don't need to apply for Youth Disability Supplement. Centrelink will check if you can get the supplement when you apply for DSP.

Program of Support

You may need to participate in a Program of Support before you claim DSP.

- job preparation and job search
- work experience and training
- injury management

Crisis Payment

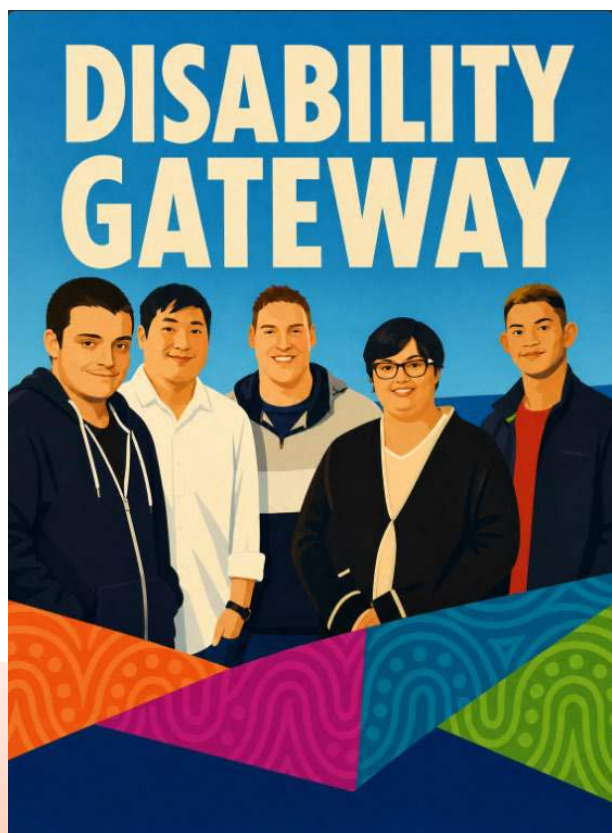
A one-off payment if you're in severe financial hardship and extreme circumstances.

Special Disability Trusts

A way for families to plan for the long-term care and accommodation needs of someone with a severe disability.

Further Information

www.humanservices.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink



Department of Social Services

The Disability Gateway has information and services to help people with disability, their family, friends and carers, to find the support they need in Australia.

Further Information

 1800 643 787

www.disabilitygateway.gov.au



Income and Finance

Access to income and financial supports



Employment

Training and help to find a job



Aids and equipment

Technology to make everyday activities easier



Housing

Information to help you find a home



Transport

Help to get you where you want to go



Health and wellbeing

Support and services for your health and wellbeing



Everyday living

Help with the things you need to do every day



Education

Access to educational opportunities at all stages of life



Leisure

Access to sport, recreation, travel and tourism



Rights and Legal

Help with discrimination or legal problems



Pensioner Concession Card

To get a Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) You must be receiving a pension such as the Disability Support Pension, Parenting Payment (Single), or Carer Payment.

You don't need to apply for a Pensioner Concession Card. Centrelink will send you one if you're eligible.



Health Care Card

A Health Care Card entitles you to cheaper prescription medicines under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme.

Low Income Health Care Card

You may be eligible for a Low Income Health Care Card if you are not eligible to a Pensioner Concession Card. This is assessed through a separate claim to a health care card.

Further discounts may be available for water rates, gas and electricity bills.

You don't need to apply for a Health Care Card. Centrelink will send you one if you're eligible and it is usually for a period of 1 year.

Further Information

<https://www.humanservices.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink>



Medicare Card

Medicare is Australia's universal health care system.

The Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) lists the services Medicare pays for. The Department of Health manages the MBS.

Having a valid Medicare card is important for you to claim a Medicare benefit, visit a doctor who bulk bills, seek treatment as a public patient in a public hospital or having a Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme prescription filled.

As you're aged 15 or older, you can get your own Medicare card. Previously as a child under 15 you would have been listed on your parents' card.

If you're on your parent's Medicare card, you're already enrolled. This means you don't need to re-enrol.

Otherwise, you'll need to complete a Medicare enrolment form and submit it with your documents at a service centre.

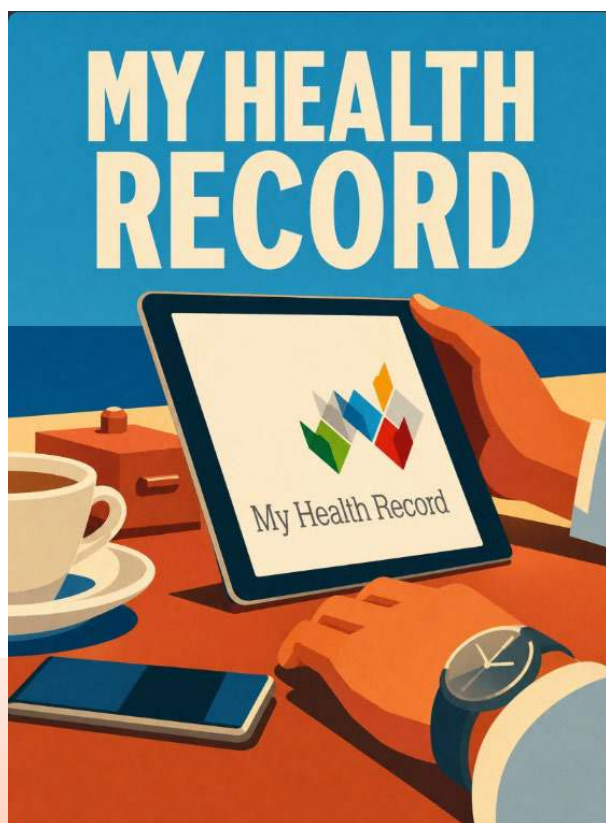
You get a Medicare card when you enrol in Medicare. Medicare will usually tell you your Medicare number straight away. Your card should arrive in 3 to 4 weeks. They'll send it to the address you give them.

You can use a digital copy of your Medicare card as soon as you enrol. To get the digital version you'll need to sign into the Express Plus Medicare app. To use the app, you need a myGov account linked to your Medicare online account. If you don't have these, set them up and then download the app.

The Australian government pays for Medicare through the Medicare levy. Working Australians pay the Medicare levy as part of their income tax.

Further Information

www.humanservices.gov.au/individuals/medicare



Your Secure Health Information

When you have a My Health Record, your health information can be viewed securely online, from anywhere, at any time – even if you move or travel interstate.

You can access your health information from any computer or device that's connected to the internet.

Whether you're visiting a GP for a check-up, or in an emergency room following an accident and are unable to talk, healthcare providers involved in your care can access

important health information, such as:

- allergies
- medicines you are taking
- medical conditions you have been diagnosed with
- pathology test results like blood tests
- immunisation information.

This can help you get the right treatment. You don't need to be sick to benefit from having a My Health Record. It's a convenient way to record and track your health information over time.

You can choose to share your health information with the healthcare providers involved in your care.

If you wish, you can manage your My Health Record by adding your own information and choosing your privacy and security settings.

By allowing your doctors to upload, view and share documents in your My Health Record, they will have a more detailed picture with which to make decisions, diagnose and provide treatment to you. You can also ask that some information not be uploaded to your record.

Further Information

 1800 723 471

www.myhealthrecord.gov.au



Tax File Number

Before you start work, or soon after, you will need to get a TFN. The main tax you'll pay is income tax, which is charged on income you receive, such as salary and wages.

When you submit your online form, the confirmation page provides you with an application reference number, an application summary and the next steps to complete your application.

You must attend a participating Australia Post retail outlet in person within 28 days of submitting your online form.

When attending a participating Australia Post retail outlet:

- You must present current documents that prove your identity for registration purposes (proof of identity documents).
- The ATO will accept only unaltered original documents and not photocopies.
- If you do not present sufficient proof of identity documents, your application will be returned to you, and your application will remain incomplete.

The ATO provides support services to help people with disability, including offering tax and superannuation information and products in a range of accessible formats.

If you're receiving a disability or carer's support payment from the Australian Government, you may be eligible for tax and superannuation concessions and exemptions.

Tax Super and You

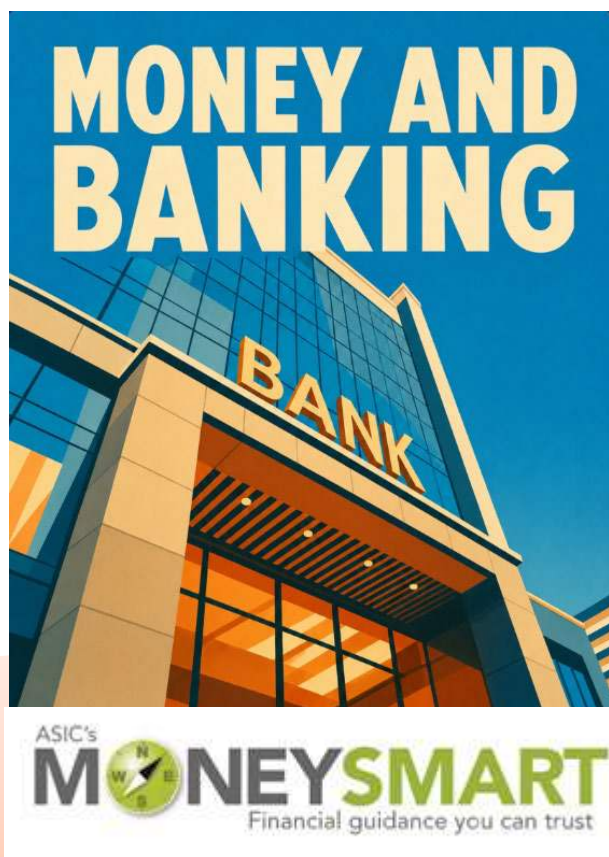
You can explore the nuts and bolts through interactive activities, videos and quizzes online at Tax, Super and You.

www.taxsuperandyou.gov.au

Further Information

 13 28 61

www.ato.gov.au



Money Smart

The Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) regulates financial services in Australia.

MoneySmart is the website designed to help you make smart choices about your personal finances. It offers calculators and tips to give you fast answers to your money questions.

Most banks offer special bank accounts specifically for young people. A few of them even have special websites to help the education process.

You can learn how to manage your money so you can do the things you want like:

- Starting work
- Budgeting
- Credit cards
- Online and mobile banking
- Prepaid cards
- Relationships and money

Sorting out Debts

If your debts are getting out of control or you are struggling to make ends meet, it is important to act quickly. Help is available. A financial counsellor can help you get a clear picture of your situation, understand your options and work out a budget.

To find a free financial counselling service near you call the National Debt Helpline on 1800 007 007

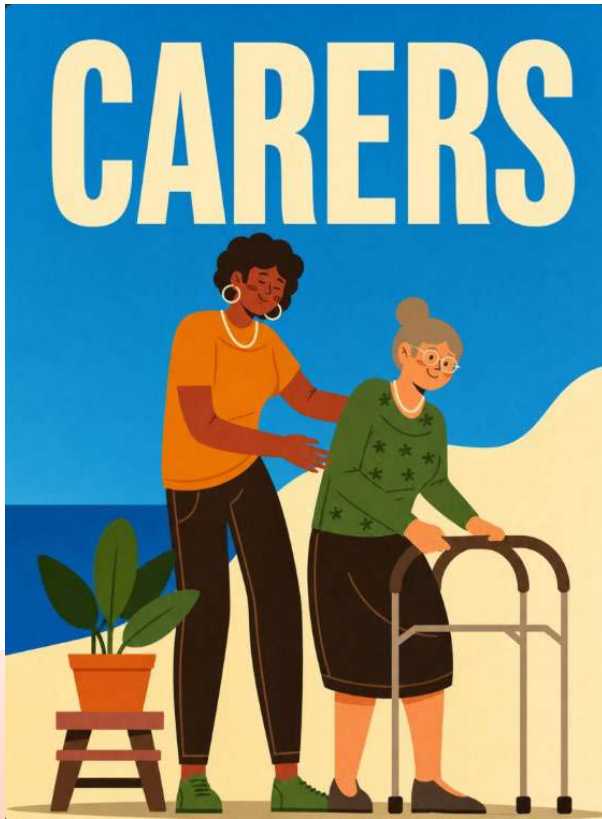
TrackMyGoals app

Download the free TrackMyGOALS app to help you to set, plan, track and manage your savings goals.

Further Information

 1300 300 630

www.moneysmart.gov.au



Who is a Carer

The Carers (Recognition) Act 2008 defines a carer as:

"An individual who provides, in a non-contractual and unpaid capacity, ongoing care or assistance to another person who, because of disability, frailty, chronic illness or pain, requires assistance with everyday tasks."

Carers Queensland is the peak body representing and advocating on behalf of carers throughout Queensland and provides a range of Carer support services.

Carer Business Discount Card

The Queensland Government's Carer Business Discount Card recognises and supports carers, including approved foster and kinship carers, by providing discounts on goods and services at participating businesses throughout Queensland.

Present your card at the time of purchase for goods, or when organising quotes or estimates for services.

Eligibility

If you receive a Centrelink carer payment or carers allowance and live in Queensland, you are eligible for a Carer Business Discount Card, which recognises the contribution carers make to the community and provides discounts on products and services. Foster and kinship carers do not need to apply. They will automatically receive a Carer Business Discount Card shortly after being approved as foster or kinship carer.

Further Information

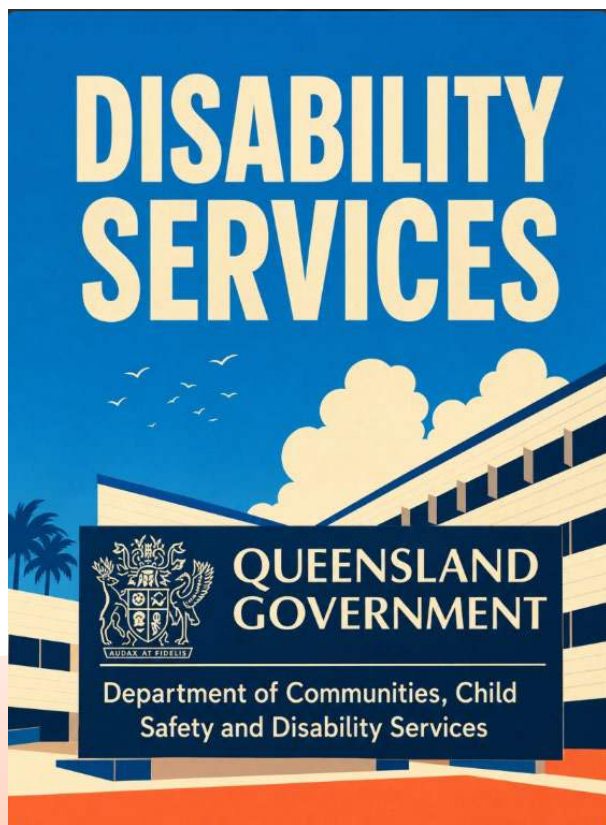
 13 QGOV (13 74 68)

<https://www.qld.gov.au/community/support-for-carers/carers-card>

<https://www.qld.gov.au/disability>

QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT





Queensland Government

The Queensland Government's traditional role in disability services has changed as a result of the signing of the full scheme NDIS bi-lateral agreement.

Their role has now shifted to supporting and advocating for people with disability, working in partnership with the disability sector to create an all-abilities Queensland and monitoring the NDIS to ensure it delivers the outcomes expected for people with disability.

Disability Action Week

Held annually in September and raises awareness of how Queenslanders can play their own role in creating an all-abilities Queensland.

The week acknowledges the important and varied contributions people living with a disability make to our state and also aims to empower people with disability, raise awareness of disability issues, and improve access and inclusion throughout the wider community.

International Day of People with Disability (IDPwD)

Held annually on 3 December this international day aims to increase public awareness, understanding and acceptance of people with disability and celebrate their achievements and contributions.

Disability Advisory Council

The Council is a key channel for independent advice to the Minister on a range of disability and related matters that affect the broader community and promote a socially inclusive Queensland.

Further Information

 1800 491 467

www.dsdsatsip.qld.au



Support for People with Disability

Provided through Department of Seniors, Disability Services and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and includes:

- Companion Card
- Disability Worker Screening
- Disability Parking Permits
- Taxi Subsidy Scheme
- Goods and Food Relief Programs
- Human Services Quality Framework (HSQF)
- Community Support Scheme

- Community Transport
- Neighbourhood and Community Centres
- Guide, hearing and assistance dogs
- Grants and Funding
- Preventing and responding to abuse, neglect and exploitation

Queensland Community Support Scheme (QCSS)

QCSS a new scheme that provides supports to people who, with a small amount of assistance, can maintain or regain their independence, continue living safely in their homes, and actively participate in their communities.

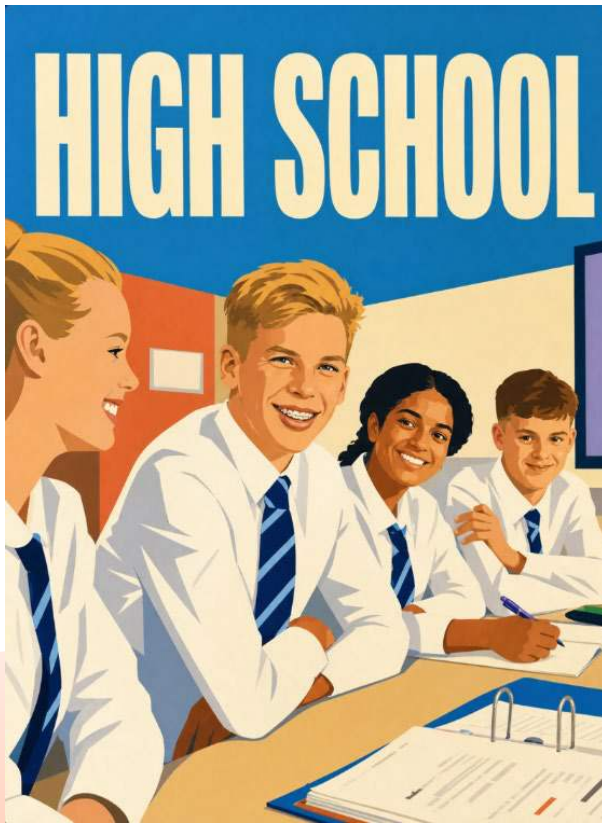
You may be eligible for the QCSS if you are under 65 years old (or under 50 years old for Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people) with:

- a disability (and are not eligible for the NDIS)
- chronic illness, mental health or other condition, or
- circumstances that impact your ability to live independently in the community.

Further Information

 1800 600 300 (QCSS)

www.serviceavailabilityregister.com.au



Education Queensland is committed to ensuring every student with disability succeeds and is achieving their full potential. They are committed to inclusion where students of all abilities can:

- attend their local state school and be welcomed
- access and participate in a high-quality education and fully engage in the curriculum alongside their similar-aged peers
- learn in a safe and supportive environment, free from bullying, discrimination or harassment

- achieve academically and socially with reasonable adjustments and supports tailored to meet their learning needs.

Senior Education and Training (SET) Plans

As part of planning for the transition to post school options, Queensland students complete a SET plan in Year 10. Through the SET planning process, students have an opportunity to plan their education and training pathways. The process supports young people to set goals, and to work towards those goals in a broad range of settings, including school, work, vocational and community settings.

School Transport Assistance Scheme

You may be eligible for transport assistance between home and school.

Temporary Residential Accommodation

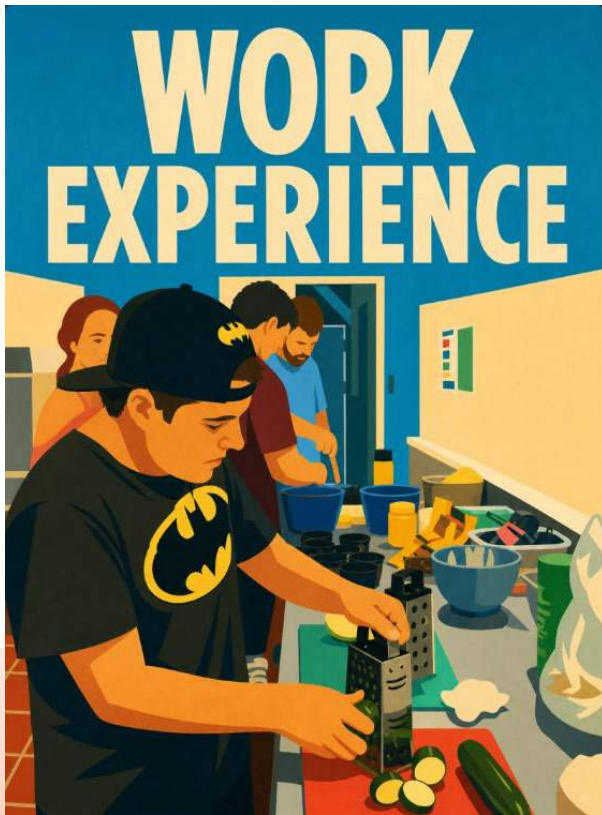
Respite may be available.

Further Information

☎ 13 QGOV (13 74 68)

<https://education.qld.gov.au/>

<https://www.qld.gov.au/disability/children-young-people/going-school>



A work sampling placement provides students with the opportunity to test personal vocational preferences through performing tasks in a workplace. Students select placements according to their future occupational aspirations. The student may experience the following outcomes:

- clarification of employment goals
- first-hand information about what it means to work, as well as about the work processes of the organisation and the work environment.

School-based Traineeships

School-based apprenticeships and traineeships (SATs) allow high school students, generally in Years 10, 11 or 12, to work for an employer and train towards a recognised qualification, while completing your secondary schooling and studying for your Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) and/or Overall Position (OP) score.

SATs help young people go places, whether that's a full-time job, a trade career, university, TAFE or other training. The school has a role in providing support throughout the SAT.

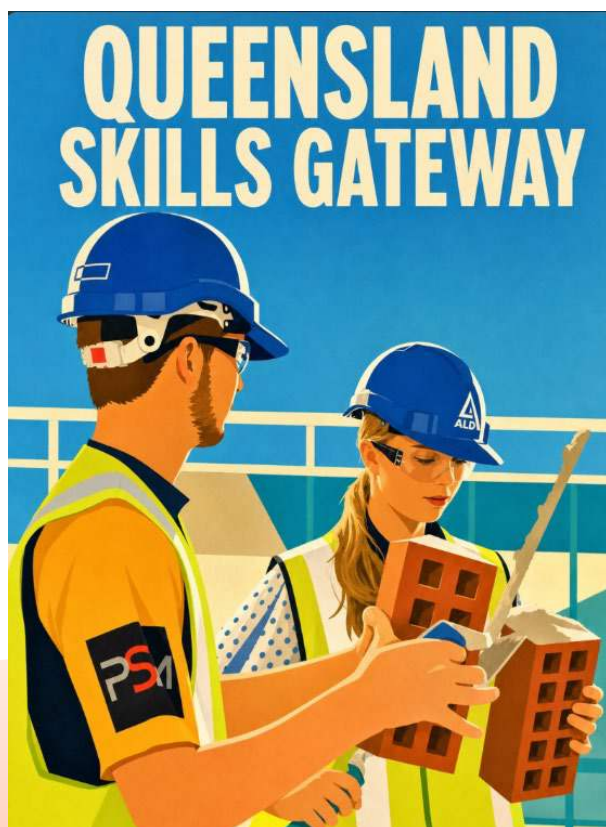
Students must gain support and approval from their school to undertake a SAT. Students continue to attend school as usual, however, some of their paid employment and/or training will become part of their school timetable. A SAT must impact on the student's school timetable to be considered school-based.

Normal award wages and conditions apply, and students can seek further information from the Fair Work Ombudsman on 13 13 94.

Further Information

 1800 210 210

<https://desbt.qld.gov.au/training/apprentices/sats>



The Queensland Skills Gateway is an official online platform managed by the Queensland Government's Department of Trade, Employment and Training. It is designed to help students, job seekers, and employers navigate vocational education and training (VET) opportunities.

Browse qualifications ranging from Certificate I up to Advanced Diplomas, as well as specific industry skill sets. You can filter courses by industry, occupation, qualification level, or delivery type (such as apprenticeships or traineeships)

Skilling Queenslanders

This initiative is a suite of Queensland Government-funded training programs designed to help unemployed, underemployed, or disadvantaged Queenslanders gain the practical skills, qualifications, and experience needed to find and retain stable employment.

Delivered by community-based not-for-profit organisations, local councils, and school associations, the program is completely free for eligible participants.

Community Work Skills assists job seekers in gaining nationally recognised skills and qualifications up to a Certificate III level.

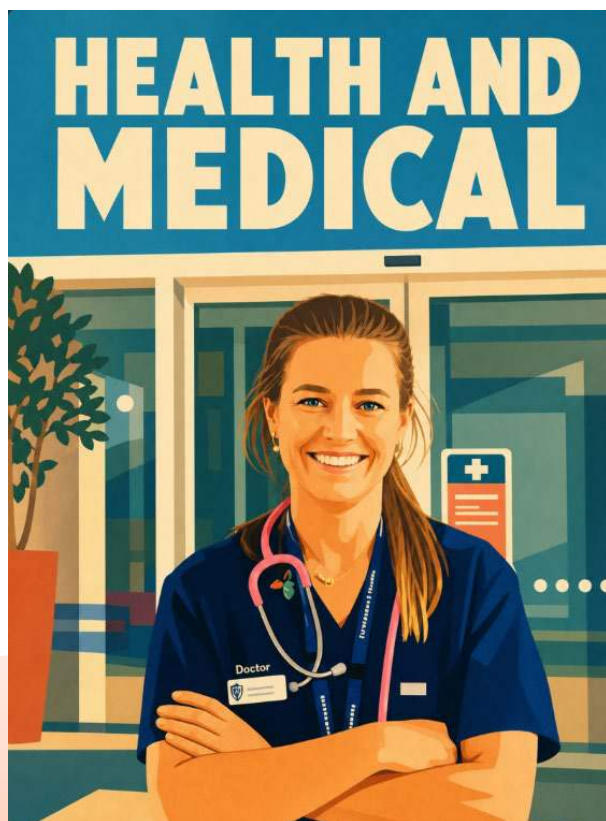
Work Skills Traineeships offers up to 6 months of paid employment on community, public works, or environmental projects while they complete a Certificate I qualification.

Community Foundation Skills delivers tailored assistance to individuals with low-level language, literacy, numeracy, and digital (LLND) skills to help them transition into further training or work.

Further Information

 1300 369 935

<https://dtet.qld.gov.au/training/training-careers/incentives/sqw>



Medical Aids Subsidy Scheme

MASS provides funding for medical aids and equipment to eligible Queensland residents who have a permanent and stabilised condition or a disability. The scheme helps people to live at home and avoid early or inappropriate residential care or hospitalisation. Aids and equipment are subsidy funded on a permanent loan basis, through private ownership or the purchase of consumables.

Artificial Limb Service

Funding support for eligible people to access artificial limbs (prosthesis)

Spectacle Supply Scheme

Under SSS, you may be eligible to receive a pair of basic prescription spectacles, once every 2 years.

Extras such as transitions, tinting, anti-reflective coating, UV guard and/or hard coat are not covered. If you would like these, you will need to pay for them yourself. You can have SSS lenses fitted to your own existing frames.

Medical Cooling and Heating Electricity Concession Scheme

This Scheme helps with electricity costs for people who have a chronic medical condition, such as multiple sclerosis or a severe inflammatory skin condition, which is aggravated by changes in temperature. It currently provides \$522.09 per year and reviewed every two years.

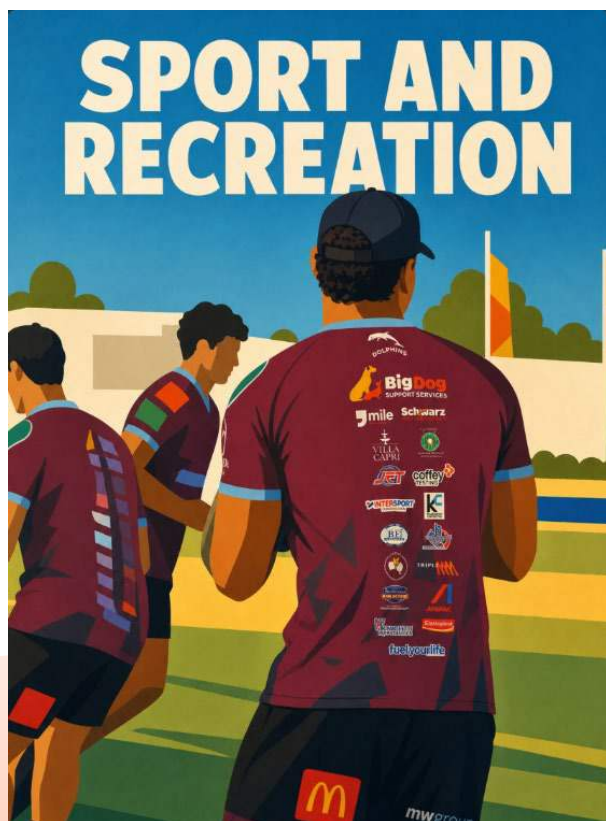
Electricity Life Support Concession

Concession for eligible people who are seriously ill and use a home-based oxygen concentrator or kidney dialysis machine.

Further Information

 13 HEALTH (13 43 84)

<https://www.qld.gov.au/health/support>



QGrants

QGrants is a whole-of-government grants management system (GMS) that operates as one portal for you to apply for Queensland Government Grants.

Volunteering Queensland

Volunteering is a great way to contribute to your community. It provides a variety of benefits, including making new friends, sharing skills, getting job-ready and becoming a part of the local community.

Fair Play Vouchers

Get Started assists you if your family can least afford or you may otherwise benefit from joining a sport or recreation club. You may be provided with a voucher of up to \$150 to help pay for club membership and/or participation fees. The vouchers can be redeemed at a sport or recreation club registered with the program.

You can apply as long as you're under the age of 18 and a resident of Queensland and you hold or your parent, guardian or carer holds a Centrelink Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card or if you are identified by two referral agents which may include a school teacher, police officer or a member of Parliament.

To apply for a Get Started voucher you must first register for a QGrants account which can be created at any time.

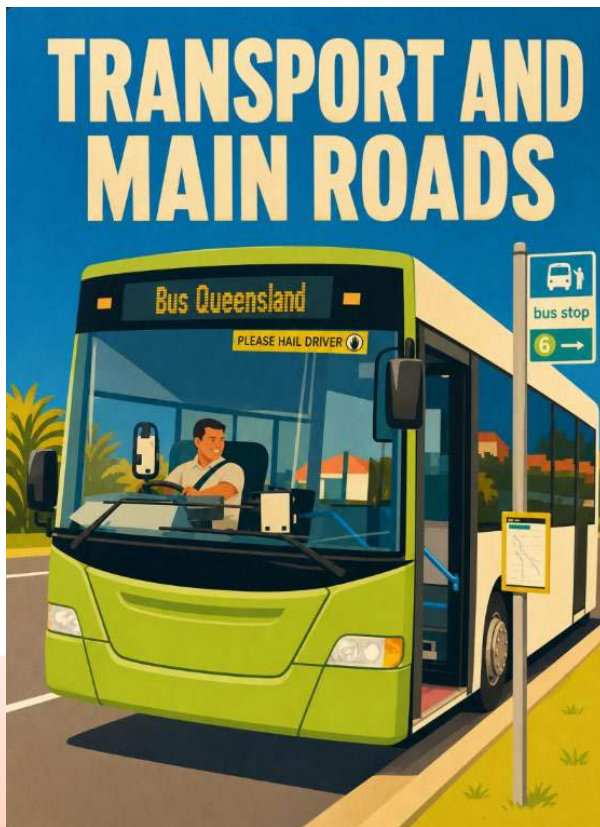
You need to go to QGrants and click on 'Sign up here'

Complete the required details; make note of your email address and password as these will be required to apply for the voucher.

Further Information

Fairplayvouchers@npsr.qld.gov.au

<https://www.qld.gov.au/recreation/sports/funding/fairplay>



TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS

Motorised Wheelchair

A motorised wheelchair or mobility scooter used by a person with a disability on a footpath or to crossroads must be registered as a motorised wheelchair.

Taxi Subsidy Scheme

The TSS subsidises taxi travel - half of the total fare, up to a maximum of \$30 per trip - for people with severe disabilities.

Disability Parking Permit

A disability parking permit is granted to applicants when their ability to walk is severely restricted by a medical condition or disability.

Accessible Public Transport

The Transport Standards recognise that access to public transport enables people with disability to fully participate in community life.

Learner Licence

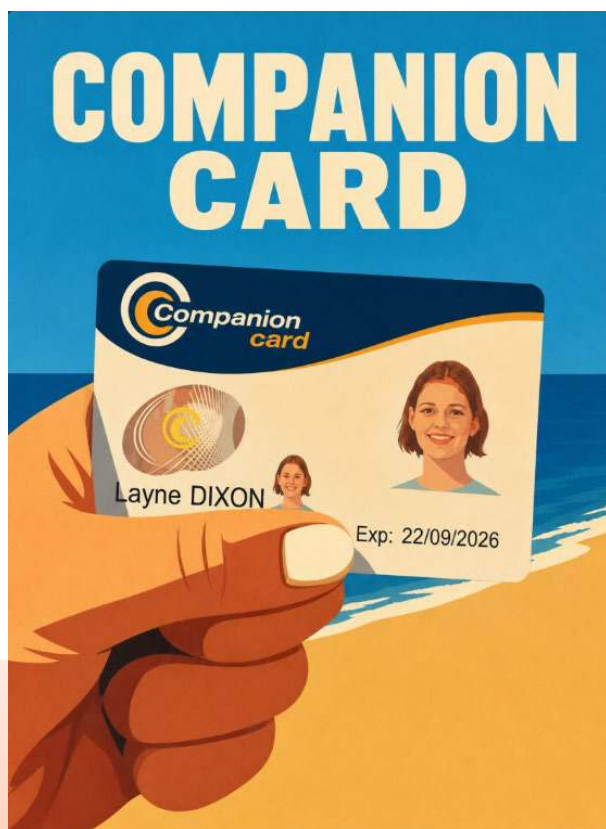
You must declare that you're medically fit to learn to drive the class of motor vehicle. If you have a medical condition that might adversely affect your ability to drive safely, You are required to show a medical certificate from your doctor stating that you're medically fit to drive or ride safely.



Further Information

☎ 13 QGOV (13 74 68)

<https://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/>



If you have a disability and a lifelong need for 'attendant care support' in order to participate in community activities and attend venues, the Companion Card can help you with the costs of getting out and about with the support of a companion.

Companion Card holders receive a second 'companion' ticket at no charge at participating venues and on public transport. The 'companion' ticket is also exempt from booking fees.

The Companion Card is issued in the name of the person who has a disability and is valid for 5 years.

A companion is any person who accompanies a cardholder and provides attendant care support. The cardholder's chosen companion may be a paid or unpaid assistant or carer, family member, friend or partner.

The Companion Card is accepted at a range of venues and activities across Queensland—from regional shows and the Brisbane Ekka, to sporting venues, tourist attractions, theatres and cinemas.



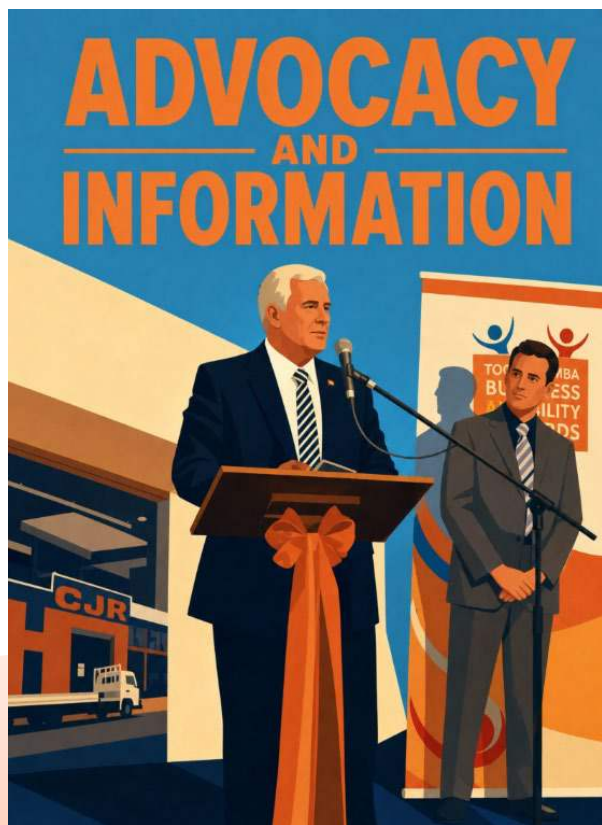
Further Information

☎ 13 QGOV (13 74 68)

<https://www.qld.gov.au/disability/out-and-about/subsidies-concessions-passes/companion-card>

MY COMMUNITY





LifeTec®

Live your Potential

A leading provider of information, consultation, and education on assistive technology that can help you improve your quality of life and remain independent.

Their health professionals can assist you to maximise your independence and your ability to manage everyday tasks whether in the home, work or out in the community.



Children and Young People with Disability Australia (CYDA)

The national peak body representing children and young people with disability aged 0–25.

Promoting equal opportunity and full inclusion for young people with disability across Australia.

They offer the Take Charge of Change program, which provides excellent digital resources specifically guiding 16-year-olds through major life transitions.

Australia's career information and exploration service.

You can do activities to build your career profile, explore career ideas, consider career options and develop your career plan.

The Job Guide includes hundreds of occupational profiles and their education and training pathways.

Further Information

☎ 1300 LIFETEC (1300 543 383)

www.cyda.org.au

www.myfuture.edu.au



Social Media

In Australia, individuals must be 16 years or older to create or maintain an account on major social media platforms. This requirement is part of the federal Online Safety Amendment (Social Media Minimum Age) law, which came into full effect on 10 December 2025.

The legislation is designed as a safety delay to protect younger teens from online harms, reduce exposure to addictive features, and promote real-world connections.

The age restriction applies strictly to commercial social media services. Major platforms must take reasonable steps to prevent anyone under 16 from holding an account:

Mainstream Social Apps

TikTok, Instagram, Facebook, Threads, Snapchat, and X (formerly Twitter).

Video and Streaming Platforms

YouTube and Twitch.

Discussion and Gaming Networks

Reddit and Kick.

To join a social media platform at 16 years old, you are legally permitted to create accounts on all major platforms, but you will need to complete specific age verification to gain access.

Because you are under 18, major platforms like Instagram and TikTok will automatically set your new account to Private by default.

Keep your account private so only people you approve can see your posts.

Further Information

eSafety Commissioner

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/>



IDCARE—Cyber Security

IDCARE responds to many types of identity and cyber security concerns including:

- Lost or stolen credentials
- Remote access of your device
- Scams
- Email phishing attacks
- Hacking of social media or email
- Mobile phone porting
- Unauthorised access to your bank, credit card or superannuation accounts
- Bank, phone or other utility accounts opened in your name
- Credit report inaccuracies

IDCARE services are free of charge

Internet

The internet is a great way to keep in touch with your friends and meet new people. However, it's important to be careful about who you talk to, what information you post and the things you say to other people and about other people.

Privacy issues arise almost every day. They have become more prevalent with the growth and use of technology in our everyday life.

Even sharing the most basic information about yourself online, may put your privacy at risk.

Further Information

 1800 595 160

www.idcare.org

Notes

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Contact us

 1800 A BIGDOG

 1800 22 44 36

 steven@bigdog.au

 www.bigdog.au

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