



## Reasonable & Necessary Criteria under the NDIS

The following information contains excerpts from the NDIS website [www.NDIS.gov.au](http://www.NDIS.gov.au)

The NDIS provides funding to eligible people based on their individual needs, to assist the participant to:

- pursue their goals, objectives and aspirations
- increase their independence
- increase community and workplace participation, and
- develop their capacity to actively take part in the community.

The types of supports that the NDIS may fund for participants include:

- daily activities such as personal care (showering, dressing) or household tasks (cleaning, shopping)
- transport to enable participation in community, social, economic and daily life activities
- help to assist a participant to successfully get or keep employment
- therapy supports including occupational or speech therapy, physiotherapy, or behaviour support
- home modification design and construction
- supply, set up and maintenance of assistive technology and adaptive equipment
- vehicle modifications

Under the legislation and rules, the NDIS must be satisfied that the service / support requested is “reasonable and necessary” before it can be supplied.

The support must meet the following “Reasonable and Necessary” criteria:

- be related to a participant’s disability
- not part of day-to-day living costs, such as groceries, utility costs or home maintenance costs
- be good value for money
- be likely to be effective and work for the participant
- be unlikely to cause harm to the participant or pose a risk to others
- be appropriately funded by NDIS – ie, is not more appropriately provided by other government services, your family, carers, networks and the community

Your Occupational Therapist will assist you to apply for Reasonable and Necessary supports under the NDIS. Often, there are many considerations to work through, and many steps in the process to be able to complete the application, demonstrate the need for the support, and meet the NDIS requirements (such as obtaining more than one quote).

Occasionally, your Occupational Therapist may need to advise you that an item or support will not be accepted by NDIS as Reasonable and Necessary. In this case, your OT may be able to work with you to try to find alternative options.

Please speak with your OT if you have questions about Reasonable and Necessary criteria under the NDIS.

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*Providing expert Occupational Therapy services across the Illawarra and Shoalhaven*