### Ministry of Social Development Logo New Zealand Government Logo

Factsheet

Care in the Community Disability Welfare Fund

Disabled people and their whānau who have been significantly impacted by COVID-19 can now apply to some local providers for funding support through the Care in Community Disability Welfare fund.

* [Find a provider in your area](https://msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/covid-19/care-in-the-community-welfare-response/successful-applicants-for-cicdwf-funding.html)

Once you find a provider, they will work with you to see what help you need. Depending on your needs you may get direct funding, or the provider may buy services, devices or equipment for you.

Priority is given to helping with:

* connecting with social networks and communities
* support for the whānau of a disabled person
* precautions to prevent exposure to COVID-19
* connecting with support networks.

Funding **cannot** be used for:

* Support provided by Community Connector service
* Ongoing costs, such as subscriptions
* Items already purchased
* Food (you can access food through “Food Secure Communities Programme” and “Special Needs Grant” for food)
* Purchasing cash assets
* Purchasing a vehicle
* Alcohol, cigarettes, tobacco, or vaping products
* Lotto products
* Gambling purposes.

Funding is limited, with each disabled person within a whānau able to apply for up to a maximum of $2,000 while funding is available.

You can find more information on the [MSD website](https://www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/covid-19/care-in-the-community-welfare-response/care-in-the-community-disability-welfare-fund.html).

Q&A from a community, disabled person and whānau perspective

Q: How do I get support?

A list of all funded providers is on the MSD webpage. You are welcome to contact the organisation that best supports your needs.

Q: Do I have to provide proof of purchase?

Providers will try to make sure purchases are verified, but this is not a requirement.

Q: Do I have to prove my disability

No. Your need and the solution should be determined in collaboration with the provider.

Q: What if I have more than one disabled person in my whānau?

Support is available for each disabled person within a whānau. If you have more than one in your whānau, they are eligible for the same level of support.

Q: Can I purchase things I already have funding for or have already purchased?

No. Funds cannot be used for items already purchased or items or services you already receive funding for.

Q: Can the direct support funding be used to pay pre-paid and future expenses

The funding is to meet the current needs of the disabled person and whānau, not their future needs

Q. Is there an age limit for disabled people and whānau receiving support from a provider resulting from this funding?

There is no age limit.

Q. Can a disabled person or whānau receive Care in the Community Disability Welfare funding from more than one provider?

No. Providers of the funding will ensure the disabled person and whānau they are funding receives funding from one provider only.