

Medical Aids Subsidy Scheme (MASS)
Community Aids
Equipment and
Assistive Technology
Initiative
(CAEATI) Guidelines

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Medical Aids Subsidy Scheme (MASS) – Community Aids Equipment & Assistive Technology Initiative (CAEATI) Guidelines

Community Aids Equipment and Assistive Technology Initiative (CAEATI) Guidelines

The Community Aids Equipment and Assistive Technologies Initiative (CAEATI) will ensure equitable access for Disability Services' clients to subsidy funding for Aids, Equipment and Assistive Technologies (AEAT) with a straightforward and streamlined process.

Intent

CAEATI will enable people with a disability to participate in their communities of choice by funding a range of aids equipment & assistive technologies that connect their choices with funded options.

Principles

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| CAEATI will: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enable clients to make choices about how their aids and equipment funding is directed • Provide streamlined and equitable access to Disability Services eligible clients across Queensland • Subsidise aids equipment and assistive technologies that enable community access • Align closely with other government agencies to deliver an integrated service provision • Ensure that Government funding optimises economies of scale and best possible value |
| CAEATI subsidy funding is provided within the following categories: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>COMMUNICATION SUPPORT</i> • <i>COMMUNITY MOBILITY</i> • <i>ACTIVE PARTICIPATION</i> • <i>POSTURAL SUPPORT</i> <p><i>FUNDING IS CAPPED AT \$10,000 PER CLIENT FOR A PERIOD OF 3 YEARS.</i></p> |

If applicable, Aids Equipment and Assistive Technology subsidised by CAEATI must meet relevant Australian Standards or equivalent.

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Category 1 Communication support

Communication Support:

- *Will assist people with a disability to connect and exchange information with their communities of choice. Alternative access options for computer use are considered if this facilitates access to cyber communities. For the purpose of this category, community includes ‘communities of choice’ - for example, cyber and internet communities.*

Inclusions:

- *PODD communication books, applications and software that support communication.*
- *Communication devices that are disability specific and improve community participation in cyber communities.*
- *Disability specific additions to computers which improve a person’s ability to utilise the computer.*
- *Disability specific computer applications and software. (NOT personal computers i.e. iPads/tablets, computer hardware or internet access)*

Preferred prescribers: Speech Language Pathologists or Occupational Therapist (in conjunction with a Speech Therapist for communication items).

*Please complete the MASS 21 and MASS21 Communication Support Appendix if requesting communication support

Category 2 Community mobility

Community Mobility:

- *Will improve physical access by subsidising equipment that supports a person’s ability to mobilise within their community.*

Inclusions:

- *All terrain buggies and strollers, powered scooters, disability car seats.*
- *Aids equipment and assistive technology that support mobility, travel and posture within community environments.*
- *Enhancements to mobility devices that improve their durability outside the home environment.*
- *Portable ramps.*

Preferred prescribers: Physiotherapist or Occupational Therapist.

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Category 3 Active participation

Active participation:

- Will support people with disability to be involved in a range of recreation and civic activities that supports social inclusion, e.g. trikes and modified bikes.

Inclusions:

- Leisure and recreational focused aids.
- Equipment and assistive technologies that are uniquely designed to enable a person with a disability to improve access to engage in community based recreational activities of their choice.

Category 4 Postural support

Postural support:

- Will improve functional participation by subsidising AEAT that enables interaction within a person's community of choice.

Inclusions:

- Weight bearing devices for people who cannot walk or stand unsupported.
- Items include standers, Hi-Lo seating, supportive seating.

Category 5 Prescriber subscription

Prescriber subscription subsidises the cost of a registered therapist to assist the client in completing the CAEATI application process. Please see further information for prescribers under important information on the final page.

Funding limit:

CAEATI provides subsidy funding of \$800 per 3 year period. This is capped at a maximum of \$500 per application.

- It is recommended that prescribers seeking payment for their services confirm the source of payment with the client prior to assessment.
- Prescribers are required to issue a tax quote with the client application for their services. (Please itemise quote with hourly fee, travel costs, assessment costs and reporting time).
- Upon approval of the application, a purchase order will be forwarded to the Prescriber.
- On delivery of services, the Prescriber is to submit an invoice in line with the purchase order, and the MASS71-CAEATI Acquittal form.
- Prescriber invoices are paid only when MASS has received the MASS71-CAEATI Acquittal Form signed by all three parties.

Please Note: Prescribers and CAEATI clients please be aware that once funding limit has been reached, any outstanding prescriber cost will require payment from client.

CAEATI exclusions

*But not limited to:

- Disability specific items that are used only at home, or primarily used in and around the home
- Items that are for exclusive use at work (paid employment) or in school age educational settings. (Adult learning and volunteer environments are excluded from this criteria)
- Short-term provision of items
- iPads, Personal computers, internet access
- Consumable items
- Contenance products
- Specialised clothing or shoes
- Medical and surgical treatment items
- Standard household or personal items
- Items funded by other government funding bodies, including gap payments
- Home and vehicle modifications
- Eating and enteral nutrition items
- Personal training
- Gym memberships
- Cost of therapy services
- Therapeutic items or programs
- Insurance and/or maintenance to funded AEAT
- Cost of repairs
- Items less than \$100 each, including software application
- Reoccurring monitoring fees (e.g. subscription to GPS tracking system)
- Non-disability specific items that are commercially available
- Second items for the same functional goal
- Daily living aids
- Therapeutic and sensory items
- Hoists
- Prosthetic items.

Interaction with the Medical Aids Subsidy Scheme (MASS)

- CAEATI will NOT subsidise components covered by MASS.
- CAEATI will consider subsidising components of a wheelchair that enhances the use within the community and are NOT covered by MASS.
- CAEATI will not fund gap payments with MASS.

Eligibility

Eligibility for CAEATI is aligned with the broader Disability and Community Care (DCCSD) guidelines as set out in the Eligibility Policy 2009.

All CAEATI applicants will need to have been deemed eligible through a Disability Services assessment prior to the submission of an application.

Category 1—about the applicant

The person must be:

- *an Australian citizen, holder of a visa that gives permanent residency rights, or New Zealand citizen who arrived in Australia prior to 26 February 2001, AND*
- *a Queensland resident, AND*
- *under 65 at the time of lodgement of a CAEATI application.*

Category 2—about the applicant's disability

The person has a disability that is:

- *due to an intellectual, psychiatric, cognitive (including both congenital and acquired impairments), neurological, sensory or physical impairment (or combination of impairments) AND*
- *permanent or likely to be permanent (may or may not be of a chronic episodic nature).*

Category 3—about the applicant's support needs

The disability results in:

- *substantial reduction in capacity for communication, social interaction, learning, mobility or self-care/management AND*
- *a need for ongoing specialist disability support.*

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Application Process

CAEATI operates within a Prescriber Model, where a prescriber in consultation with the client, recommends assistive technology that enables increased community participation.

Step by step process:

1. All CAEATI applicants will need to have been deemed eligible through a Department of Communities, Child Safety & Disability Services (DCCSDS) assessment prior to submitting an application. Please obtain your Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services reference number (BIS number) to be included on your application form.
2. Connect with a registered CAEATI prescriber for the category of aids, equipment and assistive technology that you require, and work with the prescriber to complete the CAEATI application form. If a prescriber is not a registered CAEATI/MASS prescriber they will need to contact MASS via MASS-CAEATI@health.qld.gov.au to obtain a CAEATI Prescriber Registration Form for completion.
3. Send all CAEATI and MASS/CAEATI applications together with supporting quotes and documentation to MASS-CAEATI@health.qld.gov.au.
4. You and your prescribers will be notified when a determination has been made on the application. Should the clients CAEATI funding be exhausted and a co-payment be required a statutory declaration will be forwarded to the client and a copy sent to the prescriber. Please note if the prescriber subsidy funding for the client has been exhausted the prescriber will need to seek payment for their services directly from the client.
5. If approved, a purchase order will be forwarded to the supplier to confirm purchase. Please ensure that the vendor, from whom you are purchasing the aid and equipment item, has been set up as a vendor with MASS/CAEATI. All vendors who have previously had purchase orders from MASS will have already been setup as a vendor for CAEATI. Suppliers not known to MASS/CAEATI will need to complete a Vendor Registration Setup Form, which is available from MASS-CAEATI@health.qld.gov.au or telephone (07) 3136 3636.
6. Prescriber and supplier invoices will be processed for payment upon the completion of the MASS71–CAEATI Acquittal Form (located on the MASS Website). This form is to be signed by all three parties (client, prescriber and the supplier). On delivery of the equipment to the client it is the prescriber’s responsibility to ensure all relevant parties have signed the form and is then returned to MASS. Please ensure, if Prescriber Subsidy Funding has been requested, the Prescriber invoice is also submitted with the MASS71-CAEATI Acquittal Form. Payment to prescriber and supplier will not take place until the relevant paperwork is received. You are able to download and print the CAEATI forms at: <http://www.health.qld.gov.au/mass/community-access>

Important Information

- CAEATI does not fund retrospectively.
- Payments of approved CAEATI applications are made directly to the prescriber and supplier. CAEATI is unable to transfer funds directly to clients.
- Clients approved through CAEATI are provided access to funding over a 3 year period. This is capped at \$10,000.00 per client. Clients who have exhausted their funding will not be eligible to re-apply for further CAEATI funding until this period has transpired.
- CAEATI has been developed to align with other Queensland Government departments in providing Assistive Technology.
- Unless stated in the CAEATI approval letter, upon receipt of the equipment, clients will retain ownership. This means that the client will be responsible for the ongoing care, repairs and maintenance of the equipment. It is recommended that clients include the equipment on their home and contents insurance.
- The CAEATI funding model operates as a process whereby supplier and prescriber invoices are paid for only when MASS has received the MASS71 – CAEATI Acquittal Form signed by all three parties.
- CAEATI subsidies are available to assist eligible clients to gain equipment to assist them with community access. Prescriber Subsidy Funding is also available to assist with the trial and prescription of the equipment.
- The prescriber subsidy is only available for CAEATI applications. It is important that the prescriber confirms a client's eligibility and only submits applications for items that are subsidised by CAEATI. Please refer to the exclusions list on page 5 of the CAEATI guidelines. Enquiries can be sent to MASS-CAEATI@health.qld.gov.au and answers will be provided via return email.