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DAACCS LATEST NEWS

March 2022

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Did you know?

Talk of Australians' rising life expectancy has been making headlines as of late. The latest data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics projects a "life expectancy at birth" age of 79.9 for men and 84.3 for women. But representative body the Actuaries Institute said those who have already reached the age of 65 can expect to live longer than the population average, and said it is more likely that the life expectancy of those aged 65 now will be 86 for men and 89 for women. To further compound matters, independent government advisory body the Productivity Commission recently published these following statistics:

- The life expectancy for a baby born in 2012 is 94 years for a girl and 92 years for a boy
- The population aged 75 years or more is projected to rise by four million from 2012 to 2060, increasing from 6.4% to 14.4% of the population, and
- By 2060, there will be roughly 25 people aged 100 years or more to every 100 newborns (compared to just one centenarian now).

The crux of the issue is that Australians need to be financially prepared for at least a few more years, if not decades, in retirement. [Did you know... Australia's longevity outlook \(insightaccounting.com.au\)](#)

COVID-19

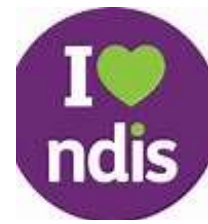
Measuring the impacts of COVID-19

The ABS have released a range of new statistics and research products to help understand the impacts of COVID-19. This includes additional analysis and information on economic statistics, including the [classification of COVID-19 policies in economic statistics](#), [selected issues in the economic accounts](#) and [methods changes](#). Expanded [integrated data resources](#) have also been developed to inform COVID-19 response through the Multi-Agency Data Integration Project (MADIP).

Find out more about the [ABS response to COVID-19](#), including announcements by the Australian Statistician, Dr David Gruen. Check out their website: [COVID-19 | Australian Bureau of Statistics \(abs.gov.au\)](#)



Fact: March's full moon, the Worn Moon, reaches peak illumination on Friday 18th March 2022 at 320am.



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE NDIS WORLD

Latest information – NDIS Quicker and easier access to assistive technology for NDIS participants 1 March 2022

The Government is improving the participant experience for people on the NDIS, with easier access to assistive technology.

Minister for the NDIS Senator the Hon Linda Reynolds CSC has announced an increase in the upper limit for automatic approval of assistive technology (AT) purchases. This limit has now increased from \$5,000 to \$15,000.

"I have listened closely to participants and their representatives, and what they have told me is they want a Scheme which is more person focused, with less red tape," Minister Reynolds said. *"This is another example of the Government's commitment to improving the NDIS and improving the participant's experience."*

The changes will also assist many participants who currently have quotable AT under \$15,000 in their plans.

The NDIA has summarised these changes in an updated [guideline](#) and new participant [factsheet](#), setting out what evidence participants need to provide and what to do before buying AT.

The NDIA will automatically approve the funding for these items so participants can access this AT faster. This new measure is still subject to the necessary checks and balances to maintain the integrity of the scheme.

The most commonly purchased AT within the \$15,000 price range includes manual wheelchairs, specialty beds and bathroom chairs/stools.

The NDIA has also created a new [guideline](#) and [template](#) on vehicle modifications and driving supports, which includes simpler and clearer information. These will help participants work with assessors to provide evidence for vehicle modification support requests over \$15,000.

[Government providing quicker and easier access to assistive technology for NDIS participants | NDIS](#)

Evidence of AT required and AT assessments

The NDIS needs to understand your AT needs and how the right AT will help you pursue your goals. We'll need different information from you depending on the cost and risk.

Some equipment or items will need a qualified AT advisor to talk with you about your needs and situation and help identify the most appropriate AT. The AT advisor may be an allied health practitioner, continence nurse, rehabilitation engineer, or other qualified practitioner.

For AT costing more than \$15,000, we require both an assessment by a professional AT advisor and quote for the AT proposed.

[Assistive technology explained | NDIS](#)

Respite at Ginger House

DAACCS has a 24/7 respite house available for bookings. DAACCS can support you to have a break away at our respite home located in Palmerston ACT. We can provide group or 1:1 care tailored to your care needs. If you or your loved one needs a break please contact us to organise a booking: 0410 213 411

Meet our team

Abhishek (Abhi)

Service Delivery Manager



"Rules are meant to be broken" 🤪

What is a fun or interesting fact about your hometown?

Jaito is a historical city. Jaito is a municipal council in Faridkot district in the Indian state of Punjab



What are three items you'd take with you to a deserted island?

PlayStation, my bed and heaps of food



If you could only eat one meal for the rest of your life, what would it be?

Punjabi kadhi and rice

If you could change something in the world, what would it be?

One language, one world. No room for misunderstanding.



What is your favourite thing to do when you're not working?

Sleep

What is your favourite song from your teenage years that you still rock out to when nobody else is listening?

Channa by Gippy Grewal

If you were a Disney character, who would you be?

Wreck It Ralph – I break everything



What do you like best about being the Service Delivery Manager at DAACCS?

Working with a great team who are always committed to giving their best.