

# Information sheet for HCP care recipients



## New Aged Care Act 2024

The Commonwealth Government has passed a new Aged Care Act (the Act). It will take effect on 1 November 2025. When the Act starts there will be changes to Australia's aged care system and programs. The Home Care Package (HCP) and Short Term Restorative Care (STRC) programs will be replaced by a new Support at Home (SAH) program.

## Transition to SAH

If you have a HCP in place on 31 October 2025 you will move to the SAH program on 1 November 2025. You will:

- be known as a 'participant' or 'older person'
- keep your current service provider, unless you choose otherwise
- receive the same amount of funding each year as you do for your HCP services
- rollover any unspent HCP funds to use for services, equipment or home modifications under SAH
- not pay any Basic Daily Fees or Package Management Fees under SAH

If you were assessed as needing a HCP but are still waiting for one, you will move into the new SAH National Priority System until funding becomes available for you. If you were assessed as eligible for a HCP after 12 September 2024, the government's 'no worse off' principle will **not** apply to you.

## Features of HCP

- Four funding levels
- Monthly budget and statements
- Care management fees: A flat fee charged monthly.
- Package management fees: A flat monthly fee to cover providers' administrative costs.
- Basic daily fee: A fee you might pay to help with the cost of your care. Not all providers charge this fee.
- Income tested care fee: A daily fee you may have to pay toward your care, based on how much you earn. Your HCP funding will be reduced by this amount.
- Services: Flexibility to choose a range of home care services, as long as they help meet your assessed care needs and are allowed under your HCP.
- Equipment and home modifications: Costs are paid from HCP funding if enough funds are left after paying for ongoing services.

## Features of SAH

- Eight ongoing funding levels
- Quarterly budget, monthly statements
- Care management: 10% of your quarterly ongoing budget will be set aside to pay for care management services.
- No package management fees: Provider's administrative costs must now be included in service prices.
- No basic daily fees
- Participant contribution: An amount you have to pay toward your care, based on your means and assets and the type of service.
- Services: Must be included in the SAH service list. When reassessed to a SAH budget, must be in the list of services approved at assessment.
- Equipment and home modifications: Separate funding available based on an assessment.





## SAH Standard Participant Contribution Rates

	ClinicalSupports	Independence	Everyday Living
Full pensioner	0%	5%	17.5%
Part Pensioner	0%	Between 5% - 50%	Between 17.5% - 80%
Self-funded retiree eligible for Commonwealth Seniors Health Card	0%	Between 5% - 50%	Between 17.5% - 80%
Self-funded retiree not eligible for Commonwealth Seniors Health Card	0%	50%	80%

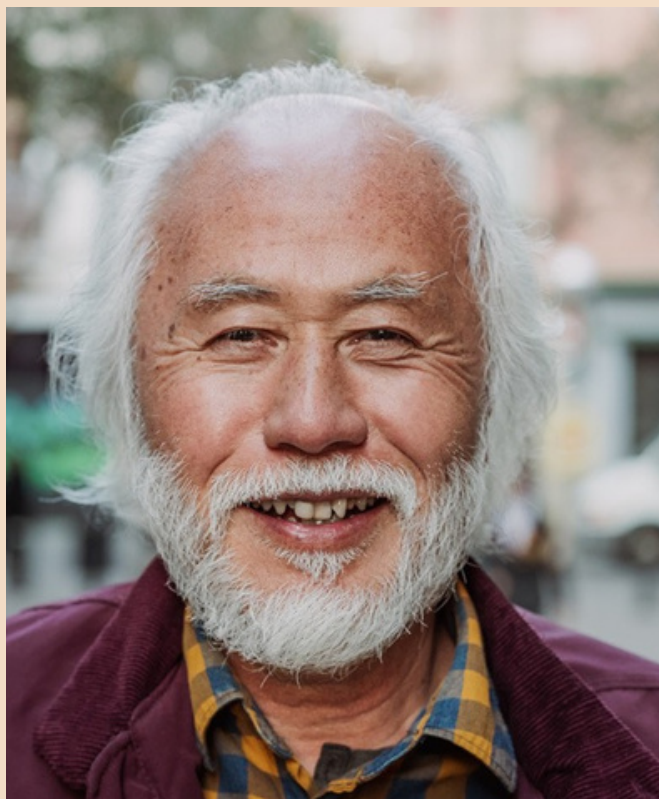
[www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/support-at-home-program-handbook?language=en](http://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/support-at-home-program-handbook?language=en)

### Statement of Rights

The Statement of Rights, included in the new Aged Care Act, sets out your rights when receiving funded aged care services. It replaces the Aged Care Charter of Rights and must be adhered to by assessors, service providers and registered supporters.

The 13 rights include the right to make choices (including where risk is involved), be supported to make decisions, stay connected to your community and the people who matter to you, and receive safe and quality services.





## Registered Supporters

Under the new Act, all older people are presumed to be able to make their own decisions. If you choose to have someone support you to make decisions, they may become a registered supporter. Registered supporters have specific duties.

All current representatives authorised through My Aged Care will automatically become registered supporters on 1 November 2025.

## Service Prices

Service providers will set their own service prices for 2025-2026. The government will introduce capped prices in 2026-2027.

Under the new SAH guidelines, providers must include all business costs, except care management, in their service prices. This is because package management fees will no longer exist under SAH.



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## Where can I find out more?

[www.health.gov.au/our-work/aged-care-act/resources/older-people](http://www.health.gov.au/our-work/aged-care-act/resources/older-people)

[www.myagedcare.gov.au/upcoming-changes-aged-care-funding-how-they-affect-you#see-how-much-you-might-pay-for-services-under-support-at-home](http://www.myagedcare.gov.au/upcoming-changes-aged-care-funding-how-they-affect-you#see-how-much-you-might-pay-for-services-under-support-at-home)