

Does your report meet Section 34?

When discussing the recommended solution, you have:

- ensured the recommendation is appropriately funded by NDIS (i.e., not Health etc.) (34.1.f)
- demonstrated how it is, or is likely to be, helpful to participant goal pursuit (34.1.d)
- demonstrated how it will address any problems with current solutions in place (34.1.d)
- evidenced broad statements with trial findings / references and/or outcome measures (34.1.a & d)
- interpreted trial findings / references / outcome measures, explaining how the solution will help the participant achieve their plan goals (34.1.a & d)
- not simply listed componentry features (link to supplier information if necessary – 34.1.d)

When discussing different solutions, you have:

- identified which social/economic activities can/cannot be achieved (34.1.b)
- considered/conducted trials/long-term leasing where possible/appropriate (34.1.d/c)
- discussed participant gap payments for desired higher cost features (34.1.c)

When comparing the recommended solution to other solutions, you have:

- outlined how all featured benefits impact the participant's ability to perform activities (34.1.d)
- identified how the other solutions do/do not impact the participant's ability to perform activities (34.1.d)
- compared costs and benefits of possible solutions within each feature category (34.1.c)
- explained clinical reasons for excluding more cost-effective solutions considered (34.1.c)
- outlined how repairs /adjustments /therapy /replacement offers best value for money (34.1.c)
- considered combining / not duplicating any recommended or current supports (Rule 5) (34.1.c)

The overall report

- would allow someone with little/no participant/clinical knowledge to identify what is needed for the participant to meet their goals (i.e. background information is sufficient and relevant)
- includes video/ photo footage if required
- uses person-centred language with simple English where possible
- explains the necessity for the costs identified in the accompanying quote (34.1.c)

Section 34 Legislation: [Reasonable and necessary supports](#)

(1) For the purposes of specifying, in a [statement of participant supports](#), the [general supports](#) that will be provided, and the reasonable and necessary [supports](#) that will be funded, the CEO must be satisfied of all of the following in relation to the funding or provision of each such support:

- a) the support will assist the [participant](#) to pursue the goals, objectives and aspirations included in the [participant's](#) statement of goals and aspirations;
- b) the support will assist the [participant](#) to undertake activities, so as to facilitate the [participant's](#) social and economic participation;
- c) the support represents value for money in that the costs of the support are reasonable, relative to both the benefits achieved and the cost of alternative support;
- d) the support will be, or is likely to be, effective and beneficial for the [participant](#), having regard to current good practice;
- e) the funding or provision of the support takes account of what it is reasonable to expect families, [carers](#), informal networks and the community to provide;
- f) the support is most appropriately funded or provided through the [National Disability Insurance Scheme](#), and is not more appropriately funded or provided through other general systems of service delivery or support services offered by a person, [agency](#) or body, or systems of service delivery or support services offered: (i) as part of a universal service obligation; or (ii) in accordance with reasonable adjustments required under a law dealing with discrimination on the basis of disability.

(2) The [National Disability Insurance Scheme rules](#) may prescribe methods or criteria to be applied, or matters to which the CEO is to have regard, in deciding whether or not he or she is satisfied as mentioned in any of [paragraphs](#) (1)(a) to (f).

NDIS Rules: [Value for Money](#)

3.1 In deciding whether the support represents value for money in that the costs of the support are reasonable, relative to both the benefits achieved and the cost of alternative support, the CEO is to consider the following matters:

- a) whether there are comparable supports which would achieve the same outcome at a substantially lower cost;
- b) whether there is evidence that the support will substantially improve the life stage outcomes for, and be of long-term benefit to, the participant;
- c) whether funding or provision of the support is likely to reduce the cost of the funding of supports for the participant in the long term (for example, some early intervention supports may be value for money given their potential to avoid or delay reliance on more costly supports);
- d) for supports that involve the provision of equipment or modifications:
 - i. the comparative cost of purchasing or leasing the equipment or modifications; and
 - ii. whether there are any expected changes in technology or the participant's circumstances in the short term that would make it inappropriate to fund the equipment or modifications;
- e) whether the cost of the support is comparable to the cost of supports of the same kind that are provided in the area in which the participant resides;
- f) whether the support will increase the participant's independence and reduce the participant's need for other kinds of supports (for example, some home modifications may reduce a participant's need for home care).

Recommended resources

- [Part 3 & 5 of the National Disability Insurance Scheme \(Supports for Participants\) Rules 2013](#)
- [Assistive Technology, Home Modifications and Consumables Code Guide](#)
- [Assistive Technology Operational Guidelines](#)