

National Disability Insurance Scheme

COVID Addendum 2022-23

**Valid from: 1 July 2022
Version 1.0
(Released 22 June 2022)**

[ndis.gov.au](https://www.ndis.gov.au)

ndis

Copyright

© National Disability Insurance Agency 2022

Use of National Disability Insurance Agency copyright material

The material in this document with the exception of logos, trademarks, third party material and other content as specified is licensed under Creative Commons CC NC licence, [version 4.0](#). With the exception of logos, trademarks, third party material and other content as specified, you may reproduce the material in this document, provided you acknowledge the National Disability Insurance Agency as the owner of all intellectual property rights in the reproduced material by using '© National Disability Insurance Scheme Launch Transition Agency 2022' and do not use the material for commercial purposes.

Reproduction of any Creative Commons material in this document is subject to the CC NC licence conditions available on the Creative Commons site, as is the full legal code for this material.

Further information

Further information on the pricing arrangements for the National Disability Insurance Scheme can be found on the [NDIS website](#).

Version Control

This document is subject to change. The latest version of this document is available on the [NDIS website](#).

Version	Page	Details of Amendment	Date Published	Date of Effect
1.0		2022-23 edition of the <i>NDIS COVID Addendum</i>	22 June 2022	1 July 2022

Contents

Supported Independent Living	4
Additional Services for SIL Participants	4
Deep Cleaning in a SIL setting	5
Rapid Antigen Testing for SIL Support Workers	6
Vaccines and Boosters	7
Enabling COVID Vaccinations for participants	7
Enabling Vaccination Boosters for Workers	8
Support Workers	9
Deep Cleaning for Support Worker-Related	9
Other Measures	10

Supported Independent Living

Additional Services for SIL Participants

CLAIM CODE: **ADD_SERVICES_SIL_NOT_REMOTE**
 ADD_SERVICES_SIL_REMOTE
 ADD_SERVICES_SIL_VERY_REMOTE

This COVID direct billing arrangement applies for the periods and areas (states and local government areas (LGAs)) specified in this *Addendum*.

Providers should use the code relevant to the remoteness classification of the participant to whom the support is provided.

This support recognises that providers of Assistance in Supported Independent Living supports will sometimes incur additional costs in providing supports to a participant where the participant is required to self-isolate or quarantine by the federal or state/territory government COVID policies. (These costs could include additional costs of higher intensity support (staffing increase), Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for the support workers, professional laundering, and any other costs directly related to the participant's diagnosis including, if applicable, the costs of any alternative accommodation provided to the participant by the provider.)

A provider may make a direct billing claim for this support in respect of a participant ("the participant") on a day ("the claim date") if and only if:

- the participant is receiving Assistance in Supported Independent Living supports from the provider; and
- the participant is required to self-isolate or quarantine by federal or state/territory government COVID policies; and
- the provider has incurred expenses above those usually incurred in the provision of Assistance in Supported Independent Living supports to the participant; and
- the claim date is in a period, and the participant lives in a location, that is specified in the Table of Specified Periods and Locations below.

If a provider is eligible to claim for this support in respect of a participant then that claim can be made in addition to the usual claim that the provider makes for the provision of Assistance in Supported Independent Living supports for the participant.

The specified periods and areas for this arrangement, and the maximum amount that the provider can claim per eligible participant per day, are set out in the following Table. More detail on direct billing arrangements is on the payments and billing page of the NDIS website.

*Note – SIL providers will be able to bill the Agency for this amount effective 11 January 2022, noting claims will be able to be lodged in the system from 7 February 2022.

State	LGA	Start Date	End Date	Amount	Amount Remote	Amount Very Remote
All	All	7 February 2022*	None specified, subject to review	\$1,200 per day	\$1,680 per day	\$1,800 per day

Deep Cleaning in a SIL setting

CLAIM CODES: **DEEP_CLEAN_SIL_NOT_REMOTE**
 DEEP_CLEAN_SIL_REMOTE
 DEEP_CLEAN_SIL_VERY_REMOTE

This COVID direct billing arrangement applies for the periods and areas (states and local government areas (LGAs)) specified in this *Addendum*.

Providers should use the code relevant to the remoteness classification of the participant to whom the support is provided.

This support recognises that providers of Assistance in Supported Independent Living supports will sometimes incur additional costs with respect to the professional deep cleaning of a residence of a participant who is required to self-isolate or quarantine by the federal or state/territory government COVID policies.

A provider may make a direct billing claim for this support in respect of a participant (“the participant”) on a day (“the claim date”) if and only if:

- the participant is receiving Assistance in Supported Independent Living supports from the provider; and
- the participant is required to self-isolate or quarantine by the federal or state/territory government COVID policies; and
- the provider has incurred expenses in respect of the professional deep cleaning of the residence of the participant; and
- the claim date is in a period, and the participant lives in a location, that is specified in the Table of Specified Periods and Locations below.

The support is only claimable once per eligible participant per period of COVID infection.

The specified periods and areas for this arrangement, and the maximum amount that the provider can claim per eligible participant per day, are set out in the following Table. More detail on direct billing arrangements is on the payments and billing page of the NDIS website.

State	LGA	Start Date	End Date	Amount	Amount Remote	Amount Very Remote
All	All	7 February 2022	None specified, subject to review	\$300 per claim	\$420 per claim	\$450 per claim

Rapid Antigen Testing for SIL Support Workers

CLAIM CODE: RAPID_ANTIGEN_TEST_SIL

This COVID direct billing arrangements applies for the periods and areas (states and local government areas (LGAs)) specified in this *Addendum*.

This direct billing arrangement is to assist providers of Supported Independent Living supports with the costs associated with Rapid Antigen Tests undertaken to enable the provision of support to a participant.

Providers are able to make a claim against this direct billing arrangement when a support worker is required to undergo a Rapid Antigen Test in order to be able to deliver supports to a participant. That is, a provider can only claim for this support if they would be unable to deliver a support to a participant (for example, through rostering other workers) without a support worker undergoing a Rapid Antigen Test.

In order to claim, providers:

- must incur the expense – that is, must have paid for the Rapid Antigen Test undertaken by the support worker;
- must be delivering a support item in the Assistance with Daily Life support category in the registration group – 0115 Assistance with Daily Life Tasks in a Group or Shared Living Arrangement.

Where the support worker is supporting a number of participants, then the cost of the Rapid Antigen Testing should be apportioned between the participants on a pro rata basis. The total amount claimable from the NDIS through this direct billing arrangement is \$12.50 per Rapid Antigen Test.

The specified periods and areas for this arrangement are set out in the following Table. More detail on direct billing arrangements is on the payments and billing page of the NDIS website.

State	LGA	Start Date	End Date
All	All	23 December 2021	31 August 2022

Note: providers will have up to 28 calendar days to bill the Agency for costs incurred once this support is removed.

Vaccines and Boosters

Enabling COVID Vaccinations for participants

CLAIM CODE: PARTICIPANT_VACCINATIONS

This COVID direct billing arrangements applies for the periods and areas (states and local government areas (LGAs)) specified in this *Addendum*.

Eligible providers can claim \$75 per participant, per dose to receive any COVID-19 vaccination, irrespective of whether it is a primary or booster vaccination, as a direct claim from the Agency.

This is an all-inclusive price that allows providers to organise the best approach for participants to receive a vaccination offsite.

In order to claim this payment, eligible providers:

- must provide the NDIS number and date of birth of the participant that has been vaccinated;
- obtain consent from the participant before organising a vaccination appointment;
- if requested by the Agency, be able to provide third party evidence the vaccination took place (date, location, certificate, etc.)

This support can be claimed by providers of:

- 0104 High Intensity Daily Personal Activities
- 0106 Assistance in Coordinating or Managing Life Stages, Transitions And Supports
- 0107 Daily Personal Activities
- 0115 Assistance with Daily Life Tasks in a Group or Shared Living Arrangement
- 0125 Participation in Community, Social and Civic Activities
- 0127 Management of Funding for Supports in Participants' Plans
- 0133 Specialised Supported Employment
- 0136 Group and Centre Based Activities

The specified periods and areas for this arrangement are set out in the following Table. More detail on direct billing arrangements is on the payments and billing page of the NDIS website.

State	LGA	Start Date	End Date
All	All	1 April 2022 for providers registered in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0104 High Intensity Daily Personal Activities • 0106 Assistance in Coordinating or Managing Life Stages, Transitions And Supports • 0107 Daily Personal Activities • 0115 Assistance with Daily Life Tasks in a Group or Shared Living Arrangement • 0125 Participation in Community, Social and Civic Activities • 0127 Management of Funding for Supports in Participants' Plans • 0133 Specialised Supported Employment • 0136 Group and Centre Based Activities 	31 August 2022

Note: providers will have up to 28 calendar days to bill the Agency for costs incurred once this support is removed.

Enabling Vaccination Boosters for Workers

CLAIM CODE: BOOSTER_VACCINE_DSW

This COVID direct billing arrangements applies for the provision specified in this *Addendum*.

Registered providers can claim \$100 per worker to receive a booster vaccine. The item is only claimable once per worker, per Booster Vaccine.

In order to claim this payment, eligible providers:

- must ensure the worker is fully vaccinated (correct number of doses have been administered);
- must provide the full name and date of birth of the worker that has been vaccinated;
- if requested by the Agency, be able to provide third party evidence the vaccination took place (date, location, certificate, etc.)

This support can be claimed by providers of:

- 0104 High Intensity Daily Personal Activities
- 0107 Daily Personal Activities
- 0115 Assistance with Daily Life Tasks in a Group or Shared Living Arrangement
- 0125 Participation in Community, Social and Civic Activities

The specified periods and areas for this arrangement are set out in the following Table. More detail on direct billing arrangements is on the payments and billing page of the NDIS website.

State	LGA	Start Date	End Date
All	All	1 January 2022	31 August 2022

Note: providers will have up to 28 calendar days to bill the Agency for costs incurred once this support is removed.

Support Workers

Deep Cleaning for Support Worker-Related

CLAIM CODE: DEEP_CLEAN_OTHER_NOT_REMOTE
 DEEP_CLEAN_OTHER_REMOTE
 DEEP_CLEAN_OTHER_VERY_REMOTE

This COVID direct billing arrangement applies for the periods and areas (states and local government areas (LGAs)) specified in this *Addendum*.

Providers should use the code relevant to the remoteness classification of the participant to whom the support is provided.

This support is claimable by a provider when a participant needs to have their residence professionally deep-cleaned because a support worker supplied by the provider attended the home of the participant to deliver a support and has later tested positive for COVID.

A provider may make a direct billing claim for this support in respect of a participant (“the participant”) on a day (“the claim date”) if and only if:

- the participant’s residence needs to be professionally deep-cleaned on a specified day (the claim date) because a support worker supplied by the provider attended the home of the participant to deliver a support and has later tested positive for COVID; and
- the provider is registered for either of the following two registration groups:
 - 0104 High Intensity Daily Personal Activities
 - 0107 Daily Personal Activities; and
- the support that the support worker who has later tested positive for COVID was delivering to the participant was in the Assistance with Daily Life support category; and
- the provider has incurred expenses in respect of the professional deep cleaning of the residence of the participant that occurred on the claim date; and
- the claim date is in a period, and the participant lives in a location, that is specified in the Table of Specified Periods and Locations below.

The support is only claimable once per eligible participant per period of COVID infection.

The specified periods and areas for this arrangement, and the maximum amount that the provider can claim per eligible participant per day, are set out in the following Table. More detail on direct billing arrangements is on the payments and billing page of the NDIS website.

State	LGA	Start Date	End Date	Amount	Amount Remote	Amount Very Remote
All	All	7 February 2022	None specified, subject to review	\$300 per claim	\$420 per claim	\$450 per claim

Other Measures

The following Table provides details of other mechanisms through which participants can use their NDIS funds to address COVID related issues.

Policy	Codes
<p>COVID Family members as paid carers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where a participant has tested positive to COVID, and where no alternative is available, and if determined to be exceptional circumstances, and at the discretion of the CEO, participant may pay family members to provide ongoing supports for a time-limited period. • Note, this is not a specific initiative related to COVID. Paragraph 11.1 of the Operational Guidelines specifies that the NDIA will only fund family members to provide supports in exceptional circumstances. 	
<p>Low-cost Assistive Technology (AT)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants can use their existing NDIS funding to purchase an item if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ it will maintain funded NDIS supports like a program, therapy or requirement (for example physiotherapy or Auslan interpreting provided via video conferencing), and ○ the provider of supports has confirmed in writing the device is necessary to continue supports and services while maintaining physical distancing requirements, and ○ it is the lowest specification that will maintain funded supports, and ○ they do not already have the item, another suitable item or access to the item, and ○ the item has not been funded by another service system (such as education), and ○ the item or circumstances are not specifically excluded. • Participants are able to spend up to \$1500 on low cost AT items from their existing budgets. Participants should not spend more than \$750 on electronic devices needed to maintain existing services. 	15_222400911_0124_1_3
<p>Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for participants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NDIS participants who receive an average of at least one hour a day of face-to-face daily living supports are able to use the existing support item for Low Cost Disability-Related Health Consumables to claim the cost of PPE that they use when their disability worker is supporting them. • If participants need to purchase face coverings or masks for use outside the home, this is still an everyday expense. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ NDIS funds cannot be used to pay for them. • Participants are expected to purchase PPE at market rates. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ As a general guide, the weekly cost of PPE is not expected to exceed \$50 per week. 	03_040000919_0103_1_1
<p>Rapid Antigen Testing for Participants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NDIS participants who have core funding are able to use the existing support item for Low Cost Disability-Related Health Consumables to claim the cost of any Rapid Antigen Test where it is required to access their reasonable and necessary supports. • Participants are expected to purchase Rapid Antigen Tests at market rates. <p>As a general guide, the cost of a Rapid Antigen Test is not expected to exceed about \$12.50.</p>	03_040000919_0103_1_1