



DISABILITIES RESOURCE CENTRE

Hearing Aid Funding For Adults

See overleaf for Hearing Aid Subsidy

Eligibility

Adults who are New Zealand citizens living in New Zealand or who are permanent residents may be eligible if they have any of the following:

- A significant hearing loss from childhood
- Had onset of sudden and significant hearing loss during adulthood
- Hearing loss and a significant visual impairment, or hearing loss and an intellectual disability or a physical disability that limits their ability to communicate safely and effectively
- A Community Services Card and are any of the following:
 - In paid employment for 30 hours per week or more
 - A registered job seeker seeking paid employment
 - Doing voluntary work (more than 20 hours per week)
 - Study at tertiary level or do vocational training leading to future employment (aged over 21 years)
 - Caring full time for a dependent person

You may be able to get help to buy hearing aids from the Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC) or Veterans' Affairs New Zealand. If you can get help from either of these organisations, you cannot get support from Whaikaha - Ministry of Disabled People Hearing Aid Funding Scheme as well.

What Is It All About?

Whaikaha - Ministry of Disabled People Hearing Aid Funding Scheme covers the cost of hearing aids for eligible adults. This funding covers the price of the hearing aid, but does not cover any assessment or fitting fees that Audiologists may charge. Funding for a hearing aid for each ear is available for adults no more than once every six years.

Where To From Here?

Only Audiologists who are full members of the New Zealand Audiological Society can access the Ministry of Health's Hearing Aid Funding Scheme for their clients.

See also: Hearing Therapy Fact Sheet

Hearing Aid Subsidy

See overleaf for Hearing Aid Funding

Eligibility

You must:

- be over the age of 16
- have a permanent hearing loss and need a hearing aid
- be a New Zealand citizen living in New Zealand or permanent residents
- not be covered under the Hearing Aid Funding Scheme

You may be able to get help towards the cost of hearing aids from the Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC) or Veterans' Affairs New Zealand. If you can get help from either of these organisations you cannot also get support from Whaikaha - Ministry of Disabled People Hearing Aid Subsidy Scheme.

What's It All About?

Whaikaha - Ministry of Disabled People Hearing Aid Subsidy Scheme provides \$511.11 (including GST) per hearing aid to those who are eligible. The subsidy for each hearing aid is available no more than once every six years.

The Hearing Aid Subsidy Scheme does not cover any additional costs for hearing assessments or hearing aid fitting services which Audiologists may charge.

Where To From Here?

Only Audiologists who are full members of the New Zealand Audiological Society can access Whaikaha - Ministry of Disabled People Hearing Aid Subsidy Scheme for their clients.

See also: Hearing Therapy Fact Sheet