

GETTING THE NDIS BACK ON TRACK

# FOOD, BEVERAGE, SMOKING AND GAMBLING

Food and beverage costs are an everyday part of life, this means that many of these items are not something that the NDIS will typically fund. These expenses are mainstream costs that everyone has to pay and are not likely to be due to your disability. This document goes through the new list with the supports that can and cannot be claimed by the NDIS following the changes coming into place from 3 October 2024.

Some very specific things may be able to be claimed, but it depends on your situation and your NDIS plan. You can learn more about these items below.

Additionally, there are some things like alcoholic drinks, smoking/vaping and gambling that cannot be claimed by this funding under any circumstances.

## Supports that are not NDIS



Food, beverages, alcohol, smoking and gambling are not NDIS supports and should not be purchased using your plan funding.

Food and drink items are everyday costs and alcohol, smoking and gambling are recreational purchases not related to a disability.

The supports listed below are not able to be claimed from your plan.

Food and Meals	Groceries, fast food, takeaway food, meal kits (except for modified foods required as a result of a person's disability e.g. PEG feeding)
Groceries	Groceries including all food, beverage, cleaning, household and health products
Alcohol	The cost to purchase alcohol is not permitted to be claimed from NDIS funding.
Smoking products	Cigarettes, vapes and smoking paraphernalia, legal cannabis, Smoking cessation devices such a nicotine replacement items
Gambling	The cost of gambling is not permitted to be claimed from NDIS funding.

## Supports that may be funded by the NDIS

Some supports may be funded by the NDIS depending on the person's disability and needs.

Some examples include the cost of meal preparation and delivery if you are unable to do this yourself. This is an item that should be included in your plan to be able to claim this.

Additionally, those with specific feeding needs, may be able to claim meal replacements.

Discussion with your planner is always recommended before purchasing these supports.



**The supports listed below may be able to be claimed from your plan.**

Cost of meal preparation and delivery	The NDIS may fund the cost of meal preparation and delivery but it will not cover the cost of food or ingredients.
Meal replacements for people who are unable to eat solid foods	Thickeners and nutritional supplements related to disability-related nutrition supports. For example percutaneous endoscopic gastronomy (PEG) feeding

## Other services you can go to for help



Below are some resources that may be able to assist you.

Different areas have different programs, you can search for similar organisations in your area.

QLD Government - Food and Clothing Saver Program	<a href="https://www.qld.gov.au/housing/programs-support/food-daily-needs">https://www.qld.gov.au/housing/programs-support/food-daily-needs</a>
Foodbank	<a href="https://www.foodbank.org.au/homepage/who-we-help/individuals/">https://www.foodbank.org.au/homepage/who-we-help/individuals/</a>
Meals on Wheels	<a href="https://mealsonwheels.org.au/">https://mealsonwheels.org.au/</a>
Help with addiction	<a href="https://www.health.gov.au/our-work/drug-help">https://www.health.gov.au/our-work/drug-help</a>