



# Continuity of Support Arrangements

## Factsheet

### Background

In December 2017, the Western Australian government joined the Australia-wide National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) and the State now funds disability-related supports through the NDIS. Under the terms of the Bilateral Agreement between the Commonwealth and Western Australia on the Transition to a NDIS, the State is responsible for providing continuity of support for people under 65 years of age who do not meet the NDIS residency requirements and who were receiving State-funded disability-related supports.

### Current situation

People who do not meet the NDIS residency requirements and are seeking access to State-funded disability-related supports may be eligible for Department of Communities Continuity of Support Arrangements (CoSA).

### Eligibility requirements

To be eligible for CoSA a person must meet all the following requirements:

- Have a disability which is permanent, or likely to be permanent, which is attributable to an intellectual, cognitive, neurological, sensory, or physical impairment, or a combination of these impairments.
- Requires significant and ongoing assistance with daily tasks including self-care, mobility, communication, interacting with others, learning/decision-making, assistance within the community and domestic life.
- Is legally entitled to reside in Australia and permanently resides in Western Australia.
- Is under the age of 65 years when the disability manifests.

### What documentation is required?

The following documentation is required to be considered for CoSA:

- Proof of Age – either a birth certificate or passport.
- Proof of Visa and associated conditions - [The Department of Home Affairs website](#) allows visa holders to check and send proof of visa conditions using the Visa Entitlement Verification Online system (VEVO). The Department of Home Affairs can be contacted on 131 881 Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm for assistance (e.g., to obtain a password).
- Evidence of disability – documentation and assessments/reports completed by medical professional and/or [allied health professionals](#) confirming the

diagnosis/disability, its permanence and the ongoing substantial functional impact. Full assessment documentation of the diagnosis/disability is required.

- A completed Consent Form signed by the person/parent/guardian/third party. (Please email Continuity of Support Arrangements at [cosa@communities.wa.gov.au](mailto:cosa@communities.wa.gov.au) to obtain the Consent Form).

## How/Where to submit?

Scanned PDF or Word formatted copies of all required documents to be sent to:

- Email: [cosa@communities.wa.gov.au](mailto:cosa@communities.wa.gov.au) OR
- via mail to Locked Bag 5000, Fremantle WA 6959 OR
- delivered to Department of Communities at 5 Newman Court, Fremantle 6160.

## What happens next?

When all required documentation has been received, you will be contacted with an eligibility decision within 28 business days.

## What happens if I am eligible for CoSA?

If you are eligible for CoSA a Local Coordinator will contact you to provide information about Local Coordination and the planning process. State-funded supports may be provided to meet your disability-related support needs.

## What happens if I am not eligible for CoSA?

If you are not eligible for CoSA and would like to discuss the decision, particularly if you feel an important matter was not considered or new information has since become available, please further contact CoSA.

## Further information

To find out more about CoSA, please contact Communities Local Coordination Office:

- Phone: 0499 810 312
- Email: [cosa@communities.wa.gov.au](mailto:cosa@communities.wa.gov.au)