

Continence Funding – National Scheme Australia

(NB Information correct as of September 2018)

Scheme	Contact Details	Amount Covered and What is Provided	Criteria / Eligibility
CAPS Continence Aids Payment Scheme	Medicare Helpline 132 011 Post/ Fax form to: Department of Human Services CAPS GPO Box 9822 Sydney NSW 2001	\$558.80 per year One lump sum per year In July or 2 separate payments in Jan and July Paid directly into individual's bank account Funds Disposable Pads/Pants/ Pull-ups	Eligible if <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aged 5 years or older; No cut off age • permanent and severe loss of bladder and/or bowel function caused by an eligible neurological condition • permanent and severe loss of bladder and/or bowel function caused by another condition such as: radiation therapy, certain cancers, prostate disease or prolapse, and they hold a valid Centrelink or Department of Veteran's Affairs Pensioner Concession Card • Only funds continence issues • If one has other forms of impairment/disability – one can apply for funding under NDIS if aged under 65 years • One can receive funding for pads with CAPS and other continence aids with SWEP if living in VIC Not eligible if <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incontinence results from a condition other than an eligible neurological condition AND they do not have Centrelink Pensioner Concession Card entitlement • Those whose incontinence is transient (not permanent) and can be treated conservatively (eg through pelvic floor muscles exercises); with medication or surgery; or is confined to night time bed wetting • they are not an Australian citizen or a permanent Australian resident • they are a high-care resident in an Australian Government funded aged care home • they receive an Australian Government funded home care package and their care plan includes continence aids • If eligible under the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), or under the Rehabilitation Appliances Program (RAP) through the Department of Veterans' Affairs

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			<p>Eligibility for residents in aged care:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An individual is eligible if they are admitted to a public, private or NFP aged care facility. • If an individual is on a Home Care Package- Level 1 or 2 they can receive funding if meet criteria. • If an individual is on a Home Care Package- Level 3 or 4 formerly known as Extended Aged Care at Home (EACH) package or an Extended Aged Care at Home Dementia (EACH D) package, and their care plan includes continence aids. They cannot receive funding and the aged care facility receives ACFI funding for continence management. <p>What about state /territory schemes?</p> <p>If a person is eligible for the CAPS, and is currently receiving assistance with continence (or continence related) products through a state or territory government funded scheme, they should contact their scheme manager to find out if the assistance will be affected by their eligibility for the CAPS.</p> <p>How do I apply?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete a CAPS application form. • A health professional must complete the Health Report component in the form. • There is a list of Neurological conditions that are only accepted. • Post/ Fax form to Medicare Australia. • Applicant can elect a “representative”- an Individual, Government department, Company (eg, relative, person with power of attorney, legal guardian, Centrelink or DVA representative) to completes applicant details, sign form, and can elect to receive the CAPS funding for individual, and enter company bank details, ABN. (CAPS application form lists guidelines & criteria for representative).

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			<p>Health Report by Health Professional</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 page to complete on form • no supporting documentation required • has a disclaimer that the person is “in a position to make an accurate assessment of the applicant in relation to their incontinence and its cause” (must have sufficient experience/knowledge to assess and sign form) <p>Download an application form from Government Bladder and Bowel Website link here: http://www.bladderbowel.gov.au/caps/application.htm</p> <p>Health Professionals able to complete Form:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GP • Medical Specialist (Urologist, Gynaecologist, Geriatrician, Neurologist, Neurosurgeon etc) • Continence Nurse Specialist • Community Nurse • Registered Nurse • Physiotherapist • Occupational Therapist • Aboriginal health worker <p>How to find a Continence Prescriber: Call CFA 1800 33 00 66 or go to link: https://www.continence.org.au/service-providers.php?</p>