



Your guide to

Enhanced Individualised Funding

If you live in the **Eastern and Western Bay of Plenty**, are already receiving Individualised Funding or thinking about Enhanced Individualised Funding, these guidelines are for you.

The New Model for Supporting Disabled People is about you

**having more choice, control
and flexibility over your supports
and budget so you can live the life
YOU want.**

**Enhanced Individualised
Funding (EIF), which is part of
the New Model for Supporting
Disabled People, is about how
you use your disability support
budget and the disability
supports you can buy with it.**

If you live and receive Disability Support Services within the Eastern and Western Bay of Plenty, talk to your NASC to see if EIF is an option for you.

How do I apply for EIF?

First, talk to your Local Area Coordinator or Support Net (NASC) to find out if this is an option for you.

If it is, talk to your family/whānau and people such as your Local Area Coordinator about the life you want and dreams you have.

Together, create a document that outlines these goals, agree on the plan and what needs to happen for you to achieve your dreams.

The NASC will help you through an assessment process to establish the amount of funding.

You will then be referred to a host organisation that will work with you to manage your budget.

And then...

**live your life
your way!**

What does this mean for me?

You can pay for support to achieve the goals in your plan.

This might mean that you can:

- employ people to support you and agree the hourly rates for the support you receive
- pay for support to help you participate in community activities.

You are given an amount available for support and then you choose how to use it based on your plan. Your EIF host provider will assist you.

EIF gives you greater control and authority over your disability support budget.

It puts you in charge and gives you the job of controlling what you have been allocated.

EIF is different because:

- it looks at funding in a new way and allows your budget to be used to fund support that has not traditionally been available
- it's about helping you reach your goals
- it's about creating a plan that lets you set your own timetable, enjoy more independence, be included more in your community and generally take control of your own life.

There are a few rules!

You can only spend EIF on:

- things that are a disability support
- things that are part of your plan and help you reach your goals
- things that are the responsibility of the Ministry of Health and not provided by other government agencies (such as education).

What am I responsible for?

You are accountable for how the allocation is spent. You have certain responsibilities, including to:

- keep good records that show how the funding has been used
- meet the terms of relevant Ministry policies (you will be told about these)
- understand the rules and regulations around employing and managing staff and what is expected of you when it comes to tax and employment laws and regulations.

Does EIF include recreation activities?

Yes, if:

- it's a disability support
- it contributes to the outcome identified in your plan
- it is within the scope of what the Ministry can support.

How do supports get paid for?

All support purchases are confirmed with the host provider and they then arrange for all the payments to be made.

How do I know what counts as a disability support?

A disability support is something that can help a disabled person achieve their goals, but something they would *not* have needed if they did *not* have a disability.

A disability support can be:

- something a person needs because they are disabled
- a service that costs more because the person is disabled
- an additional fee that needs to be paid for any service or goods because the person is disabled
- a ‘payment in kind’ to someone providing voluntary support to a person with a disability.

What is not a disability support?

The funding does not cover anything that you would be expected to pay for if you were *not* disabled. So, personal expenses such as a ticket to the movies for yourself, food, insurance, whiteware, bills, or any goods or services that you would pay for yourself if you weren’t disabled, do not count.

For more information about the Ministry of Health’s Purchasing Guidelines, visit health.govt.nz and search for Purchasing Guidelines.

This is what disabled people living in the Bay of Plenty are saying about EIF

‘I’ve always wanted to be **in control of my own life** – this funding means I now have that control.’

‘**I feel secure** knowing I have that funding to support me and my life goals. And it has really **taken the stress off us** as a family.’

‘**I feel in charge and in control.** It has been a very positive experience for me and is working really well.’

Where can I get more information?

The contact details for local NASCs can be found on the Ministry of Health's website:

Go to **health.govt.nz** and search for Needs Assessment and Services Coordination.

To get more information about the New Model for Supporting Disabled People visit the Ministry of Health's website **health.govt.nz**. Search for **New Model**.

The Ministry of Health has produced a number of fact sheets and information pamphlets that tell you about the disability support services they fund.

You can get these **online**, by **email** or by **phone**:



health.govt.nz



disability@moh.govt.nz



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