

If I want to stop getting Funded Family Care, what do I do?

You, or your chosen person, can tell your NASC at any time you want to stop, and they will organise other support services for you.

When you tell your NASC you want to stop, they will tell the Ministry of Health. Your Funded Family Care payments will stop at the end of the next two-week payment cycle.

Will Funded Family Care affect any benefits that I get, or my carers get?

Any benefit you get as a disabled person will not change if you get Funded Family Care. You can still receive other Ministry-funded support services while you get Funded Family Care but your family or whānau members who live with you cannot be the ones who provide these other services.

The wages you pay your family or whānau carers are part of their total income.

For more on how income can affect your carer's benefit, check online at:

www.workandincome.govt.nz/individuals/a-z-benefits/index.html

Further information about Funded Family Care

There is more information about Funded Family Care on the Ministry of Health website:

www.health.govt.nz

If you have a question you can email

FFCInfo@moh.govt.nz

Funded Family Care

Ministry of Health funding for some disabled people over the age of 18 with high or very high needs.

Funded Family Care is Ministry of Health funding for some disabled people over the age of 18. This means the people you live with may get paid to help with your personal care and/or household tasks.

If they live with you in your home, and are over 18, you can employ:

- your parent(s)
- other family or whānau members – but **not** your husband, wife, civil union partner or partner.

How do I find out if I can get Funded Family Care?

Ask your Needs Assessment and Service Co-ordination organisation (NASC) about Funded Family Care. Your health professional will tell you how to contact your nearest NASC – or look on the Ministry of Health website: www.health.govt.nz search for ‘NASC services’.

Your NASC will meet with you to assess your eligibility and talk everything through. They assess what help you need with personal care, such as having a shower or eating, and household tasks such as cleaning or cooking.

If your NASC does **not** think you meet the conditions for Funded Family Care but you think you need it, you may still be able to apply as an exception. Ask your NASC if they will help you make an **exceptions application** to the Ministry of Health.

If I can get Funded Family Care, what happens then?

Your NASC will refer you to a **Host provider**. They appoint a **facilitator** to meet with you, the family or whānau member(s) you want to employ (and your advocate if you want one), to explain the set-up and answer everyone’s questions about their roles. The facilitator also helps you set up the employment arrangements.

If the person you want to employ has another job, you may not be able to employ them if they already work 40 hours a week.

How much money do I get to pay my family carer and how will I get paid?

For each hour of support granted to you under Funded Family Care, you get enough money to pay:

- the minimum wage to your family carer
- Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC) contributions

- KiwiSaver contributions
- for another carer when your main carer is on leave

and any other employment obligations.

When you get Funded Family Care, you become an employer of the person or people you have chosen to support you. The Ministry of Health will pay you every two weeks, so that you can pay them yourself.

What are my responsibilities as an employer when I get Funded Family Care?

The law says you must make and sign an employment agreement with your family or whānau carers. It’s simpler than it sounds – check online at: www.dol.govt.nz/er/starting/relationships/agreements/builder.asp

As an employer, you must pay an ACC levy. You also need to know how much tax and KiwiSaver and ACC contributions your carers must pay and you must take off this amount from their wages. Find out more from Inland Revenue at: www.ird.govt.nz/payroll-employers

Your advocate, a friend or your support circle may be able to help you to do this.