



# Purchasing Smart Devices (iPads/Laptops) from an NDIS Plan



## General Rules from the NDIA

Typically, the NDIS will not fund smart devices as this is seen as an everyday item. The device is unlikely to be an extra living cost directly related to a person's disability. Most Australian households have some device available that can be used by the participant.

### But, there are two exceptions:

#### 1. Smart Devices to help you continue to access supports

You can purchase a smart device for attending online support appointments. For example, to use telehealth, or video classes.

##### What are the rules?

- You cannot already have a device that can do this *eg. a phone*.
- You need a written recommendation letter from the support provider.
- The maximum amount that can be claimed is \$750.
- It should be the most basic model available.

This is claimed from your consumables (03) or capacity building daily living budget (15).

#### 2. Smart Devices directly related to your disability

If you have a need for a device due to your disability you can use your funding to purchase this.

##### Examples include:

- Speech: Communication devices that are recommended by a registered speech pathologist in writing.
- Vision: Magnification devices that are recommended by a registered orthoptist or occupational therapist in writing.

Participants can spend up to \$1,500 for low cost smart devices directly related to their disability. This must be claimed from the consumables (03) or capital assistive technology (05).

### There are some other NDIA rules you need to follow:

- **The NDIS will not fund more than one smart device for the same participant.**
- Devices with 3G, 4G or 5G connections cannot be purchased (eg: phones).
- The NDIS will not pay for additional hardware or accessories (apart from a standard protective case).
- Internet or mobile phone plans cannot be paid by NDIS funding.

Replacements for loss or damage will generally follow the [NDIS AT replacement policy](#). It does not include upgrade because a new model or version is released.