



Disability Support Link

*He Ara Whakamana
mo te hunga hauā*

Whaikaha – Ministry for Disabled People Disability Support Services

Eligibility for People under the Age of 65

The person must have one or more of the following conditions:

- An Intellectual disability or an interim diagnosis of global developmental delay up until the age of 7 years.
- A physical disability.
- Sensory disability - blind, deaf.
- Autistic spectrum disorder.
- All conditions must be long term, lasting at least 6 months.

Te Whatu Ora Waikato Contracts

- Long Term Supports, Chronic Health Conditions.
- Medically Fragile Contract.

Long Term Chronic Health Conditions

- Managed by the Health of Older Person's team.
- Must require personal care support daily with very high needs.
- Condition must be long term, 6 months or more.

Medically Fragile Contract

- Children under the age of 14 years.
- Referred through the Paediatric team at the hospital.
- Specialised service.

NB. All services are allocated according to assessed need. There are no set entitlements.

Process for Referrals

- Other than those services mentioned, anyone can make a referral to DSL.
- The referral is triaged by the under 65 team. We will seek further information if required at this time.
- If declined we will contact the referrer
- If accepted, we will action an independent needs assessor to complete an initial needs assessment.
- The assessment will be allocated to a coordinator to contact the client and or their primary carer to discuss outcomes.
- This process should be completed within three weeks.

Services contracted to Whaikaha managed by DSL

- Home based support services: Personal care and Home help
- Home based providers
- Individualised funding

Services to people with Intellectual disability

- Carer support days
Includes home based services as above and individualised funding
- Residential respite care
- Home support
- Supported independent living
- Contract board/shared care
- Choices in the community
- Residential services

Services to those with physical disabilities

- Home based support services, personal care and home help, individualised funding
- Residential respite
- Carer support days
- Choices in community living
- Residential rehabilitation
- Residential care

Contacts: 0800 55 33 99 dslooffice@waikatodhb.health.nz

Enabling Good Lives

Self-determination

Disabled people are in control of their lives.

Beginning early

Invest early in families and whānau to support them; to be aspirational for their disabled child; to build community and natural supports; and to support disabled children to become independent, rather than waiting for a crisis before support is available.

Person-centred

Disabled people have supports that are tailored to their individual needs and goals, and that take a whole life approach rather than being split across programmes.

Ordinary life outcomes

Disabled people are supported to live an everyday life in everyday places; and are regarded as citizens with opportunities for learning, employment, having a home and family, and social participation - like others at similar stages of life.

Mainstream first

Disabled people are supported to access mainstream services before specialist disability services.

Mana enhancing

The abilities and contributions of disabled people and their families are recognised and respected.

Easy to use

Disabled people have supports that are simple to use and flexible.

Relationship building

Supports build and strengthen relationships between disabled people, their whānau and community.