

Support at Home – AT/HM Client Co-Contribution Model

Key Principle

Under the Support at Home program, the Australian Government remains the primary funder of in-home aged care services, but participants may be required to co-contribute to some services depending on their financial means.

Participant contributions apply only to non-clinical services.

Assistive Technology (AT) and Home Modifications (HM) generally attract a participant contribution. Clinical services such as Occupational Therapist assessments, prescriptions, and training are fully funded and do not require a participant contribution.

Contribution Rates

Participant contributions vary depending on the person's pension status and means assessment.

Participant Type	AT / HM Participant Contribution
Full pensioner	Approximately 5%
Part pensioner	Between 5% and 50%
Self-funded retiree	Up to 50%

These contributions apply because Assistive Technology and Home Modifications fall within the "Independence" service category under Support at Home. Clinical services such as assessments or prescriptions are categorised as clinical care and attract a 0% contribution.

How Invoicing Works

For Assistive Technology and Home Modifications:

1. Aidacare supplies the equipment or completes the home modification.
2. Aidacare invoices the Home Care Package Provider (HCPP) for the full cost.
3. The provider receives the government subsidy as part of the Support at Home funding.
4. The provider is responsible for collecting the participant's contribution separately.

Participant contributions are collected directly by the HCPP provider. These contributions can only be collected after a service has been delivered. Providers are responsible for managing this process and ensuring participants understand their contribution obligations.

Aidacare operates as a contractor supplying Assistive Technology and Home Modifications to providers.

This means:

- Aidacare invoices the provider only
- The provider pays the full invoice amount
- The provider manages and collects any participant contribution.

Example

Mobility scooter supplied by Aidacare: \$5,000
Participant type: Part pensioner with a 20% contribution.

Item	Amount
Government funding	\$4,000
Participant contribution	\$1,000
Aidacare invoice to provider:	\$5,000

The provider pays Aidacare in full and then collects the \$1,000 participant contribution directly from the participant.