



NSW Younger People in Residential Aged Care Program

1. What is the NSW Younger People in Residential Aged Care (YPIRAC) Program?

The YPIRAC Program aims to provide better living options and support for younger people with a disability living in, or at risk of entry to, residential aged care (RAC). The program is jointly funded by the NSW and Australian Governments and managed in NSW by the Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care (DADHC).

2. Who can receive assistance?

You may be able to receive assistance under the YPIRAC Program if you:

- Have a disability as defined in the *Disability Act 2006*, acquired after the age of 18 years;
- You are a NSW resident;
- Are aged under 65 years, however the initial priority group is people under the age of 50 (i.e. applicants who are aged less than 50 years at the time their application is lodged);
- Are living permanently in RAC, or at risk of entry to RAC, and
- Are not eligible to receive assistance through another existing program. The YPIRAC Program does not aim to duplicate other programs, however in some cases additional supports may be provided to complement other programs.

3. What services are offered under the program?

The services offered under the program may include:

- Recreational and diversional therapy;
- Allied health services such as physiotherapy and occupational therapy;
- Clinically necessary equipment;
- Participation in day programs and community access;
- Support to visit family and friends and assistance to maintain family and social relationships;
- Accommodation;
- Home modifications; and
- Transitional case management and advocacy support.

4. What is the process for receiving support from the YPIRAC Program?

Application

The first step is to contact the program for an *Application for Assessment* form by phoning the YPIRAC Information Line on 1800 467 622. You will have the opportunity to discuss your individual circumstances at this time. If you need help to fill in your application form please tell us and we can provide you with advice or can arrange for an independent advocate to assist you. If you are from a non-English speaking background, we can arrange for an advocate who is experienced in working with culturally and linguistically diverse communities to assist you. We can also arrange for a free interpreting service to assist applicants who have difficulty communicating in English.

The role of your family and other significant persons in your life is respected, and you are welcome to involve those people in this process.

Review of Application

When we receive your application it will be reviewed to determine if you are eligible for an assessment. At this stage you may be informed that you are not eligible for the YPIRAC Program however you may be eligible for other DADHC services.

Assessment

Assessments are carried out based on priority of need. If you are deemed eligible to receive an assessment, a Support Planner will contact you to arrange a time for a face to face meeting. During this meeting, the kind of support you need, your goals and your preferred living arrangements for the future will be explored. There is still no guarantee at this stage that you will receive services from the YPIRAC Program.

Review by Expert Panel and Eligibility

Your assessment details will be presented to a panel with expertise in the fields of disability, aged care and the clinical care of people with complex needs. The panel will make recommendations based on all available information. It is at this stage that a determination is made regarding whether you are eligible to receive services from the YPIRAC Program. If you are deemed eligible, you will be advised of the type of assistance you will be offered.

Notification

You will be notified of the panel's recommendations in writing within 10 days of a decision being made.

Implementation

The Support Planner will again meet with you to develop a plan on the support services that you will receive. When this plan is finalised your details will be forwarded to an appointed Service Provider in your Local Government Area. The Service Provider will contact you to make arrangements to put into place your new support options.

Review

Your arrangements will be reviewed regularly by the Service Provider to ensure that your aims and goals are being met.

5. What if I have a complaint about the process?

If you have a complaint about the way in which the process was administered or the conduct of a DADHC employee during the process, you can write to:

Director, Programs Unit, NSW Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care
Level 5, 83 Clarence Street, SYDNEY NSW 2000

All the complaints received will be handled according to DADHC's *Feedback and Complaint Handling: Principles and Guidelines*, which can be found on the DADHC website at www.dadhc.nsw.gov.au.

6. Will I have to contribute to the cost of my support?

You may be expected to contribute to the cost of your support. This will be dependent on your personal circumstances and the type of services you are eligible to receive.

**For further information contact the information line:
Phone: 1800 467 622
Email: ypirac@dadhc.nsw.gov.au**

