

# Autism Advisor Program SA

## How do I get Resources through the HCWA funding?

Up to 35% (or \$2100), per financial year, can be used to purchase resources. This funding comes out of your \$6000 financial year limit. It is **not** in addition to the core funding.

The resources **must** form an integral part of your child's current and ongoing therapy needs, support your child's Individual Service Plan, and **must** be recommended, or supported, by your child's HCWA therapist.

HCWA Early Intervention Service Providers do not have to provide or recommend resources.



### **“I want to get resources for my child, what do I need to do?”**

Firstly, you need to discuss with your child's current HCWA therapist a few important things:

1. Do they provide resources for their HCWA clients?
2. Discuss with them your child's current therapy needs and possible resources that may support their development. This is not a time for parents to approach their therapist with a 'shopping list'. This can put the therapist in the difficult position of having to say 'no'.

### **If the HCWA therapist does provide resources....**

If your child's therapist will provide resources then they can discuss their own process and requirements directly with you.

However, generally the resources procedure is:

1. Ask your HCWA therapist to write a confirmation record detailing what resources they feel would support your child's current therapy program and development. This will serve as a reminder to what was agreed upon should any questions or auditing occur.
2. In most cases, you will need to purchase the items yourself upfront. You can purchase the resource from any location or business including internet sites. Just make sure that you get a receipt and **only** purchase the items that have been agreed upon with the therapist.

3. After purchasing, take your receipts back to your HCWA provider to put in a claim. They will get you to sign a consent form giving them permission to claim the amount from FaHCSIA out of your HCWA funding.
4. Once the provider has received the money from FaHCSIA (this can take several weeks), they will then reimburse you for the full amount of the purchases. This is usually by cheque or direct debit into a nominated bank account.
5. If you do not receive the reimbursement, please check with the HCWA provider.

### **If the HCWA therapist does not provide resources....**

Unfortunately, there is currently no other way to access resources through the HCWA funding if you have chosen a therapist who does not provide resources.

Please refer back to your provider information if you wish to choose another provider for therapy or call your Autism Advisor to discuss options.

### **Other considerations when accessing resources...**

1. HCWA funding for resources does not cover extended warranties for any items. Nor will it cover internet costs. If the resource is damaged at a later stage (i.e. an Ipad is dropped and the screen broken), repairs or replacements will not be covered by the HCWA funding.
2. You must be seeing a therapist in an ongoing capacity to access resources or have an assessment to determine the appropriateness of the resources. A therapist can not recommend resources if they have not seen the child recently.



If you have any questions about the process for accessing resources through your child's HCWA funding,

Please contact your Autism Advisor directly

or via the Autism SA Info Line on 1300 288 476 (1300 AUTISM)