

# Information Sheet:

For people with lower limb loss/lower limb difference.



## How to complete your NDIS Access Request – Supporting Evidence Form

Below you will find some suggestions and tips for completing your **Access Request Form – Supporting Evidence Form**.

### Section 1. Your details

This section asks you to provide your personal details.

#### IMPORTANT

**Prior to meeting with the health professional who will complete this form with you, think about how your impairment (disability) impacts your daily living. Also take some time to think about all of the things that could support you to achieve your goals to live an ‘ordinary life.’**

### Section 2. The health professionals details

*(completing the form)*

This section asks for details of the health professional completing the document on your behalf and providing details about your disability (*impairment*).

### Section 2. Impairment (disability) details

This section relates to assessments and includes any assessments that you may have taken part in with the support of a health professional.

An example of an assessment could include:

A physiotherapy assessment whereby your physiotherapist may check your gait pattern or a prosthetic assessment to see if your current prosthesis is meeting your needs.

It is strongly advised that you also include assessments for school, workplace or activities relating to daily living such as: walking, going up and down stairs, personal hygiene management, driving etc. This will help the assessment team to have a greater understanding of your needs and support your long-term goals. Assessments will also help to determine your eligibility into the Scheme.

### Section 2. Early intervention supports

This section asks about early intervention supports that are likely to benefit the person by reducing their future needs for supports.

In most cases while early intervention supports may assist you, they will not ‘repair’ or ‘remove’ your permanent disability. Basically, this question is asking if **early intervention** will “fix” the disability. Your response in this instance will most likely be NO.

### Section 3. Functional impact of the impairment (disability)

This section asks you about how your disability impacts:

- your **mobility** and independence,
- your ability to **communicate**, verbally and in written form (electronically/manually),
- your **social life** – friends, family and in your relationships
- your ability to **learn** new skills, remember information and/or study
- your **self-care** – your ability to take care of yourself
- your **self-management** managing work, jobs, finances and problem solving

### Examples of the functional impact of the impairment/s (disability)

#### Mobility/Motor Skills

**Does the person require assistance to be mobile due to their disability?**

**The following are some examples of explanations that could be included:**

- Requires a prosthesis for everyday use in order to walk and be mobile.
- Would benefit from a more functional prosthesis which enables you to ambulate safely on different surfaces.
- Would benefit from a wet/shower leg to reduce/prevent slips and falls in wet areas.
- Would benefit from physiotherapy for gait training purposes to ensure effective use of the prosthesis.
- Requires a wheelchair and/or crutches for the times when the prosthesis cannot be worn (e.g: stump/residual limb skin breakdowns)
- Requires car modifications (left foot accelerator) and driver training and assessments with an Occupational Therapist to be able to regain their independence and re-join the community.

*\*The NDIA operational guidelines for motor vehicle modifications states:*

*Note, vehicles less than 3 years old and under 45,000kms are generally considered suitable to modify. However, older vehicles and those with higher mileage may still be considered. In these cases, evidence of road worthiness and the expected lifespan of the vehicle will need to be provided.*

## Communication

**Does the person require assistance to communicate effectively because of their disability?**

- People living with lower limb loss/difference may need 'hands free' devices to communicate with if they use crutches or a wheelchair and/or benefit from assistive technology to assist them to achieve their goals.

## Social interaction

**Does the person require assistance to interact socially because of their disability?**

Describe the social interaction:

- Requires a (describe site e.g. left below knee) prosthesis that is cosmetically acceptable for social interaction and enables the person to participate in his/her normal activities of daily living.
- Requires a wet/shower leg and bathroom modifications to safely stand up in the shower and self-manage personal hygiene routines and take part in recreational activities.
- Requires a prosthetic to enable them to return to sport/recreation.
- Requires car modifications and driving training and assessments with an occupational therapist to be able to regain their independence and reintegrate back in to the community.

## Learning

**Does the person require assistance to learn effectively because of their impairments?**

- This could include requiring a prosthesis/wheelchair/device to attend study or to be able to learn new skills at work or home.

## Self-care

**Does the person require assistance with self-care because of their impairment (disability)?**

- Requires a waterproof wet/shower leg to safely shower without falling; and when away from home.
- Requires some care for daily hygiene etc. (provide explanation)
- Requires assistance with home duties that they can longer perform independently e.g. cleaning, gardening.

Please contact Limbs 4 Life if you require more information.