

27 June 2023

Hazel Frangipani fyi-request-22908-49e2c4a6@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Hazel Frangipani

Thank you for your request to the Official Information Act (OIA) inbox for further information regarding support towards rental or hireage costs for a breast pump. I am responding on behalf of the Chief Executive.

You have asked for a statement or any other information to confirm, clarify or otherwise contradict the accuracy of what is stated on the below website under the heading: Rental equipment - Map (workandincome.govt.nz).

We do not have information specific to breast pumps as an allowable cost under the Disability Allowance criteria. But when someone who has a disability is unable to get financial support from other government agencies towards necessary rental equipment, the Disability Allowance can be considered.

As stated on the website, it is important to note that the need must be directly related to a specific disability or health condition that is likely to last six months or more.

For clarification, in relation to needing the breast pump equipment, details of the specific disability or health condition this equipment will address and that the need is likely to last six months or more, whether that condition is the infant's or the feeding parents, such as a medical certificate.

You would also need to provide confirmation and reasoning from other government agencies such as Te Whatu Ora that funding for your equipment has been applied for but was declined.

You have further asked for a statement or any other information to confirm, clarify or otherwise contradict the accuracy of what is stated on the following website: Work and Income assistance available for buying or hiring breast pumps | Ministry of Health NZ.

In regard to ongoing hireage of a breast pump, the information on this website is correct. If the feeding parent or child has an ongoing disability that requires the use of a breast pump to provide breast milk for the child the cost of the ongoing hireage cost may be considered into their application for support.

Thank you for taking the time to write.

Nāku noa, nā

p.p.

Magnus O'Neill General Manager Ministerial and Executive

Ministerial and Executive Services