



18 August 2023

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Tēnā koe Damien,

On 28 July 2023, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

- *I would like to request internal policy documents utilised by case managers & other staff to determine eligibility and coverage for the disability allowance, special needs grants & any return to work grants available.*
- *If this includes a list of all items that would be considered under the disability allowance, and the appropriate evidence for the same, that would be great.*

The Ministry staff use a tool called Manuals and Procedure (MAP) when determining eligibility for financial assistance. MAP is publicly available and can be found at this link: www.workandincome.govt.nz/map/index.html.

You can find at the follow links information to determine eligibility to Disability Allowance, Special Needs Grants and the qualification for return to work grants:

Disability Allowance:

www.workandincome.govt.nz/products/a-z-benefits/disability-allowance.html;

www.workandincome.govt.nz/map/income-support/extra-help/disability-allowance/index.html.

Information relating to costs paid for under Disability Allowance can be found at this link:

www.workandincome.govt.nz/map/income-support/extra-help/disability-allowance/costs-paid-for-01.html.

Special Needs Grants:

www.workandincome.govt.nz/products/a-z-benefits/special-needs-grant.html;

www.workandincome.govt.nz/map/income-support/extra-help/special-needs-grant/index.html.

Transition to Work Grant:

www.workandincome.govt.nz/products/a-z-benefits/transition-to-work-grant.html.

Assistance to transition into employment:

www.workandincome.govt.nz/map/employment-and-training/employment-and-work-readiness-assistance/assistance-to-transition-into-employment-01.html;

www.workandincome.govt.nz/map/employment-and-training/employment-and-work-readiness-assistance/qualifications.html.

The principles and purposes of the Official Information Act 1982 under which you made your request are:

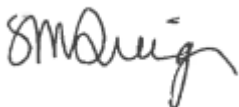
- to create greater openness and transparency about the plans, work and activities of the Government,
- to increase the ability of the public to participate in the making and administration of our laws and policies and
- to lead to greater accountability in the conduct of public affairs.

This Ministry fully supports those principles and purposes. The Ministry therefore intends to make the information contained in this letter and any attached documents available to the wider public. The Ministry will do this by publishing this letter on the Ministry's website. Your personal details will be deleted, and the Ministry will not publish any information that would identify you as the person who requested the information.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz.

If you are not satisfied with this response relating to eligibility for Disability Allowance, Special Needs Grants and return to work assistance, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui



Sarah Quigan

Manager

Official Information