



Budget 2023-24

This information is accurate as of 9 May 2023.

Improving Aged Care Support

This measure will:

- introduce a new system for older Australians to access residential aged care places – replacing the existing Aged Care Approvals Round (ACAR), and
- support residents of aged care homes to receive quality primary care from a regular general practitioner (GP).

New aged care system

The new system will give older Australians greater choice of aged care homes, and make it easier for them to move to a new aged care home if they wish. This will encourage aged care providers to lift the quality of their services and innovate to attract and retain residents.

Providers will also benefit from the changes. They will no longer be restricted by the number of places allocated to them through the ACAR. Instead, they'll be more freely able to expand and change their service offerings in response to trends in consumer demand.

The new approach will require changes to My Aged Care and Services Australia ICT systems.

Support residents to receive care from a regular GP

This is in response to recommendations of the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety and in line with the Strengthening Medicare Taskforce recommendations. This will replace the current Aged Care Access Incentive (ACAI).

An incentive will be available to GPs and practices for providing their Residential Aged Care Home (RACH) patients who are registered with MyMedicare with a quality bundle of care, consisting of at least 2 care planning items (health assessment, contribution to a RACH care plan and/or case conferencing services) in the previous 12 months and at least 3 face to face visits every quarter.

An incentive will be available to the practice for arranging the visits, providing access to multidisciplinary care teams and coordinating care.

Primary Health Networks will also support aged care home residents to register for MyMedicare with a regular GP and practice where they don't already have one.

Services Australia will deliver system enhancements to implement the General Practice in Aged Care Incentive criteria and make the incentive payments. The system will

automatically calculate and make payments to providers and practices who meet the GPACI eligibility criteria, making it a seamless experience for providers and practices to receive payments.

This measure is led by the Department of Health and Aged Care. Services Australia has been allocated \$28.0 million through to the 2026-27 financial year to support this measure.

This measure is subject to legislation passing.

Who this measure affects

This measure affects aged care residents, aged care service providers, GPs and practices.

When this starts and finishes

Aged care home residents can start registering with their regular GP and practice from 1 October 2023, with incentive payments starting on 1 August 2024. The new aged care system will start on 1 July 2024. This measure is ongoing.