

Managing Additional Expenses

If you require MindSprout Support Workers to provide support out in the community, there's a few important things to note:

NDIS funding will usually cover the cost of your staff member's time and travel expenses when they take a participant out in the community, **but it probably won't cover the cost of most recreational activities** like bowling, movie tickets, pool or park entry.

With this in mind, you need to consider how you'll manage additional expenses that may arise. Any entry/ticket costs incurred for both the Support Worker and the participant will need to be privately funded. Similarly, parking costs will usually not be covered by NDIS and may also need to be privately funded.

People living with a disability can apply for a Companion Card through Service NSW. The card entitles Support Workers or accompanying adults to gain free entry at [participating venues](#).



Parents/guardians need to apply online:
<https://www.companioncard.nsw.gov.au>.

TOP TIPS:

BUDGET - ensure a clear budget is agreed between you and the Support Worker prior to any activities/outings.

PAYMENT - we absolutely prefer that no credit/key cards are shared or given to the Support Worker, so the best options in terms of payment for expenses are:

- You pre-pay for activities online
- You provide the Support Worker with cash for the activity - they will then need to ensure they provide change and receipts back to you
- The Support Worker pays and you reimburse them directly
- The Support Worker pays and we reimburse them. We will then invoice you for these expenses which will need to be privately funded.

WHATS NOT COVERED - Support Workers are responsible for costs associated with any food or beverage purchased for themselves, these are never at your expense.