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Key

- DHS Health Care Card
- DVA Pensioner Concession Card
- DHS Pensioner Concession Card
- DVA Commonwealth Seniors Health Card
- DHS Commonwealth Seniors Health Card
- Tasmanian Seniors Card
- Tasmanian Companion Card
- Available to anyone who meets the eligibility criteria
- Apply online or download an application form
Adult dental service
Subsidised emergency services, general services and dentures are available to adults who have a:
• DHS or DVA* Pensioner Concession Card
• DHS Health Care Card.

* DVA Gold or White card holders should contact DVA on 133 254 to check their eligibility for dental services.

For more information:
Phone: 1300 011 013
Web: www.dhhs.tas.gov.au

Children’s dental service
Free dental checks, preventive care and treatment are available to all children (0-17 years) under the Medicare Child Dental Benefits Schedule (where a bulk billing consent form is signed). Some exceptions apply.

A subsidised service is available to children under 18 years.

For more information:
Check under Health and Human Services in the white pages for your local children’s dental clinic.

Web: www.dhhs.tas.gov.au
Community Equipment Scheme (CES)

Financial assistance is available to eligible clients who require:
• mobility and personal care aids and equipment
• specialised footwear
• basic home modifications (limited to grab rail installation in the South)
• continence aids
• appliances to enhance their safety and quality of life.

The assistance is available to people who have been referred by an authorised prescriber and have a:
• DHS or DVA* Pensioner Concession Card
• DHS Health Care Card.

* Where DVA card holders are not eligible under another scheme. DVA Health Card (formerly called Repatriation Health Card) holders should contact DVA to check their potential eligibility.

Terms and conditions are outlined in the CES Guidelines available from the Department of Health and Human Services.

For more information:
Phone:
South: 6222 7226
North: 6336 5036
North-West: 6426 2429
Web: www.dhhs.tas.gov.au

Continuous Positive Airways Pressure Program

Assistance through provision of equipment is available to people who have been clinically assessed as having a sleep-related breathing disorder requiring a positive airways pressure machine.

Please consult your medical specialist.

To be eligible people must have a prescription from a sleep specialist and hold a:
• DHS or DVA Pensioner Concession Card
• DHS Health Care Card.

For more information:
Phone:
General enquiries: 1300 135 513
Royal Hobart Hospital, Department of Respiratory Medicine: 6222 7353
Launceston General Hospital, Respiratory Unit: 6348 7708
Email (South): rhh.respiratory@dhhs.tas.gov.au
**Enteral feeds and supplements**

Tube feeds and oral nutrition supplements are supplied at subsidised cost to people:

- with serious medical conditions that affect their ability to meet nutritional requirements with normal food and drink; and
- who are assessed by a dietitian as requiring nutritional support.

The subsidised costs are based on estimates from the Household Expenditure Survey for food. The maximum weekly charges are reduced for children and where the products provided only meet a proportion of nutritional needs. The costs are adjusted annually based on the Consumer Price Index. The Program does not supply nutritional products that are listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme General Schedule.

A further reduction in the subsidised cost is available if you have a:

- DHS Health Care Card
- DHS or DVA Pensioner Concession Card (if ineligible to access products via DVA).

The subsidised supplements are only available to individuals who are NOT:

- eligible for compensation from MAIB, Workers Compensation or any Common Law compensation;
- receiving financial assistance from any other government-funded program or where a compensation payment has been made that includes future nutritional support; and
- in residential facilities or hospitals that are required to provide nutrition to meet their residents’ needs.

There is also a process to apply for special provisions for a further reduction in fees based on significant financial hardship.

**For more information:**

**Phone:**
Royal Hobart Hospital: 6222 8145
Launceston General Hospital: 6348 7477
North-West Regional Hospital: 6430 6597
**Life support concession**

The life support concession provides a daily discount to eligible customers who use an approved life support system or live with someone who uses such a system in their principal place of residence.

The approved devices and current rates are:
- Oxygen concentrator, 94.991 cents per day
- Peritoneal dialysis machine, 70.478 cents per day
- Haemo-dialysis machine, 70.478 cents per day
- Chronic positive pressure and airways regulator, 33.707 cents per day
- Respirator (iron lung), 125.634 cents per day
- Combination oxygen concentrator and chronic positive pressure and airways regulator, 128.698 cents per day
- Phototherapy machine, 179.008 cents per day
- Left ventricular assist device, 33.707 cents per day.

To apply for this concession, eligible customers need to complete an application form and have it certified by their medical practitioner before submitting it to their electricity retailer.

**For more information:**

Phone: 1300 132 003  
Email: customer.service@auroraenergy.com.au  
Web: www.auroraenergy.com.au
Patient travel assistance

Financial assistance is available for Tasmanians required to:
• travel more than 75 kilometres one way to access specialist medical services or lymphoedema treatment not available locally; or
• travel more than 50 kilometres one way to access the nearest renal and oncology treatment centre; and
• the patient is ineligible for assistance from other sources (e.g. MAIB, Workers’ Compensation, DVA).

Levels of assistance are determined by the distance, type of travel and accommodation required.

Client contribution towards travel is reduced for holders of a:
• DHS or DVA* Pensioner Concession Card
• DHS Health Care Card.

* Where DVA card holders are not eligible under another scheme.

For more information contact the Patient Travel Coordinator:
Phone:
Royal Hobart Hospital: 6222 8225 or 6222 8546
Launceston General Hospital: 6777 6249
North-West Regional Hospital: 6434 6984
Email: ptas@dhhs.tas.gov.au
Web: www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/ptas

Home Oxygen Program

Oxygen supplies are available to patients assessed by a specialist doctor as needing oxygen therapy.

Please consult your medical specialist.

The assessment needs to be approved by the Department of Respiratory Medicine at the Royal Hobart or Launceston General Hospitals.

Note: These arrangements do not apply to holders of a DVA Health Card (formerly called a Repatriation Health Card) – All Conditions within Australia and Totally and Permanently Incapacitated (TPI) aka Gold Cards or DVA Health Card (formerly called a Repatriation Health Card) – For Specific Conditions (White Card). For more information, DVA card holders should contact DVA on 13 32 54 or visit www.dva.gov.au

For more information:
Phone:
General enquiries: 1300 135 513
Royal Hobart Hospital, Department of Respiratory Medicine: 6222 7353
Launceston General Hospital, Respiratory Unit: 6348 7708
Email (South): rhh.respiratory@dhhs.tas.gov.au
Pharmaceuticals

Concessions are available on pharmaceuticals dispensed to patients discharged from hospital, outpatients attending the emergency department or hospital outpatient clinics within public hospitals.

General patients are entitled to receive pharmaceuticals at a maximum cost of $37.70* per prescription item.

Holders of one of the following cards will pay a maximum of $6.10* per prescription item:
- DHS Health Care Card
- DHS Pensioner Concession Card
- Commonwealth Seniors Health Card
- PBS Safety Net Concessions Card issued by a Pharmacy
- DVA Health Card (formerly called a Repatriation Health Card) – All Conditions within Australia and Totally and Permanently Incapacitated (TPI) aka Gold Cards
- DVA Health Card (formerly called a Repatriation Health Card) – For Specific Conditions (White Card) where the pharmaceuticals are for treatment of specific accepted condition(s)
- Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Card (Orange Card).

Holders of a PBS Safety Net Entitlement Card will not be charged for their medication.

*Under current arrangements, these amounts are adjusted in line with inflation by the Australian Government on 1 January each year.

For more information:

Phone:
Royal Hobart Hospital: 6222 6700
Launceston General Hospital: 6348 7719
North-West Regional Hospital: 6430 6725
Visual aids

Subsidies of 70 per cent are available on:
• scheduled items such as lenses and basic frames
• low vision aids, non-cosmetic contact lenses, prostheses and intra-ocular implants (up to $329.40 per item).

Eligible people include pre-school age children and adults post year 12 who are permanent Tasmanian residents (for at least three continuous months immediately prior to application) and who:
• have a DHS or DVA Pensioner Concession Card (excluding holders of a DVA Health Card formerly called a Repatriation Health Card) – All Conditions within Australia and Totally and Permanently Incapacitated (TPI) aka Gold Cards and in some cases DVA Health Card (formerly called a Repatriation Health Card) for Specific Conditions (White Card)
• meet an assessment of current income and cash assets. Other low-income earners may be eligible for the subsidy under hardship provisions
• the minimum Tasmanian residential requirement does not apply to refugees.

To receive the subsidy, an application must be completed and forwarded with the prescription to the Statewide Spectacles Scheme.

The subsidy does not cover wards of state or school age children for whom assistance is available through Children and Family Services and the Department of Education.

Note: People that can claim from private health insurance, workers compensation or any other source are not eligible to apply.

For more information:
Phone: 1800 232 148 (freecall)
Web: www.dhhs.tas.gov.au
**Wigs**

Financial assistance is available to cancer and alopecia patients who are referred by a doctor and have a:

- DHS or DVA Pensioner Concession Card.

**Note:**

- Holders of a DVA Gold or White Card should contact DVA on 133 254 to check their eligibility for provision of a wig.

**For more information:**

Phone:

Service Tasmania: 1300 135 513  
Royal Hobart Hospital: 6222 8314  
Launceston General Hospital: 6348 7140  
Or contact your medical specialist.

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**SPECIFIC MEDICAL CONDITIONS**

**Diabetes**

Free needles and syringes are available to all people who have a prescription for injectable medication for either of the following:

- insulin treated diabetes (all types – type 1; type 2; gestational diabetes; other diabetes conditions)
- non-insulin dependent type 2 diabetes requiring injectable non-insulin blood glucose lowering medication.

And are:

- residents of Tasmania, including those temporarily interstate  
- registered on the National Diabetes Services Scheme (NDSS)  
- not receiving any other co-payment* to cover the cost of needles and syringes under the NDSS.

* Holders of a DVA Pensioner Concession Card may be eligible for free needles and syringes and should consult the Department of Veterans’ Affairs in the first instance.

**For more information:**

Phone: 1300 136 588 (Diabetes – Tasmania)  
Email: mail@diabetestas.org.au  
Web: www.diabetestas.com.au
Lymphoedema

Financial assistance is available to people requiring compression garments to help manage lymphoedema, who have a:

- DHS Pensioner Concession Card
- DHS Health Care Card.

Note: For card holders of a DVA Pensioner Concession Card please consult the Department of Veterans’ Affairs.

For more information:

Phone:
Royal Hobart Hospital, Physiotherapy: 6222 8634
Royal Hobart Hospital, Occupational Therapy: 6222 8314
Launceston General Hospital, Physiotherapy: 6348 7216
North-West Regional Hospital, Physiotherapy: 6430 6608

Email:
(North) lgh.ahs@dhhs.tas.gov.au
(North-West) physio.burnie@dhhs.tas.gov.au

Orthotic/prosthetic services

A reduced contribution charge for orthotic and prosthetic services is provided to eligible people whose costs are not met by other organisations such as MAIB, Worker’s Compensation or the Department of Veterans’ Affairs.

To access the service, clients are required to have a current referral from either a GP, an allied health professional or a medical specialist.

Those eligible for a reduced contribution include holders of a:

- DHS or DVA* Pensioner Concession Card
- DHS Health Care Card.

* Where DVA card holders are not eligible under another scheme.

For more information:

Phone:
South: 6222 7377
North: 6348 7562
North-West: 6430 6583

Email: opst.tas@dhhs.tas.gov.au
Web: www.dhhs.tas.gov.au