



# Changing Places (Fixed)

## The Commonwealth Accessible Australia Initiative: Increasing inclusion in Australian communities

The Australian Government is investing \$17.1 million from 2024-25 to 2027-28 to increase inclusion in community spaces for people with disability across Australia through the Commonwealth Accessible Australia initiative (Accessible Australia).

The Australian Government will provide funding for up to **50 per cent** of the total build cost for **fixed Changing Places** to state and territory governments via Federation Funding Agreements (FFAs). For information regarding funding, please refer to the [Funding and Federation Funding Agreements fact sheet](#).

### What are Changing Places?

Changing Places are facilities for people with high support needs who are not adequately supported by standard accessible toilets. Changing Places are larger than standard accessible toilets and have extra features to meet the needs of people with disability and their carers.

Changing Places are permanent structures that may be standalone or part of a larger structure.

### What funding is available for fixed Changing Places?

The Australian Government will provide up to 50 per cent of funding towards the build cost of the facility. Applications for funding must be supported by an itemised quote.

### Are there any costs associated with Changing Places that are not eligible for Commonwealth funding?

Not all costs\* are eligible for Commonwealth funding, for example:

- Changing Places assessor and accreditation costs
- Demolition costs
- Costs not directly related to the construction of the Changing Places facility (e.g. fencing, decorative elements, costs associated with a larger construction project)
- Ongoing maintenance costs.

The Commonwealth funding is a contribution towards the costs of the Changing Places facility only. All ongoing operational or maintenance costs are the responsibility of the funding recipient.

\*The above list is not exhaustive. The Commonwealth reserves the right not to fund items it deems ineligible.

## How long after receiving funding is building expected to commence?

Construction must have commenced within 12 months of receiving funding. Proof of commencement must be provided to the Commonwealth.

Construction must be complete within 18 months of commencing. Changing Places will be considered complete once they are accredited and open for public use.

## Do Changing Places need to be accredited?

All Changing Places must be accredited by a [Changing Places assessor](#). Accreditation ensures that Changing Places are built to standard, ensuring users can be confident the facility is fit for purpose.

## Are there restrictions on where Changing Places can be built?

The location of Changing Places can be determined by each state or territory government in consultation with relevant stakeholders (e.g. local councils, co-funders, community organisations). Factors to consider include community need, level of visitor patronage and proximity to other accessible amenities. Final locations are subject to Commonwealth approval.

## What needs to be included in a project plan for a fixed Changing Places facility?

Information regarding project plan requirements can be found in the [Applications, Project Plans and Progress Reporting fact sheet](#).

## Do Changing Places facilities need to be listed on the National Public Toilet Map?

Upon completion, all fixed Changing Places funded by the Australian Government must be listed on the [National Public Toilet Map](#), run by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care.

## Who can I contact for more information?

Further information and Frequently Asked Questions on Accessible Australia can be found on the [Department of Social Services website](#).

The department can be contacted directly via email at [AccessibleAustralia@dss.gov.au](mailto:AccessibleAustralia@dss.gov.au).