

Helping Children with Autism Early Intervention Package

The Helping Children with Autism package (HCWA) is delivered by the Australian Government, Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA).

This package aims to help address the need for support and services for children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs). All initiatives include support for parents, families, carers and children from diverse cultural, linguistic and Indigenous backgrounds and those living in rural and remote areas. This package is funding of up to \$12,000 to use for approved early intervention support and services, provided by the Australian Government, Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA).

Families must apply for the Helping Children With Autism early intervention package before the child turns 6 years of age, but has up to the age of 7 years to use the funding.

This funding is **in addition** to Early Childhood Intervention Services (ECIS). ECIS services are provided through Specialist Information and Services Team (SIRT) Central intake, phone 1800 783 783.

How do I apply for the Autism Advisor Program?

First, you must obtain a formal diagnosis of an ASD for your child and they must be under the age of 6 years. The following information, specific to your state, will assist you with the application process.

Victoria

Autism Advisor Program Victoria Information Pack

<http://www.amaze.org.au/uploads/2011/10/Helping-children-with-autism-Information-Booklet.pdf>

Autism Advisor Program

Phone 1300 424 499 (you may need to leave a message)

NSW

Autism Advisor Program NSW Information Pack

[http://www.autismspectrum.org.au/images/Application pack - Aug 2011.pdf](http://www.autismspectrum.org.au/images/Application_pack_-_Aug_2011.pdf)

Autism Advisor Program

Phone: 1300 978 611 (you may need to leave a message)

More information

View the FaHCSIA web pages for HCWA package.

<http://www.fahcsia.gov.au/sa/disability/progserv/people/HelpingChildrenWithAutism/Pages/default.aspx>