


Summary of proposed changes to Inclusion Support Program (ISP) Guidelines

Current <i>(ISP Guidelines Version 1.3)</i>		Proposed <i>(ISP Guidelines Version 2.0)</i>
ISP policy objectives – to support the inclusion of children with additional needs		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major focus on children with disability 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Broader focus on children with additional needs
Expanding ISP eligibility criteria		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ISP funding support limited to children with a disability or undergoing assessment for disability Centre Based Day Care (CBDC) services not eligible for ISP funding if providing a preschool program Relevant organisations not eligible to apply for ISP funding support 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expansion of eligibility for ISP funding support to include a broader cohort of children with ‘additional needs’ who may not have a diagnosed disability Changed eligibility to include children in a preschool program in CBDC, where the child attracts Child Care Subsidy Relevant early childhood education and care peak bodies, service delivery specialists, disability organisations and other inclusion entities now eligible to apply for ISP funding
IDF Subsidy for an Additional Educator		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eligibility for funding support for an Additional Educator limited to a child with disability or undergoing assessment for disability 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expanded eligibility for funding support for an Additional Educator to include a broader cohort of children with ‘additional needs’ who may not have a diagnosed disability
IDF Subsidy for Immediate/Time-Limited Support		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eligibility for Immediate/Time-Limited Support in most cases will be for a child with disability (or undergoing assessment for disability) but also for children presenting with challenging or disruptive behaviours. An application can be approved for up to 8 weeks The service is required to develop a ‘business case’ 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expanded eligibility for Immediate/Time-Limited Support to include a broader cohort of children with ‘additional needs’ An application can be approved for up to 12 weeks The service is required to develop a ‘project plan’
IDF Subsidy for Innovative Solutions Support		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IDFM can approve applications up to \$3,000. Higher value projects referred to the department for approval Misconception of inflexible funding support 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IDFM applications threshold increased to \$10,000 Flexible funding for services to develop innovative solutions to inclusion barriers and relevant organisations to develop and implement collaborative and strategic projects Simple application process for up to \$3,000 to support services to develop their first Strategic Inclusion Plan

Summary of proposed changes to Inclusion Support Program (ISP) Guidelines

ISP Guidelines proposed changes

ISP GUIDELINES	KEY PROPOSED CHANGES
1. Children with 'additional needs'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusion of a broader cohort of children with additional needs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - trauma-related behaviours - challenging (or disruptive) behaviours - serious medical or health conditions including mental health - children at-risk of not meeting development targets across the five domains of the Australian Early Development Census (Section 1.1)
2. Eligibility criteria and requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expansion of eligibility for funding support for Additional Educators (Section 6.1, Section 7.1) and IDF FDC Top Up (Section 8.1) to include a broader cohort of children with additional needs • Expansion of eligibility criteria to ensure alignment to Child Care Subsidy for Centre Based Day Care services providing a preschool program (Section 3.1.1) • Addition of other relevant organisations eligible to apply for ISP funding support for collaborative and strategic projects (Section 3.1.2)
3. 'Typically developing peers' and proportionate funding support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional information to make explicit that 'typically developing peers' should not be limited to same-age peers (footnote at Section 1.5) • Funding support is proportionate to the needs of the child and the service's emerging capacity and capability. Addition of child-centric principle under guiding principles (Section 1.5)
4. IDF Subsidy for Immediate/Time-Limited	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased timeframe for accessing support from 8 to 12 weeks (Section 6) • Change of terminology from completion of a 'business case' to 'project outline' (Section 6.2.1)
5. IDF FDC Top Up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased rate from \$10.70/hour (2017-18) to \$11.10/hour (2019-20)
6. IDF Innovative Solutions Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IDFM can approve applications up to \$10,000 • Simple application process for up to \$3,000 to support services to develop their first Strategic Inclusion Plan (Section 9.1.1) • To provide more flexibility for services (Section 9.1) to develop and implement innovative solutions to inclusion barriers and other relevant organisations to develop collaborative and strategic projects (Section 9.3)
7. General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional information to link to the National Quality Framework, approved learning frameworks and research • Editorial changes to ensure consistency with the child care package • Removal of redundant information (Part 5 & 7) and addition of hyperlinks • Structural changes including new sections: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) Interface - Roles and responsibilities (Section 2) - Framework for accessing support (Section 5) - Assessment and outcome of applications (Section 10) - Program payments (Section 11) - Other legislative requirements (Appendix 2) - Links to relevant programs (Appendix 3)