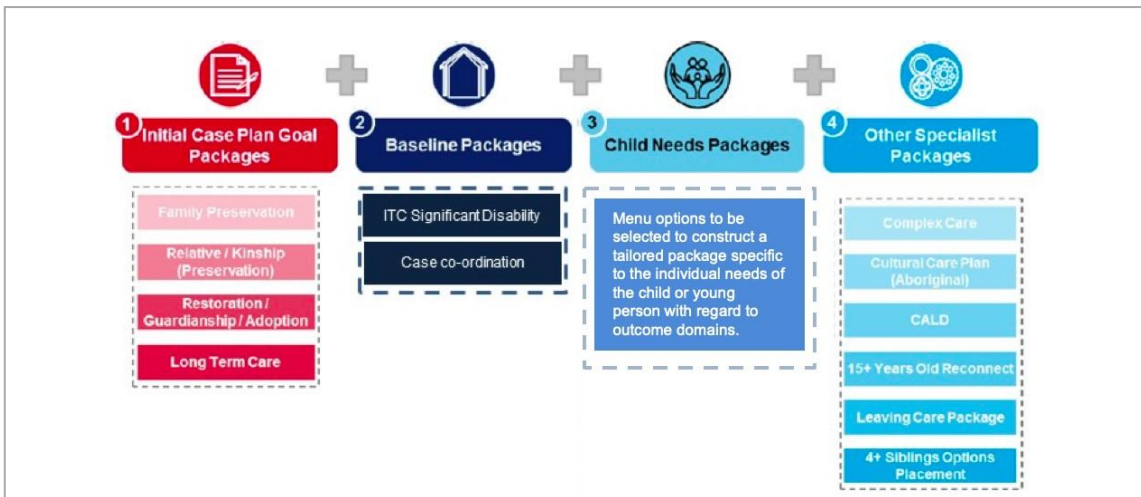


ITC Significant Disability Funding Model

This factsheet provides information to Service Providers about the Intensive Therapeutic Care Significant Disability (ITC SD) funding model. The new contracts to deliver these Services are expected to be in place from 1 July 2019.

The ITC SD funding model describes the basis on which Service Providers will be paid to provide care to Children and Young People in this Service type.

There are four packages in this funding model. Each Child and Young Person in ITC Significant Disability will, as a minimum, receive a payment for the two core packages (Initial Case Plan Goal and Baseline). Children and Young People in ITC Significant Disability may also be eligible for additional funding through the Child Needs Package (Significant Disability) and/or Other Specialist Packages. The funding model is shown in the diagram below:



These packages are briefly described below:

- **Initial Case Plan Goal Package** – To shift from a placement-based to an outcomes-based system, a Case Plan Goal Package will first define the permanency outcome for which a Child or Young Person will be funded. Support will then be provided to achieve the defined permanency outcome in an individual's Case Plan Goal. It's likely that a child in ITC SD will have a Long Term Care goal.
- **Baseline Package (Significant Disability)** – Service delivery and accommodation support for Children and Young People will be funded through one Baseline Package (Significant Disability).
- **Child Needs Package (Significant Disability)** – Comprises of a range of 'Menu Items' designed with the consideration that Children and Young People in this cohort of care have very specific and individualised needs. The components and quantum of this package is customised to reflect the needs of the individual and the level of support available through the NDIS. The value of the Child Needs Package for each Child or Young Person will be determined by the FACS Contract Manager, taking advice from the Independent Support Needs Assessment (ISNA). The ISNA is currently being established and interim mechanisms will be in place while the ISNA is developed.
- **Other Specialist Package** – Children and Young People may also be eligible for Other Specialist Packages which are to be provided for circumstances where an individual requires additional funding to achieve results that cannot be managed through the other packages. Eligibility will reflect the specific characteristics and needs of the individual.

What are the key principles of the funding model?

The funding model for ITC Significant Disability is underpinned by a set of principles. These are:

1. **Sufficient baseline funding:** The funding model is based on the recognition that Children and Young People in this Service type have greater support needs than any other Service type. For this reason, we have developed a baseline package which includes more supports than any other ITC Service type and is intended to provide for the vast majority of the needs of the child or young person. The baseline package of \$330,167 per child or young person per annum includes two direct care staff at any point in time including one active night shift and one sleepover staff. This is higher than the mainstream ITC Home baseline package. It also includes other elements such as accommodation, house manager, therapeutic specialist, caseworker, administrative and management costs and costs related to food, clothing and any other household needs of the child.
2. **NDIS supports should be used to contribute towards the support needs of Children and Young People:** The NDIS plays a key role in providing the appropriate supports for young People in ITC SD. The Service provider must work with NDIS and FACS to ensure that they are accessing NDIS supported Services.
3. **Available NDIS and mainstream funding sources must be fully accessed and utilised before the Child Needs Package is considered:** The child needs package can only be accessed when there is reasonable justification to show that the support Services needed can't be accessed from the NDIS, other mainstream services or other parts of the Service system.
4. **Any individualised placements are time limited and acceptable in extraordinary circumstances only:** ITC SD is fundamentally a '4-bed model'. This means that Children and Young People should be living with other children in a safe home-like environment wherever

it is appropriate for them to do so. Any arrangement outside of a 4-bed model (e.g. individualised placement, 2-bed model or 3-bed model) needs to be approved by FACS and a plan must be put into place about how that child or young person will transition towards moving into an ITC SD home.

- 5. Access to the child needs package requires justification of the volume of Services required:** The child needs package offers the flexibility to tailor the suite of supports available depending on the specific needs of the child or young person. However the volume of supports needs to be justified by evidence to demonstrate that the need is something that can't be addressed through existing resources and importantly that the Services requested are required to achieve the best possible outcomes for Children and Young People in care. These Services will be reviewed on a periodic basis and the level of justification required will be communicated by FACS.
- 6. Service providers accessing the child needs package need to demonstrate that they have provided the approved volumes of Services each quarter:** Children and Young People should be receiving the level (quality and quantity) of Services that they have been identified as needing. The level of justification and evidence required will be communicated by FACS.
- 7. Service Providers will be expected to manage costs within the funding levels.** This means that they will not be compensated in the event of losses, nor will surpluses be swept back by FACS. The prices set for the menu options under the child needs package are to be treated as rates. However, providers may negotiate these rates with support Services that they engage, ensuring that the listed price acts as a maximum price.

How will the payment mechanism work?

Children and Young People in ITC SD will receive funding in line with the build-up of packages described in this fact sheet and the unit prices listed in Schedule 3 (Payment Provisions). FACS has developed an interim payment system for the Child Needs Package while the ISNA is being established. Further information on this will be provided in due course.

More information

For more information, contact the FACS OOHC Recontracting team at OOHCRecontracting@facs.nsw.gov.au