

## Support at Home: End-of-Life Pathway

The End-of-Life Pathway supports older people who have been diagnosed with 3 months or less to live and wish to remain at home by providing funding to access in-home aged care services. The aged care services complement services available under state and territory based palliative care schemes.

A total of \$25,000 is available per eligible participant over a 12-week period.



### Eligibility criteria

**An older person is eligible to access the End-of-Life Pathway if they meet the following criteria:**

- A doctor or nurse practitioner advising estimated life expectancy of 3 months or less to live, and
- Australian-modified Karnofsky Performance Status (AKPS) score (mobility/frailty indicator) of 40 or less.

The End-of-Life Pathway form will be available on the Department's website from 1 November 2025.

### What if someone is already in the Support at Home Program?

The End-of-Life Pathway is available to participants already accessing Support at Home services as well as older people not currently accessing services.

Funding for the End-of-Life Pathway is discrete from other Support at Home classifications.

If eligible, existing Support at Home participants can transition from an ongoing classification to the End-of-Life Pathway via a high-priority Support Plan Review. The End-of-Life classification replaces the previous ongoing classification and a budget of \$25,000 is allocated to the participant under the End-of-Life Pathway.

## Planning Care

End-of-Life Pathway participants can access services from the Support at Home service list, determined on a needs basis in accordance with their high-priority aged care assessment or high-priority Support Plan Review.

A care plan should be developed for participants receiving services under the End-of-Life Pathway, in the same way as for ongoing classifications. The older person must also receive care management through a Support at Home provider, by a staff member known as a care partner.

Participant contribution arrangements apply for independence and everyday living services accessed under the End-of-Life Pathway.

The pathway period commences from the start date outlined on the Aged Care Entry.

## How does someone exit from this pathway?

**Exit from the End-of-Life Pathway may take place for one of the following reasons:**

- the participant has passed away;
- the participant no longer wishes to, or is no longer able to, remain at home;
- the participant has a change in medical circumstances and services under the End-of-Life Pathway are no longer required;
- the period of funding for the End-of-Life Pathway has finished (maximum 16 weeks).

## Where can I find out more?

The [Support at Home program manual](#) is a guide designed to assist registered providers to understand and comply with the Support at Home program rules, procedures and obligations. Section 14 deals with the End-of-Life Pathway.

The [Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission](#) has information on the reform agenda and all aspects of the pending changes.