



Australian Government

Department of Health,
Disability and Ageing



Assessments to use aged care services

Support for Aboriginal and
Torres Strait Islander people

Easy Read version



Acknowledgement of Country



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are the First Peoples of Australia.



They have always looked after Country.

Country means the land, water, sky and everything within them.



We respect the important connection that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have with Country.



And we respect their Elders from the past and now.

How to use this document



Australian Government

Department of Health,
Disability and Ageing

We are the Australian Government Department of Health, Disability and Ageing.

We wrote this document.



We wrote some words in **bold**.

We explain what these words mean.

There is also a list of these words on page 16.



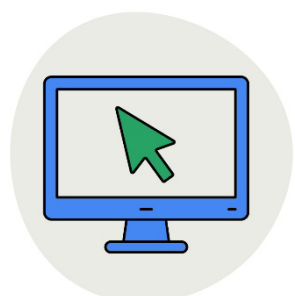
You can ask someone you trust for support to:

- read this document
- find more information.



This is an Easy Read summary of another document.

It only includes the most important ideas.



You can find the other document on our website.

www.health.gov.au/our-work/single-assessment-system/needs/aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-aged-care-assessment-organisations

What's in this document?

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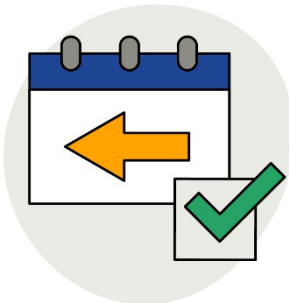
Word list 16

What is an aged care assessment?



An aged care **assessment** helps work out:

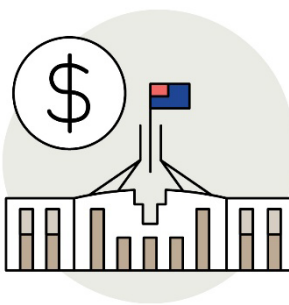
- what you need
- how to support you.



You need to apply for an assessment with My Aged Care before you can use aged care services.



My Aged Care supports older people to find and use the aged care services they need.



The Australian Government helps to pay for aged care services through My Aged Care.



You can ask for an assessment with an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisation.



These organisations support Elders and older Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to find the right aged care services.

What happens at an assessment?

People who work at Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander assessment organisations know how to:



- respect your culture



- make you feel safe



- help people in a way that is kind.

They won't judge you.

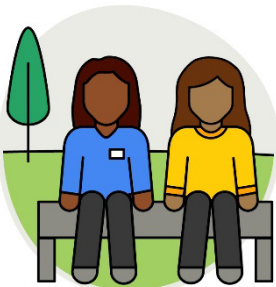


Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander assessment organisations will yarn with you in a safe place that you choose.

This might be:



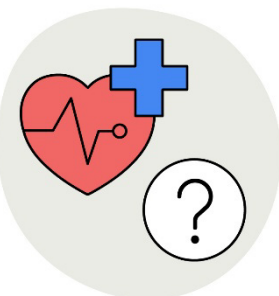
- in your home



- in the community



- over the phone.



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander assessment organisations will ask you questions about your health to find out what aged care services you need.



They will use this information to connect you with services in your community.



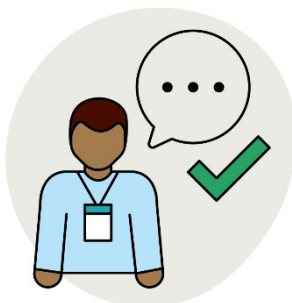
You can ask someone to support you during your assessment.

This might be a friend, family member, kin or other support person from your community.



You can also ask to have an **interpreter** with you during your assessment.

My Aged Care can help you get an interpreter.



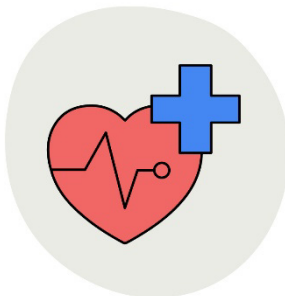
An interpreter is someone who:

- speaks your language
- helps you understand what someone is saying.

How can you get an assessment?



You can get an assessment at an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander assessment organisation if there is one near you.



You can visit your local Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander health service.



You can talk to an Elder Care Support worker.

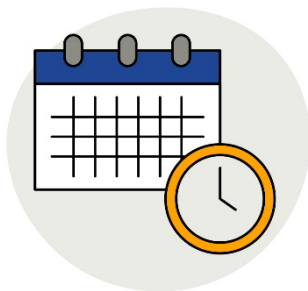


You can ask your doctor for an assessment with an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisation.



You can call My Aged Care to apply for an assessment.

1800 200 422



You can call My Aged Care from:

- 8 am to 8 pm, Monday to Friday
- 10 am to 2 pm, Saturday.



You can apply for an assessment on the My Aged Care website.

www.MyAgedCare.gov.au



You can visit some Services Australia centres to get support from My Aged Care in person.



You can visit the Services Australia website to find a centre near you.

<https://findus.servicesaustralia.gov.au>

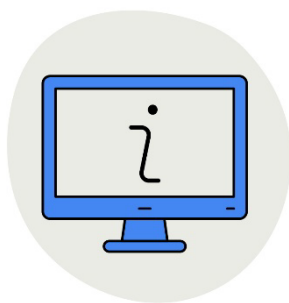


You can use the 'Interactive map' tool on our website to find an organisation near you.

www.health.gov.au/our-work/single-assessment-system/needs/aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-aged-care-assessment-organisations#pilot-sites



You can also get an assessment through non-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations with My Aged Care.



You can visit our website for more information about these organisations.

www.health.gov.au/our-work/single-assessment-system/about/workforce

What happens after an assessment?



You will get a support plan after your assessment.



The support plan explains what services you can use.



The assessment organisation will help you:

- understand your support plan
- use your support plan.



They will also connect you to the services you need.

More information



You can visit our website for more information about aged care assessments for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

www.MyAgedCare.gov.au/support-aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-people

Contact us



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You can visit our website.

[www.MyAgedCare.gov.au/
how-to-contact-my-aged-care](http://www.MyAgedCare.gov.au/how-to-contact-my-aged-care)

Word list

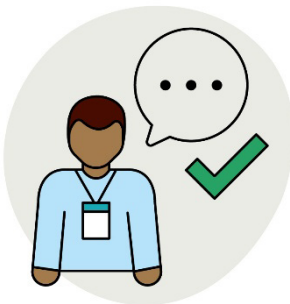
This list explains what the **bold** words in this document mean.



Assessment

An assessment can help work out:

- what you need
- how to support you.



Interpreter

An interpreter is someone who:

- speaks your language
- helps you understand what someone is saying.



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