

Innovative Solutions Support

Application Guide - Specialised Training and Advice

Barriers, Solutions and Outcomes

What cohort of children with additional needs does this application aim to support?

Innovative Solutions Support is available to assist educators to include children with additional needs from specific cohorts. These cohorts are explained in more detail on p.6 of the ISP Guidelines Version 2.5 July 2023. Use the check boxes to indicate the primary cohort that your application aims to support.

What are the barriers this project will address?

Outline the barriers to inclusion for children with additional needs that this project seeks to address here. These should align with the barriers to inclusion identified in your SIP and may include child-related, educator- related and/or service and community related barriers. See the Specialised Training and Advice Project Guide for further information about relevant barriers for this project type.

What is the impact of these barriers for children?

Briefly describe how these barriers are impacting on the child/ren that this project aims to support in relation to their participation in the program; their enrolment and/or interactions with peers etc.

What is the impact of these barriers for educators?

What is happening for educators that is impacting on their ability to be inclusive? Outline why this is occurring. Your response to this question should demonstrate the need for the support you are applying for.

What have you already done to try to address these barriers?

Briefly list other actions you have taken to address these barriers, outlining the results of these actions and why further support is now needed.

Is relevant training or advice available from professionals who are already working with the child (e.g. through an NDIS plan)?

If the answer to this question is “yes” then you should pursue this avenue of support rather than applying for Specialised Training and Advice.

How will Specialised Training and Advice help to address these barriers?

Briefly explain how Specialised Training and Advice will address the barriers you have identified above. Your response to this question should help to show why Specialised Training and Advice is the best option to address your identified barriers.

What are the intended outcomes of the project?

List the outcomes that you aim to achieve through this project i.e. outline what will change as a result of implementing this project.

These outcomes should be specific to your service and the barriers that you have identified but must also align with the overall goals of the Inclusion Support Program i.e. they should show how the project will lead to the genuine inclusion of child/ren with additional needs.

In relation to child/ren, what will the project achieve in terms of increased participation in the program and/or child's enrolment?

In relation to educators, what new skills, knowledge and information will educators gain? How will educators/the service become more inclusive as a result of the project?

Details of the Project

Who is the support provider for this project?

Provide the name of your chosen support provider here. If the support provider is an organisation provide the name of the organisation and the name of the specific individual/s from the organisation who you will be working with (if known).

Why have you chosen them?

Briefly explain your rationale for choosing this support provider. This may include factors such as value for money, availability, support provider experience and/or expertise.

What are their skills/expertise/qualifications in relation to the identified barriers?

Ask your support provider for a statement outlining this information to accompany their quote. Include here or attach as a separate document.

Provide a brief description of content to be delivered during this project.

Outline what content will be covered in this project. Your support provider should be able to provide this information or help you to write it. Your Inclusion Professional will also be able to advise regarding the suitability of a particular approach or specific content.

For training regarding specific medical procedures or implementing a medical management plan, it is sufficient to show that the training to be provided is being conducted by a qualified support provider in accordance with recognised or accredited methods.

If the support provider is delivering evidence-based approach include information re: the evidence base for the project content. The aim of this question is to find out whether the proposed information to be provided to educators is reputable and whether it is compatible with inclusive practice. If this is relevant for your ST&A project, ask your support provider what evidence-based approach they will draw on for this project.

How many care environments will be involved in the project?

Innovative Solutions projects can be developed for a whole service or specific care environments within a service. Use this question to tell us how many care environments will be participating in the project.

How many educators will participate in the project?

Use this question to tell us how many educators will participate in the project. This is the total number of educators across the entire length of the project. Use the project plan (see next question) to identify the anticipated number of educators who will participate in each component of the project.

Provide a Project Plan including an overview of project sessions.

A sample Project Plan is available on the IDFM website if the project has an extensive number of sessions otherwise include in the Application an outline of the Project Plan (There is a blank Project Plan Template available on the IDFM website for you to use.) Your plan should show when each project session or activity will occur, the hours of support to be provided on each occasion, and who will participate in each session. It should also include a summary of the content to be delivered or support to be provided at each session and an indication of whether each session is Professional Development (i.e.: formal content delivery), Mentoring, Coaching or another form of support. If a session combines these forms of support, then an indication of the hours for each should be included.

The Project Plan should provide a clear picture of the overall project and how it will be delivered.

NB: the activities outlined in the Project Plan must match the activities included in the support provider's quote.

Does the Project include the supply or development of resources?

Innovative Solutions Support is not intended to be used for the purchase of resources. However, sometimes there may be resources that are necessary for the successful implementation of a project. In these cases, the supply or development of resources can be approved provided they amount to less than 10% of the total project cost. If the project includes the supply or development of resources tick yes here and then provide a brief overview of what the resources are and why they are necessary for the implementation of the project.

How will you sustain the project outcomes once the project is completed?

Innovative Solutions Support aims to generate lasting outcomes. It is expected that services will be able to maintain project outcomes without the need for high levels of ongoing support. This means that you should have a plan for how your project will lead to embedded and sustainable changes to your practice that will continue after the project finishes. This question is asking how you will do this. Your answer may refer to the project design and how it is designed to create sustainable change. It may also refer to actions you will take once a project is completed to ensure outcomes can be maintained.

Attachments

- **Support Provider quote** (required)

This is required. Support providers should consult the Information for Support Providers to ensure that their quote includes all necessary information.

- **Support provider Information** (if not included above)

If you have not included information about the support provider's qualifications and experience above upload it to the IS Portal as an attachment

- **Project Plan** (if not included above)

If the support you are requesting was too complex to show above upload your project plan to the IS Portal as an attachment.