



# Fees guide

Effective January 1  
to December 31, 2024

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## **Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect)**

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ABN 12 000 637 26

# Aspect Assessments fees

Assessment type	Diagnostic & full report
<b>Autism assessment</b> (initial or review)	<b>\$ 2,650</b>
<b>Cognitive assessment</b>	<b>\$ 1,350</b>
<b>Autism + Cognitive assessments</b>	<b>\$ 4,000</b>

***Please note:***

Fees are regularly reviewed and may be subject to change.

Medicare rebates are available for children and people under 25 year old (autism assessments only).

To access a Medicare rebate, a referral from a paediatrician or psychiatrist is required and the referral should be attached to the intake paperwork when submitted.

The NDIS does not cover diagnostic assessment.

# User guidelines

## Payment terms



**Full payment is due 7 days before the assessment appointment.**

If payment is not received then, the assessment may be postponed to allow for payment to be made.

Once the appointment has been booked, you will receive the invoice and confirmation of the appointment.

If the invoice is paid in full within 7 days of booking the appointment, a **discount of 5%** applies.

If the assessment is being funded by a third party, please discuss payment terms at the time of booking.

## Cancellation



**As there is typically a significant waitlist for assessments, we ask you to provide reasonable notice of more than 2 days / 48 hours if you need to cancel or re-arrange an appointment, so it can be offered to someone else.**

# About Aspect Assessments

## Why pursue an autism assessment and diagnosis

**Aspect provide assessments for autism across the lifespan, following the *National Guidelines for the Assessment and Diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder*.**

**A comprehensive assessment helps identify developmental difficulties and determine strategies and supports that will best assist someone to achieve their goals and reach their potential.**

**Children** diagnosed early can access services that will significantly improve their prospects for a meaningful life. An assessment provides teachers and schools with information that will allow them to more effectively support your child, and you will gain a better understanding of how your child processes the world. This can also help your child better understand themselves.

**Adolescents and adults** - who may have disguised or compensated for their communication or other impairments prior to the diagnosis - can access supports that improve the quality of their social interactions, employment opportunities or ability to have meaningful relationships.

For **individuals already diagnosed with autism**, our assessments can provide updated information about their strengths and challenges, and include recommendations to assist with support planning. Such an assessment can be useful at times of transition (e.g. when commencing primary school or high school or post-school planning) or to assist in applications for funding (e.g. NDIS, Disability Support Pension, school supports etc).

# About Aspect Assessments

## What an assessment involves

We use a range of assessment tools and approaches to conduct a comprehensive assessment. It involves a combination of interaction with the individual, administration of standardised assessment tools, observation, and clinical interviews with the individual and/or their parents and other relevant contacts.

The exact assessment tools used depend on the age of the participant and their individual needs and may include:

- **a clinical interview** with the individual (depending on age) and/or their parents/carers and other relevant contacts. Assessment tools such as the Autism Diagnostic Interview - Revised (ADI-R) or Autism Clinical Interview for Adults (ACIA) will be used as appropriate.
- **formal observation** using assessment tools such as the Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule (ADOS-2) or the Monierio Interview Guidelines for Diagnosing Autism (MIGDAS-2)
- **an assessment of adaptive functioning** (everyday living skills and independence) using the Vineland Adaptive Behaviour Scales (VABS-3) or the Adaptive Behaviour Assessment System (ABAS-3)
- **cognitive or developmental assessments** (face-to-face only) (e.g., WPPSI-IV, WISC-V, WAIS-IV, DP-4)
- **screening questionnaires** for mood and other presenting issues
- **information gathering** from preschool / school staff or other relevant contacts
- **a feedback session** outlining the outcomes of the assessment, including an opportunity for questioning and clarification
- **recommendations** for supports that will best serve the person
- **a comprehensive report** within 4 to 6 weeks.

# About Aspect Assessments

## Face-to-face / online assessments

**Our assessment services are delivered by experienced Clinical Psychologists, Neuropsychologists, or Educational and Developmental Psychologists with post-graduate training in the assessment and diagnosis of autism.**

### **All face-to-face components of our autism assessments are conducted over one day.**

If you have requested a cognitive assessment as well (IQ test), this will typically be done at the beginning of the day, before the autism assessment.

If not, we will first start by conducting a clinical observation using the ADOS-2 or MIGDAS-2. You will be able to take a short break while our clinician scores the test. We will then carry out an interview, using a semi-structured interview such as the ADI-R or ACIA, as appropriate.

This will be followed by a longer break so you can have lunch while we score and collate information. We will then provide feedback about the tests and potential diagnosis of autism, and offer recommendations for therapies and/or supports.

#### **Aspect's clinics are currently located in NSW only:**

- Baulkham Hills, North West Sydney
- Chatswood, Sydney
- Coffs Harbour, Mid-North Coast
- Alstonville, Far North Coast

### **We also offer autism assessments via telehealth (HealthDirect or Zoom).**

You will need access to the internet and a computer or tablet (e.g., iPad) with a microphone and camera. We may also ask parents to put together a few recommended toys for your child to use during the assessment (you won't need to purchase anything, we can use what is available in your home).

We also encourage parents to send us short video clips of their child's social interactions prior to the assessment as this can help provide further insight.

**Please note:** Cognitive (IQ) assessment is the only assessment that cannot be offered via telehealth as it requires specific equipment, and must be done face-to-face. All other components of the autism assessment can be conducted online.

# Frequently Asked Questions

When will I be able to know about the assessment outcome?

The clinician conducting the assessment will usually give feedback about the outcome of the assessment on the day. When more information is required (e.g. from school or therapists), the clinician will ask for consent to speak with the appropriate people. Contacting the other informants will typically take one or two weeks, depending on their availability. The clinician will then call you to provide feedback and recommendations.

Who do I speak to if I have further questions after the report?

At the end of the feedback session, or upon receiving the written report, you may have further questions for the clinician. If this is the case, you can contact the clinician to have your queries addressed. Taking in all of the information can be overwhelming, so don't hesitate to contact the clinician if you need to.

Do Medicare rebates apply to assessments?

Individuals aged 24 years or younger who are referred to Aspect for an autism assessment by a paediatrician or psychiatrist are eligible for a partial rebate through Medicare. A written referral letter from the paediatrician or psychiatrist must be provided to Aspect prior to the day of assessment.

What about private health rebates?

If your private health insurance covers psychological assessment as part of your "extras", you may be able to claim a rebate for psychological services. It is best to contact your health insurance company directly to find out whether you are eligible.





We thank you  
for taking the time to read this guide and  
we look forward to working with you...