

Fact sheet

Information for **applicants**



What is the Companion Card?

The Companion Card program is a not for profit program funded by the NSW Government.

A Companion Card is for people with significant and permanent disability that need a carer with them at all times to participate in community based activities and venues.

The card itself is the size of a credit card, with the name and a photo of the holder – who is the person with disability. When the holder buys a ticket for themselves at participating venues and facilities, their companion will get free entry.

Companion Cards are not means tested and those assessed as eligible have the card for life.


Who is eligible to apply?

You may be eligible for a Companion Card if:

1. you are an Australian citizen or resident, and live in NSW; and
2. you are a person with a significant and permanent disability; and
3. you are unable to participate at most community venues or activities without attendant care support; and
4. aids and other technologies do not meet your attendant care needs; and
5. your need for this level of attendant care will be life-long.

How to apply

Fill out a hard-copy (paper) application form (available on the NSW Companion Card website) and post it to NSW Companion Card at:

 Companion Card Locked Bag 4028
Ashfield NSW 1800

What information do I need to provide with my application?

Applicants must complete a written application form and provide:

- » information about their disability and need for lifelong attendant care support
- » two colour passport photographs
- » verification of the application and photographs by a service provider or health professional.

How will my application be assessed?

NSW Companion Card will consider all of the information provided with the application when deciding whether the applicant is eligible for a Companion Card.

If further information is required, NSW Companion Card will contact the health professional or service provider that signed the application form and/or the applicant.

What happens if my application is declined?

NSW Companion Card will contact you to discuss the decision to decline your application.

If you are unhappy with the decision you can ask for a review. Any new information you provide, with the information obtained in your original application, will be considered in the review process.

If your circumstances change you can provide new information and ask for your application to be re-assessed at any time.



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