



# Are you an eligible telehealth host facility?

Information for residential aged care services

## Background

From 1 July 2011, eligible residential aged care services can register with Medicare Australia as a telehealth host facility.

To be eligible under telehealth, the residential aged care service agrees to provide a room and appropriate equipment to enable its residents (both Medicare and Department of Veterans' Affairs cardholders) to have a video consultation (known as a telehealth consultation) with a specialist, consultant physician or consultant psychiatrist.

There are several criteria that need to be met to be eligible.

## Assessing eligibility criteria

There are three steps to self-assess your eligibility.

### Step 1

**The service type meets the definitions published by the Department of Health and Ageing.**

To be considered eligible, your service must:

- provide care and accommodation to residents under the *Aged Care Act 1997*
- have been issued with a residential aged care services (RACS) ID number (used on your aged care payments).

### Step 2

**The service has an appropriate room in which to conduct a telehealth consultation.**

For a description of what is considered an appropriate room, see the telehealth program guidelines at [www.mbsonline.gov.au](http://www.mbsonline.gov.au) then go to **Telehealth**

### Step 3

**The service has appropriate computer equipment to conduct a telehealth consultation.**

For a description of the recommended IT requirements, see the telehealth program guidelines and questions and answers at [www.mbsonline.gov.au](http://www.mbsonline.gov.au) then go to **Telehealth**

If the service meets the criteria, you are eligible to host your first telehealth consultation.

After your first successful consultation, you can register as a telehealth hosting facility and be paid the On Board Incentive payment.

For more information on registering as a telehealth hosting facility see *How to register as a telehealth host facility* at [www.medicareaustralia.gov.au](http://www.medicareaustralia.gov.au) then go to **For health professionals > Incentives and allowances > Telehealth**

For more information about eligibility criteria and other program specifications see the telehealth program guidelines at [www.mbsonline.gov.au](http://www.mbsonline.gov.au) then go to **Telehealth**

## For more information

Online [www.medicareaustralia.gov.au](http://www.medicareaustralia.gov.au) then go to **For Health Professionals > Incentives and allowances > Telehealth**

Email [telehealth@medicareaustralia.gov.au](mailto:telehealth@medicareaustralia.gov.au)

Call **1800 222 032\*\***

\*\* Call charge apply from mobile and pay phones only.