

Diabetes Supplies

National Diabetes Services Scheme (NDSS)

The National Diabetes Services Scheme (NDSS) was started in 1987 by the Australian Government and provides subsidies for specific diabetes products. This means that you get syringes and pen needles free and blood glucose testing strips a bit cheaper because the government “chips in” with the rest of the cost for these items.

Registration for the scheme is free and available to everyone with diabetes, who lives in Australia and holds a current Australian Medicare card. The scheme is run by Diabetes Australia through their state and territory organisations and some accredited pharmacies (sub-agents).

Note: You do not have to be a member of Diabetes Australia to register with the NDSS.

Products include:

- insulin syringes and insulin pen needles
- insulin pump consumables for eligible registrants
- blood glucose testing strips
- urine, glucose and ketones testing strips

For more information go to <http://www.ndss.com.au>

Further discounts are available for persons who hold the following cards:

- Concession cards
 - Pharmaceutical benefits concession card
 - Health Care card
- Pension cards
 - Pensioner Health Benefits
 - Health Benefits card
- Safety Net Cards
 - Safety Net Concession card
 - Safety Net entitlement card
- Veterans Affairs Cards

Forms are available from Centrelink at: <http://www.centrelink.gov.au>

Registering with the NDSS

To qualify for the benefits of the NDSS, a registration form must be completed and signed by your doctor or by an Accredited Diabetes Educator and sent to Diabetes NSW (contact details below) or one of their accredited sub-agents/pharmacies. You will then receive a membership card in the mail. You can use your card to get diabetes supplies anywhere in Australia. If you lose your card or move, then contact Diabetes NSW and they will send you another card.

Registration for the NDSS is free. It is not the same as membership of Diabetes NSW where you pay a joining fee. You do not need to be a member of Diabetes NSW to register with the NDSS.

Diabetes supplies are available from Diabetes NSW shops and accredited sub-agents/pharmacies and can also be ordered by telephone, mail or facsimile through Diabetes NSW or the NDSS.

Contact details for Diabetes NSW

Diabetes NSW is the state body affiliated with Diabetes Australia.

For more information, go to: <http://www.diabetesnsw.com/>

Enquiries can be made on **1300 136 588** or 1300 342 238 (for general enquiries) or fax: 1300 536 953