

NTA Assistance

For help, contact one of our National Travel Coordinators:

Grey Base Hospital

0800 104 141

03 769 7400 extension 2592

travelhelp@westcoastdhb.health.nz

Buller

03 788 9030 extension 8762

travelhelp@westcoastdhb.health.nz

Online

For full details visit:

<http://www.health.govt.nz/search/results/NTA>

Other Travel Help

Work and Income New Zealand (WINZ)

You might be eligible for financial assistance from WINZ. Phone 0800 559 009 to make an appointment.

Assistance will be income-based but you do not need to be a community services card holder.

Take to a WINZ appointment:

- Verification of your weekly wage
- An up-to-date bank statement
- Your appointment letter or card
- Anything else you are asked to bring when you make your appointment.

Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC)

ACC can only help with travel and accommodation costs if your claim for injury has been accepted for cover.

If your claim has been accepted, ACC might be able to help with your travel costs if you have a long way to go to get treatment or rehabilitation services, or have high travel costs. Please talk to your Case Manager or local ACC Branch.

Information and forms are also available at www.acc.co.nz or phone 0800 101 996 to ask for them to be mailed to you.

*During the **six week period immediately following injury** your travel might be covered by the DHB if you meet the National Travel Assistance criteria.*

Family and friends

Have you asked a family member or friend if they can help you? Don't assume they will say no, they might be happy to help.

Travelling For Healthcare?

Information on the National Travel Assistance scheme (NTA)

Am I Eligible?

You are eligible for travel assistance funding if you are referred for treatment by your publicly-funded health or disability specialist (not a GP) to another publicly-funded specialist, **and** can answer 'yes' to any of the following questions:

- 1. Do you have to travel more than:**
 - 80km one way per visit (child)¹?
 - 350km one way per visit (adult)?
- 2. Do you have to visit a specialist at least 22 times within two months?**
- 3. Do you have to visit a specialist six or more times within six months and travel more than:**
 - 25km one way per visit (child)¹?
 - 50km one way per visit (adult)?
- 4. Are you a Community Services Card holder who has to travel more than:**
 - 25km one way per visit (child)¹?
 - 80km one way per visit (adult)?

If you have answered yes to any of these questions you are eligible for travel assistance.

If you are eligible for travel assistance from another provider (such as ACC, Work and Income, Ministry of Transport, or Ministry of Education) you are not eligible for help under the National Travel Assistance Scheme.

- 1: *A child is anyone younger than 18 years at time of treatment*

What Can I get?

Subsidized reimbursement

- Up to \$100 per night toward your accommodation costs (motel or hotel)
- \$25 per night if staying with relatives or friends.
- 28 cents per km if travelling in a private motor vehicle.

Keep GST receipts (not EFTPOS receipts) for all expenses you will claim. Detailed information is available at:

www.health.govt.nz

- > New Zealand Health System
- > National travel assistance claims

Recommended accommodation

The DHB does not book accommodation for you—make your own arrangements. These facilities are recommended based on their affordability and proximity to hospitals:

Christchurch:

Gothic Heights Motel - 430 Hagley Avenue, 03 366 0838

Raceway Motel - 118 Racecourse Rd, 03 342 7150

YMCA - 12 Hereford St, 03 365 0502

Greymouth:

Alpine Rose Motel - 139 High Street, 03 768 7586

Sundowner - 14 Smith Street, 03 768 4666

Scenicland Motel - 108 High St, 03 768 5100

Nelson:

Trafalgar Lodge - 46 Trafalgar Street, 03 548 3980

Online booking sites such as www.booking.com and www.wotif.co.nz can help you choose accommodation and get the best value.

How Do I Claim?

- 1. Register:** Once you receive your DHB appointment letter, register for National Travel Assistance as soon as possible by filling in the **National Travel Assistance Registration Form** with your referring specialist.²
- 2. Make your own arrangements** for travel and accommodation. Funding is subsidised on a reimbursement basis—keep receipts for your claim.
- 3. Fill in claim form:** Complete a **National Travel Assistance Claim Form**.

These forms are available from:

- Hospital reception
- Your health or disability provider.
- Freephone 0800 281 222 (option 2) to have the forms sent to you
- Online <http://www.health.govt.nz/search/results/NTA>

NOTE: Your claim form must be received by the Ministry of Health within 90 days of your last treatment. Each visit must be signed and stamped as proof of attendance by the specialist or their representative. For details, search NTA at www.health.govt.nz or speak to a DHB National Travel Coordinator.

- 2: *Or a West Coast social worker who has sighted evidence of the referral.*

Free Buller Transport Service

Phone 03 789 7659 to book.

This is a limited volunteer community initiative, running as requested for patients and their support people.

