

## Prosthetic Self-Management

Everyone who has lost a limb will have times when they cannot use their prosthesis, for example; if you are unwell, have skin breakdown, or there are problems with your prosthesis.

It is important that you plan for these times by speaking to your treating Prosthetist about what strategies you should have in place and when to call for an appointment.

If you have any concerns that your prosthesis is in any way not functioning as it should, or you feel your device may need review or replacement, it is important you contact the Prosthetics and Orthotics Service promptly so that timely follow up can be arranged.

If you have any medical concerns regarding your stump, for example, it appears red hot or swollen, there are changes in sensation or colour, or a wound develops, please seek medical attention. Once you have seen your doctor please contact the Prosthetics and Orthotics Service to arrange a review appointment.

## Contact

Phone: 02 6207 0658

### Address:

Prosthetics and Orthotics Service  
Village Creek Centre  
37 Kingsmill Street  
Kambah ACT 2902

### Postal Address:

PO Box 11, Woden ACT 2606  
Email: P&O@act.gov.au

Website: [www.health.act.gov.au](http://www.health.act.gov.au)

Opening hours: Monday to Friday 8:30am-5.00pm



# ACT ARTIFICIAL LIMB SCHEME (ACTALS)

## Information for clients



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If English is not your first language and you need the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS), please call 13 14 50.

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# The ACT Artificial Limb Scheme (ACTALS) provides funding for prostheses (artificial limbs)

## What ACTALS Funding Provides

The ACT Artificial Limb Scheme (ACTALS) provides funding for prostheses and componentry. Your treating Prosthetist or Rehabilitation Physician will advise you about what ACTALS approved componentry meets your needs.

ACTALS provides funding for:

- interim prostheses (the first prostheses used following amputation)
- primary prostheses (main prostheses for everyday use)
- orthotics and medical grade footwear if required for prosthetic use (if not available under other funding schemes)
- the following consumable items prescribed to be used with your prosthesis:

Item	Maximum no. per financial year
Socks (all fabric types)	8
Socks (gel)	4
Sheaths	6
Cosmetic Stockings	4
Above knee suspension belts	3
Knee Suspension Sleeves	3
Stump Shrinkers	2

ACTALS does not generally provide funding for:

- component parts not currently listed as available within ACTALS funding
- spare prostheses
- recreational prostheses for activities not related to paid employment, study, or training for paid employment
- cosmetic prostheses

## Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for ACTALS funding, you must:

- have your prosthesis prescribed by a Rehabilitation Physician from ACT Health
- have your prosthesis made up of components which are approved for ACTALS funding
- be a permanent Australian resident and be listed on a Medicare Card
- be a permanent resident of the ACT or surrounding NSW
- not be eligible for funding of prosthetics from alternative funding bodies such as the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)\*, Lifetime Care and Support, Department of Veterans Affairs, or a third-party insurer.

*\*Note: As the NDIS does not fund interim prosthesis, ACTALS funds these for NDIS eligible clients.*

If you do not meet these criteria, you may be able to apply for funding under extenuating circumstances consideration.

## Extenuating Circumstances Applications

In extenuating circumstances, ACTALS funding may be granted at the discretion of ACT Health for:

- clients who do not meet the eligibility criteria
- items generally excluded for funding.

To be considered for funding under extenuating circumstances an application needs to be completed and lodged by your treating ACT Health Prosthetist. Applications are assessed by the ACTALS Advisory Committee based upon your clinical needs, and what other options that are available to you. They will then make a recommendation.

Each application will be considered independently of any other requests. Applications will only be considered if there is available budget. The decision of ACT Health will be final.

## Financial Contribution Requirements

**Concessional clients:** Are clients aged 17 or under, or who hold a valid Department of Human Services Pensioner Concession Card or Health Care Card, - They will receive ACTALS approved goods and services free of charge.

**All other ACTALS eligible clients:** New prosthetics, repairs, consumables and associated labour are charged at 15% of total costs up to an annual ceiling as per ACT Health gazetted fees. Details regarding fees are available from your Prosthetist.

**Note:** Clients can choose to pay for components not funded under ACTALS if that is their preference. Please discuss options and costs with your treating Prosthetist.

## Responsibilities in Managing ACTALS Funded Equipment

If you have received funding from ACTALS for a device, you must:

- make sure your device is properly used and looked after
- follow your ACT Health Prosthetist's instructions for its care and maintenance
- contact ACT Health Prosthetic and Orthotic Service for any repairs or adjustments. If you are travelling interstate or overseas they will direct you to appropriate services to assist
- return any devices to the Prosthetic and Orthotic Service if it is no longer required.

You must not arrange for any adjustments or repairs to ACTALS funded devices either by yourself or unapproved external parties. Failure to meet the above conditions can result in voiding of warranties. If this happens you may need to pay charges for service and repairs.

**ACT Health has the right to withdraw ACTALS funding for prosthetic provision in cases of ongoing misuse of equipment.**