Budget October 2022-23

This information is accurate as of 25 October 2022.

Support for New and Expecting Parents

This measure delivers on the Australian Government’s election commitment to support the Gidget Foundation Australia (GFA). GFA is a not-for-profit organisation supporting the mental health and wellbeing of new and expectant parents and their families.

The Department of Health and Aged Care (the department) and GFA will set up and maintain 12 perinatal mental health centres across Australia. This will increase the availability of psychological support for new and expectant parents. It is expected to benefit more than 2,800 people per year.

The department will work with GFA to ensure services are provided at low, or no cost, to people seeking help. This is through the [Better Access Initiative](https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/better-access-initiative-supporting-mental-health-care?context=20).

Services Australia has been allocated $59,000 over 4 years for the increased claiming of psychological support services through Medicare.

You can read more about the [Gidget Foundation Australia](https://gidgetfoundation.org.au/) on its website.

This measure is not subject to the passage of legislation.

Who does this measure affect?

This affects new and expectant parents who need support with their mental health and wellbeing, and health professionals providing these services.

When will this start and finish?

This will start on 1 January 2023 and is ongoing.