

Buying into the Scheme

Can I buy into the Scheme?

The *Motor Vehicle Accidents (Lifetime Support Scheme) Act 2013* (SA) permits a person who was seriously injured in a motor vehicle accident before 1 July 2014, to 'buy in' to the Lifetime Support Scheme, under certain conditions.

How do you buy into the Scheme?

If you wish to buy into the Scheme, you or someone acting on your behalf will need to make an application to the Lifetime Support Authority (LSA).

The application must be in writing and include enough information to enable the LSA to decide whether your injuries meet the criteria for 'buy in' that are set out in LSS Rules (available on the LSA website, www.lifetimesupport.sa.gov.au).

How much does it cost to buy into the Scheme?

The LSA will need to work out how much it would cost for you to buy into the Scheme. It will do this by looking at your current treatment, care and support needs as well as considerations such as:

- your current age and your age at the time of your injury
- the nature and severity of your injury
- A current assessment of your injuries, for example, using the FIM or WeeFIM or ASIA Impairment Scale Score (spinal cord injury).

You might be asked to have an assessment done so that the LSA has the most up-to-date information available to decide how much it would cost you to buy into the Scheme. If this happens you will get a copy of the report.

Once the LSA has determined how much it will cost for you to buy into the Scheme, it will write to you to let you know the amount, as well as tell you how they calculated the figure.

Once you have paid the buy-in value, you will receive a letter from the LSA to confirm that you are a lifetime participant in the Scheme and that the buy in amount has been paid into the Lifetime Support Scheme Fund. Once this has happened, the LSA can't ask you for more money and you will have the same obligations and entitlements as other lifetime participants in the Scheme.

For more information contact the Lifetime Support Authority.