

# Subsidies and Allowances

## Child disability allowance (available to children under 18 years)

The Child Disability Allowance is a payment made to the main carer of a child or young person with a serious disability. It is paid in recognition of the extra care and attention needed for that child. It is not income-tested. You will need to obtain a doctor's medical certificate in order to be eligible. Coeliac New Zealand can also provide a supporting letter.

See [www.winz.govt.nz](http://www.winz.govt.nz) or phone 0800 559 009

## Disability allowance (available to both children and adults)

The Disability Allowance is a weekly payment for people who have regular, ongoing costs due to a disability. As you have coeliac disease you may be able to receive an allowance to help assist with the cost of gluten free foods. This is income-tested (you must be earning under a certain amount to qualify). You will need a doctor's letter to confirm diagnosis and may need a dietitian's letter to confirm the increase in food costs.

See [www.winz.govt.nz](http://www.winz.govt.nz) or phone 0800 559 009

## Pharmac subsidy

If you have been diagnosed with coeliac disease by biopsy or suffer from dermatitis herpetiformis you are entitled to the Pharmac part subsidy for gluten free flour and pasta.

Pharmac previously managed the funding of gluten free foods but is no longer considering the listing of new products or making changes to existing foods. This means that as prices increase, using a prescription for gluten free foods will possibly become unviable and it may be more cost-effective to purchase at the local supermarket/health food store, especially when the products are on special.

However, as at the time of writing it is still very worthwhile purchasing gluten free foods on prescription in many areas. Purchasing gluten free food on prescription depends on the geographical area concerned.

If you live in the South Island or Upper Hutt, Crombie and Price administer a programme called 'Hospital to Home'. This is a programme whereby gluten free flour and pasta is couriered to your home. A prescription and payment must be received by them before the goods will be despatched. The goods are despatched freight free to a nominated address.

If you live in other areas it may or may not be worthwhile you purchasing gluten free foods on prescription. There is usually a prescription charge from your GP, a pharmacy dispensing charge, as well as the actual charge for the food. Speak with your local pharmacist who should be able to advise you.

## To receive your part subsidised gluten free food:

You will need to first obtain a Special Authority Number from your GP, dietitian or specialist; the number is unique to you for life. To be eligible for the health benefit number you must have been diagnosed by biopsy.

**North Island excluding Lower Hutt**

1. You will then need a prescription from your GP, specialist or dietitian. You can order up to a three months' supply (a prescription is three monthly). Ensure this is kept generic, do not list brands.
  - eg.
  - 3 x month's supply of gluten free flour, bread mix and/or baking mix
  - 3 x month's supply of gluten free pasta
2. Take this prescription to your local or hospital pharmacy and order your choice of products. See below chart for available product brands. A pharmacy prescription charge may apply.

**South Island and Lower Hutt - 'Hospital to Home'**

1. Go to the Crombie and Price website [www.crombie-price.co.nz](http://www.crombie-price.co.nz) and download the form under 'coeliac prescription' on their home page or call 0800 118 311 for this to be sent to you.
2. Complete the form and take this to your GP, specialist or dietitian who will sign and fax 0800 118 322 to Crombie and Price.
3. Crombie and Price will then send you a pro-forma invoice regarding the part-cost payable; check this and make payment.
4. Once payment is received they will deliver to your home, freight free to a nominated address.

**Products and pricing available under the Pharmac part subsidy:**

<b>PASTA available on the special foods schedule part subsidised</b>	<b>Size</b>	<b>Patients Pay (Including GST)</b>	<b>Approx. Retail \$</b>
Orgran corn & Vegetable spirals	250gm	\$2.07	\$4.90
Orgran Rice & Millet Spirals	250gm	\$2.30	\$5.20
Orgran Buckwheat spirals	250gm	\$2.30	\$5.20
Orgran Vegetable & rice spirals	250gm	\$2.07	\$4.90
Orgran Rice & Maize Spirals	250gm	\$2.07	\$4.90
Orgran Rice & Corn Spag/noodles	375gm	\$2.07	\$5.20
Rice & Corn Lasagne Sheets	200gm	\$3.79	\$7.00
Rice & Corn Penne	250gm	\$2.07	\$4.90
Rice & Corn Macaroni	250gm	\$2.07	\$4.90
Italian Style Spaghetti Long	220gm	\$2.30	\$5.20
<b>Flour/mixes available on the special goods schedule part subsidised</b>	<b>Size</b>	<b>Patients Pay (Including GST)</b>	<b>Approx. Retail \$</b>
Bakels health bread mix	1kg	\$4.65	\$13.30
Bakels Low gluten bread mix	1kg	\$4.83	\$12.20
Horleys Flour	2kg	\$16.10	\$30.40
Horleys bread mix	1kg	\$9.71	\$18.50
SIMPLE baking mix	1kg	\$5.10	\$10/90