

## **New funding for Health Interpreting Services Programs (2022/23)**

Translating and Interpreting Services (TIS) are provided by the Department of Home Affairs' TIS National. Free TIS (FIS) has been available in some health care settings for a while, including to GPs and pharmacists. Last year (2022) two new health funded programs expanded this access into allied health and mental health settings. The table below outlines eligibility for the two programs (both funded by the Department of Health and Aged Care (DHAC)).

DHAC would like to encourage as many eligible allied health professionals and mental health agencies as possible to access this funding. Please encourage eligible providers to follow the links below for further information and support to registering for the service. Using TIS is easy, and [TIS National](#) have resources to support usage.

Language services are designed to ensure that people with limited or no English language proficiency can access the services they need, removing a significant barrier faced by CALD Australians when accessing health support.

<b>Program</b>	<b>Free Interpreting Services (FIS) for allied health services</b>	<b>Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) for Primary Health Network (PHN) commissioned mental health services</b>
<b>Eligible locations</b>	Service provided in 32 selected Local Government Areas (LGAs) – see list at <a href="#">TIS National website</a> .	National
<b>Eligible health services</b>	Allied health services provided by: art therapists, audiologists, audiometrists, chiropractors, Chinese medicine practitioners, dieticians, exercise physiologists, genetic counsellors, music therapists, medical radiation practitioners, optometrists, orthoptists, orthotists/prosthetists, occupational therapists, osteopaths, physiotherapists, podiatrists, psychologists, registered counsellors (levels 3 and 4), rehabilitation counsellors, social workers, sonographers and speech pathologists	For the delivery of <u>mental health services</u> that are PHN funded.
<b>Eligible service type</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Delivered in private practice</li> <li>Delivered by a suitably qualified professional</li> <li>Provided to a patient or client who has a Medicare card</li> </ul>	Mental health services funded by a PHN.
<b>Process for health professionals to register</b>	<b>Each allied health professional should register for their own individual client code.</b> Register each individual allied health professional via the online FIS application form for allied health professionals.	<b>Each agency should register for their own client code – everyone working at that agency can use the same client code regardless of profession or role.</b> Register an agency via TIS online form. Directions can be found at the <a href="#">DHAC website</a>
<b>Type of registration code</b>	Individual client code for each allied health professional to use FIS.	Individual client code for each agency. (Agencies with multiple locations and PHN funding arrangements should register for a separate code for each location).
<b>Timeframe of program</b>	Commenced 24 October 2022. Ongoing for 32 LGAs.	Commenced 1 February 2023, until 30 June 2024.
<b>Where to find more information</b>	<a href="#">TIS National website</a> Webinar available on <a href="#">DHAC website</a>  To find out more about your eligibility, contact <a href="mailto:caho@health.gov.au">caho@health.gov.au</a>	<a href="#">DHAC website</a>  To find out more about your eligibility, contact <a href="mailto:TISmentalhealth@health.gov.au">TISmentalhealth@health.gov.au</a>
<b>Technical support</b>	<a href="mailto:tispromo@homeaffairs.gov.au">tispromo@homeaffairs.gov.au</a> ; or phone 1300 655 820	