

CAEATI Standards compliance process

CAEATI Guidelines state, “If applicable Aids, Equipment and Assistive Technology subsidised by CAEATI must meet relevant Australian Standards or equivalent.”

While standards do not guarantee a better service life, they do give some comparable measure of quality between products, provided the testing has been undertaken in approved laboratories operating within their scope of accreditation. To allow for more access to a client focused model of service, the following process will be utilised to allow clients to make informed decisions around the purchasing of their chosen equipment.

CAEATI applications are required by the guidelines to meet one of the first three levels of compliance below. Where an item meets the level four requirements and the in house testing documents have been provided to CAEATI, CAEATI may purchase the product based on these documents. The decision will be based on the type of equipment and the associated risks involved. Items with electrical components or legislated standards requirements will be looked at on a case by case basis and some relaxations may apply.

Level of compliance:

1. Independently tested in a accredited laboratory to the Australian Standard
2. Independently tested in an accredited laboratory to an International Standard, with a letter stating its compliance to the Australian Standard.
3. Independently tested in an accredited laboratory to an International Standard.
4. Tested to a Standard, in house or not at an accredited laboratory.
5. Not tested to any Standard.
6. No relevant Standard for the assistive technology category.

Items that have not been tested (level 5) may be funded by CAEATI if a Standards Waiver Acknowledgement Letter is signed and returned by the client. This letter will be posted out to the client once the application has been received by CAEATI and the level of Standards compliance has been determined.

Items which have no relevant standard to be tested to will be approved on a case by case basis and any concerns with the design/manufacture of the product will be addressed before the purchase occurs. If issues arise with the products over time, CAEATI purchasing of the equipment may be placed on hold until the problems are resolved.