

Virgin Australia Specific Needs and Assistance Process Travel Agent Guide

This document provides guidelines for Agents to follow when assisting guests who require a Specific Service Request (SSR) to meet particular needs. At Virgin Australia, guest safety and comfort are a top priority. To help ensure an enjoyable and smooth travel experience, it's important that any specific requirements are communicated in advance (where applicable). This document outlines the following types of Specific Service Requests:

- Mobility Assistance
- Disabled Person Needing Assistance (DPNA)
- Guide, Hearing and Assistance Dogs
- Meet and Assist
- Disability Assistance Concession
- Medical Clearance
- Onboard Use of Personal Medical Equipment
- Support Devices
- Special Meals

Please note, certain services are not available at all ports. Please confirm with Virgin Australia what services are available at the guest's outbound and inbound port **prior** to booking any assistance for your guest.

Mobility Assistance

Virgin Australia permits Agents to request mobility assistance via the GDS. The most common SSR requests for mobility assistance are outlined below. Agents must only select one SSR for each guest. Selected SSRs may require more information and therefore you will need to call Virgin Australia industry support to determine the level of mobility assistance and acceptance of a guest's mobility aid. For any requests not outlined below, please contact the Travel Agent helpdesk.

The following services can be requested via your GDS:

WCHR	Guest cannot walk long distance but can negotiate stairs and walk to seat. <i>Virgin Australia will provide a wheelchair from the check in counter to the departure gate.</i>
WCHS	Guest cannot walk long distances or negotiate stairs but can walk to seat. <i>Virgin Australia will provide a wheelchair from the check in counter to the aircraft door.</i>
WCOB	Guest requires wheelchair onboard (must only be booked in conjunction with WCHC). <i>Virgin Australia can assist in transferring guests into their seat through the use of a slide sheet/board. In some ports, an eagle lift hoist may also be available. Please check with Virgin Australia as to what transfer method is available at your guests, arrival and departure ports.</i>

The following services can be requested by contacting Virgin Australia industry support:

WCHC	Guest may be completely immobile and require wheelchair from check-in to cabin seat.
WCLB	Guest is a WCHR, WCHS or WCHC and travelling with an electric wheelchair that has a lithium battery. Dimensions and Weight will be required before confirming assistance.
WCBD	Guest is a WCHR, WCHS or WCHC and travelling with an electric wheelchair that has a non-spillable sealed lead acid (SLA) or gel battery. Dimensions and Weight will be required before confirming assistance.
WCMP	Guest travelling with a manual wheelchair in hold but doesn't require assistance.
WCBW – QR Wetlease only	Guest is a WCHR, WCHS or WCHC and travelling with an electric wheelchair that has a wet cell battery.
TRSO	Guest requires an upper torso harness onboard.
OTHS	Guest requires postural support onboard.
DGIC	Guest's onboard mobility device contains a lithium battery.

Please confirm with Virgin Australia what services are available at the guests outbound and inbound port **prior** to booking any mobility assistance for your guest, including assistance with transferring guests into their seats.

For further information around Mobility Assistance, including mobility aid size restrictions transfer options and mobility aid equipment available at the airport, please refer to the [Mobility Assistance page](#) on the Virgin Australia website. Alternatively, please contact the Virgin Australia Industry Support team.

Mobility Assistance - Agent Booking Process

Please follow one of the below steps when requesting mobility assistance.

Booking requests more than 24 hours prior to travel:

1. Create a booking as normal.
2. Add relevant SSR for the mobility assistance for each flight you require in the PNR (WCHR, WCHS and WCOB only). Please contact Virgin Australia industry support to book all other mobility SSR's.
3. The wheelchair request will reflect as a PN status.
4. This will generate for manual approval from Virgin Australia. You will receive confirmation as a KK status. Please accept, HK, and confirm the SSR.
5. If the request is not confirmed, you will receive a vendor remark in your booking to contact Virgin Australia to look at alternative flight options.
6. Ticket the PNR as normal once the SSR has been confirmed.

Booking requests **within 24 hours** prior to travel:

7. Create a booking as normal.
8. Add relevant SSR for the mobility assistance for each flight you require in the PNR.
9. The wheelchair request will reflect as a PN status.
10. Contact Virgin Australia industry support to either confirm the SSR or to advise an alternative flight.
11. Ticket the PNR as normal once the SSR has been confirmed.

Mobility Assistance – GDS Entries

Amadeus (1A)

SR(Wheelchair Type)/(Name Number)	SRWCHR/P1
SR(Wheelchair Type)/(Name Number)	SRWCHS/P1
SR(Wheelchair Type)/(Name Number)	SRWCOB/P1
SR(Wheelchair Type)-(Dimensions and weight)/Name Number	SRWCLB-WITH WCHC CAN SELF TRANSFER H65CM L100CM W50CM WEIGHT 85KG/P1

Galileo (1G)

SI.(Name Number)/(Wheelchair Type)	SI.P1/WCHR
SI.(Name Number)/(Wheelchair Type)	SI.P1/WCHS
SI.(Name Number)/(Wheelchair Type)	SI.P1/WCOB
SI.(Wheelchair Type)/(Dimensions and weight)- Name Number	SI.P1S1/WCLB*WITH WCHC CAN SELF TRANSFER H65CM L100CM W50CM WEIGHT 85KG

Sabre (1S)

3(Wheelchair Type)-(Name Number)	3WCHR-1.2
3(Wheelchair Type)-(Name Number)	3WCHS-1.2
3(Wheelchair Type)-(Name Number)	3WCOB-1.2
3(Wheelchair Type)/(Dimensions and weight)- Name Number	3WCBD/WITH WCHC CAN SELF TRANSFER H65CM L100CM W50CM WEIGHT 85KG – 1.1

Disabled Person Needing Assistance / Hidden Disability Assistance (DPNA)

Assistance that we may be able to provide to guests include escorting through security and immigration check points, carrying of cabin baggage, boarding prior to general boarding, and assistance on arrival from the aircraft to the baggage collection.

There are some additional matters that you may need to consider to help you decide if your requirements would be best accommodated by [travelling with a carer](#). If you do not meet the [Independent Travel Criteria](#), you will be required to travel with a Carer.

The following services can be requested [via your GDS](#):

BLND	Guest is Blind or has Low Vision
DEAF	<i>Guest is Deaf or hard of hearing</i>

Hidden Disability Assistance – GDS Entries

Amadeus (1A)

SR(Disability Type)/(Name Number)	SRBLND/P1
SR(Disability Type)/(Name Number)	SRDEAF/P1

Galileo (1G)

SI.(Name Number)/(Disability Type)	SI.P1/BLND
SI.(Name Number)/(Disability Type)	SI.P1/DEAF

Sabre (1S)

3(Disability Type)-(Name Number)	3BLND-1.2
3(Disability Type)-(Name Number)	3DEAF-1.2

Disabled Person Needing Assistance – Agent Booking Process

Virgin Australia offers guest's with developmental or intellectual disabilities the opportunity to travel as a Disabled Person Needing Assistance (DPNA).

Available on:

- ✓ Domestic Services
- ✓ International Short Haul Services
- ✓

Disabled Person Needing Assistance – GDS Entries

Sabre (1S)

3(Disabled Person Needing Assistance)(Segment related)/(Mandatory Free Text)-(Name Number)	3DPNA1/FREE TEXT-1.1
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Amadeus (1A)

SR(Disabled Person Needing Assistance)-(Mandatory Free Text)/(Name Number)	SRDPNA-FREE TEXT/P1
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Galileo (1G)

SI.(Name Number)(Segment related)/(Disabled Person Needing Assistance)*(Mandatory Free Text)	SI.P1S1/DPNA*FREE TEXT
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Please note, the free text remark only needs to reflect that assistance is required, do not include information on the nature of the disability.

DPNA guests are welcome to board the aircraft prior to other guests to allow additional time to be seated. Assistance boarding the aircraft can also be provided upon request.

Please ensure that the guests travelling as a DPNA identify themselves to Virgin Australia ground staff during check-in

Guide, Hearing or Assistance Dogs

Booking Guide, Hearing and Assistance Dogs can only be done by Virgin Australia.

Virgin Australia can accommodate a Guide, Hearing or Assistance Dog when accompanying a guest with a disability.

Available on:

- ✓ Domestic Services
- ✓ International Short Haul Services

Please note, this is subject to the Dog satisfying the requirements for carriage in the aircraft cabin. For more information on Guide, Hearing or Assistance Dog eligibility, requirements for travel and Quarantine information, please refer to the [Travelling with a Service Dog](#) on the Virgin Australia website.

Meet and Assist

Virgin Australia permits Agents to request Meet and Assist via the GDS. If your guest requires specific assistance with carrying cabin baggage while boarding and disembarking the aircraft, or through Customs for international flights, a Virgin Australia team member can assist them from the check-in gate through to boarding the aircraft and vice versa when disembarking.

MAAS

Guest requires Meet and Assistance at the airport.

Available on:

- ✓ Domestic Services
- ✓ International Short Haul Services

Note: Meet and Assist requests cannot be used as a substitute for wheelchair assistance and Virgin Australia do not provide assistance from the kerb to the check-in counter, or from the baggage collection area to the kerb.

For further information around Meet and Assist, please visit the [Meet and Assist page](#) on the Virgin Australia website.

Meet and Assist –Agent Booking Process

Please follow the below steps for requesting Meet and Assist.

1. Create a booking as normal.
2. Add an SSR for Meet and Assist MAAS.
3. Add relevant SSR remarks for any special instructions if required.
4. The meet and assist request will reflect as a NN status.
5. This will generate for approval from Virgin Australia. You will receive confirmation as a KK status if the service is available for the flight selected. Please accept, HK, and confirm the SSR.
6. If the request is not confirmed, you will receive a UC status. If unavailable, please advise your guest and re book onto another service.
7. Ticket the PNR as normal once the SSR has been confirmed.

Meet and Assist – GDS Entries

Amadeus (1A)

SR(Meet and Assist)-(Mandatory Free Text)/(Name Number)	SRMAAS-MAAS/P1
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Galileo (1G)

SI.(Name Number)/(Meet and Assist)*(Mandatory Free Text)	SI.P1/MAAS*MAAS
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Sabre (1S)

3(Meet and Assist)/(Mandatory Free Text)-(Name Number)	3MAAS/MAAS-1.2
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Disability Assistance Concession

Eligibility for the Concession will be determined by the Virgin Australia Industry Support based on their evaluation that the access guest cannot meet the [VA Independent Travel Conditions \(ITC\)](#) and is therefore required to travel with a Carer. The Concession cannot be actioned directly by the access guest or the nominated assistant as they must be determined by Virgin Australia Industry Support. For more information or to determine eligibility please contact Virgin Australia Industry Support on 136 737.

If an Access Guest doesn't meet the ITC, they are required to travel with a Carer.

The Access Guest does not meet the ITC if:

- they are unable to understand and respond to briefings about emergency procedures; and
- they require personal assistance onboard such as:
 - a) assistance using bathroom facilities, including lifting to/from the toilet
 - b) assistance transferring themselves to a wheelchair and/or aircraft seat if they are 130kg in weight or heavier

- c) assistance administering medication
- d) assistance with food and beverage consumption

For more information please refer to the [Specific Needs and Assistance page](#) on the Virgin Australia website.

Medical Clearance

Virgin Australia permits Agents to request [Medical Clearance](#) via the GDS. If your guest has a medical condition and requires Medical Clearance to travel, you will need to review the [Medical Clearance Guidelines](#) to ensure the correct SSR has been added to the relevant booking.

Guests that require medical clearance must submit the [Medical Clearance Form](#) to Virgin Australia for pre-approval prior to their travel.

Medical clearance forms will be reviewed by dedicated Priority Assistance Agents within the Virgin Australia Guest Contact Centre. Once approved for travel, guests will be notified. Guests are to carry a copy of the completed Medical Clearance Form for each flight and are required to present this at check-in and upon boarding.

Medical Clearance SSR

MEDA	
	Guest requires Medical Clearance to travel.

Note: MEDA requests can be requested but completed forms must be sent to Virgin Australia for review and approval **PRIOR** to travel.

For further information around Medical Clearance please, refer to the [Medical Clearance page](#) on the Virgin Australia website.

Medical Clearance – Agent Booking Process

Please follow one of the below steps when requesting medical clearance.

Booking requests **more than 72 hours** prior to travel:

1. Create a booking as normal.
2. Add an SSR for the medical clearance MEDA and associate to the specific guest.
3. Add relevant SSR remarks for any specific instructions.
4. The medical clearance request will reflect as NN status.
5. Provide guest with Medical Clearance Form and details of where to send the completed form either via fax or email – refer to Virgin Australia Medical Clearance contact information below.
6. Ticket the PNR as normal.
Note: The SSR will never reflect a KK status and will always remain as NN status.
7. You will be contacted by Virgin Australia to advise if approval has been authorised for travel.

8. Advise your guest they must travel with the Medical Clearance Form on all flights.

Booking requests within 72 hours of travel:

Agents/guests with urgent travel or travel within 72 hours should contact the [Virgin Australia Medical Clearance team](#) to ascertain the requirements for obtaining medical clearance to travel.

Virgin Australia – Medical Clearance Form and Contact Information

Within Australia	1300 139 303
Rest of World	+ 61 73295 3941
Forms can be emailed to	VA.medical@virginaustralia.com
Forms can be faxed to	+ 61 7 3295 3100
Medical Clearance Form	Click here

Medical Assistance – GDS Entries

Sabre (1S)

Medical Clearance)(Segment related)/(Mandatory Free Text)-(Name Number)	3MEDA1/MEDA-1.1
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Amadeus (1A)

SR(Medical Clearance)-(Mandatory Free Text)/(Name Number)	SRMEDA-MEDA/P1
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Galileo (1G)

SI.(Name Number)(Segment related)/(Medical Clearance)*(Mandatory Free	SI.P1S1/MEDA*MEDA
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Onboard Use of Personal Medical Equipment

Virgin Australia offers the ability for Agents to request the carriage of certain Personal Medical Equipment which must be booked by Virgin Australia.

Onboard Use of Personal Medical Equipment

PPOC	Personal Portable Oxygen Concentrator.
CPAP	Continuous Positive Airway Pressure Machine.
MEQT	Personal Medical Equipment for Onboard Use
DGIC*	Oxygen bottle required in cabin (enter quantity and type of cylinder) / Mercury Thermometer and/or Barometer carried by BOM in cabin

**Booked in conjunction with guests travelling with oxygen for use inside the cabin or if travelling with Mercury filled Thermometers or Barometers in the cabin*

Strict safety and dangerous goods regulations govern the operation and carriage of electronic devices onboard an aircraft.

The [Personal Medical Equipment List](#) has been prepared to provide guidance on medical equipment which may be carried onboard by guests.

If the device is not on the Personal Medical Equipment List, the guest must complete the [Request for Personal Medical Equipment form](#) at least 48 hours prior to departure date and forward to:

Email: VA.Medical@virginaustralia.com

Fax: +61 7 3295 3100

Or, directly contact the Guest Contact Centre on:

Within Australia 1300 139 303

Anywhere else in the world +61 7 3295 3941

The requirements for guests travelling with personal medical devices are outlined on the [Medical Conditions page](#) of the Virgin Australia website. Batteries for portable electronic equipment including medical devices must comply with the [Battery Limitations](#).

Carriage and use of medical equipment on flights operated by Virgin Australia's airline partners will be subject to that carrier's policies and procedures. Please ensure you contact the partner airline operating your flight for further information.

Note: all battery powered devices must travel with enough battery power for 150% of the flight time, to accommodate for diversions or delay. Virgin Australia is unable to transport humidicribs or stretchers due to safety requirements and aircraft configurations

Personal Medical Equipment – GDS Entries

Sabre (1S)

4(PPOC)(Segment)/(Mandatory Free Text)-(Name Number)	4PPOC1/TRAVELLING WITH BRAND AND MODEL PPOC-1.2
4(CPAP)(Segment)/(Mandatory Free Text)-(Name Number)	4CPAP2/TRAVELLING WITH BRAND AND MODEL CPAP-1.2
4(MEQT)(Segment)/(Mandatory Free Text)-(Name Number)	4MEQT3/TRAVELLING WITH BRAND AND MODEL CPAP-1.2MEQT-1.2

Amadeus (1A)

SR(PPOC)-(Mandatory Free Text)/(Name Number)	SRPPOC-TRAVELLING WITH BRAND AND MODEL PPOC/P1
SR(CPAP)-(Mandatory Free Text)/(Name Number)	SRCPAP-TRAVELLING WITH BRAND AND MODEL CPAP/P1
SR(MEQT)-(Mandatory Free Text)/(Name Number)	SRMEQT-TRAVELLING WITH BRAND AND MODEL MEQT/P1

Galileo (1G)

SI.(Name Number)/(PPOC)*(Mandatory Free Text)	SI.P1/CPAP*TRAVELLING WITH BRAND AND MODEL PPOC
SI.(Name Number)/(CPAP)*(Mandatory Free Text)	SI.P1/CPAP*TRAVELLING WITH BRAND AND MODEL CPAP
SI.(Name Number)/(MEQT)*(Mandatory Free Text)	SI.P1/CPAP*TRAVELLING WITH BRAND AND MODEL PPOC

Support Devices

Virgin Australia does not provide, but permits, the carriage and use of selected upper postural support devices onboard the aircraft. The following support devices must be used in accordance with the support device operating instructions and user guidelines.

- CARES Child Restraint
- Carrot Car Seat 3000
- Carrot XL
- Firefly GoTo Seat
- Meru TravelChair
- Tomato Sitter

Restraints must meet the following general criteria:

- Not exceed a maximum of 44cm (17 inches). The base of the restraint shall not exceed the width of the aircraft seat
- Be in good condition, showing no sign of damage
- Have a solid back and seat
- Be designed so it can be secured with the aircraft lap belt only
- Have a single release that secures and releases the passenger seat belt, torso and shoulder straps

Due to safety reasons, the use of support devices may be restricted to selected seating and not permitted for use in Business Class. If you require the use of a support device and intend to bring your own support device onboard, please contact the Virgin Australia Industry Support team when you are ready to finalise your booking.

Support Devices – Agent Booking Process

Please follow the below steps when making a booking utilising a Support Device.

CARES Child Restraint, FireFly GoTo, Tomato Sitter – Infant/Child

1. Check that the guest has the required Support Device
2. Create a booking and price as normal
3. Once ready to ticket, please call the Virgin Australia Industry Support team who will:
 - Check the restraint is approved
 - Add the required seating
 - Add the required SSRs and remarks
4. Agent to then issue the ticket as normal

Carrot 3000, Carrot XL and Meru TravelChair – Child/Adult

1. Create an Extra Seat booking as per the process outlined under guides on the [Agency Hub](#)
2. Price the booking for the guest only, as the extra seat is free of charge
3. Once ready to ticket, please call the Virgin Australia Industry Support team who will:
 - Check the restraint is approved
 - Add seating (the extra seat will be directly behind to secure the Support Device)

- Add the required SSRs and remarks
4. Agent to then issue a ticket for the guest only

Note: Agents using Amadeus are required to contact Virgin Australia industry support to complete the whole booking process for the above-mentioned Support Devices.

Special Meals

Special meal requests are **not** applicable on Domestic or Short Haul Flights operated by Virgin Australia. A [range of vegetarian and gluten free options can be purchased from our On-board Menu on domestic and international short haul services](#). If these are unsuitable, guests are welcome to bring their own food and non-alcoholic beverages onboard.

We also recommend guests who suffer from allergies (such as peanut allergies) bring their own meal onboard (subject to Enhanced Security Measures for carry-on baggage) as we are unable to guarantee that our meals are completely allergen free. For more information about flying with allergies, please read our policy on [Medical Conditions](#).

Special Meals – GDS Entries

Amadeus (1A)

SR(Meal Type)/(Name Number)	SRVGML/P1
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Galileo (1G)

SI.(Name Number)/(Meal Type)	SI.P1/VGML
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Sabre (1S)

4(Meal Type)(Segment)-(Name Number)	4VGML1-1.2
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SSR options that could be booked are as follows:

LANG – Guest Speaks Another Language

FRAG – Guest with Fragile Baggage

More Information

For more information regarding any of the above Specific Service Requests, please visit the [Specific Needs and Assistance page](#) on the Virgin Australia website.