

ABOUT THE NDIS

What is the NDIS?

The NDIS is the National Disability Insurance Scheme, designed to reform the way disability services are funded and delivered.

The NDIS provides people with a permanent and significant disability (0 - 65 years) access to supports to help them take part in everyday activities and to achieve their individual goals and aspirations.

How is the NDIS funded?

The NDIS uses an insurance approach similar to Medicare, and is funded through an increase in the Medicare levy and through existing and new State and Federal Government funding. This means the costs of disability support for a person will be shared among the wider community and the State and Federal Governments. This insurance approach offers peace of mind to every Australian who is born with a disability or acquires a disability during their lifetime that support will be available for them.

What is the NDIA?

The NDIA is the National Disability Insurance Agency, a statutory agency whose role it is to implement the NDIS.

What is the difference between the NDIA and the NDIS?

The NDIA or National Disability Insurance Agency is the agency responsible for meeting with individuals to plan their future supports and to identify how much money individuals will need to pay for these. The NDIS or National Disability Insurance Scheme is the Scheme that pays for these supports.

What will the NDIS offer?

The NDIS will have a range of benefits for those who are eligible including:

- A fairer funding system that will replace current state funding systems
- Choice and control; participants choose how, when and where they receive support
- Long term, sustainable funding which will allow support to change as needs change
- Assistance to make informed choices
- Safeguards to support participants in exercising your choice and control

- Early intervention to minimise the impacts and avoid crisis point
- The opportunity to participate in community
- Information about disability and services available including community resources and government programs

What will the NDIS cover?

The NDIS will fund reasonable and necessary supports that help someone with a disability to:

- pursue their goals, dreams and aspirations
- increase their independence
- increase social and economic participation, and
- develop their capacity to actively take part in the community.

This support may include education, employment, social participation, independence, living arrangements and health and well-being.

What isn't funded under the NDIS?

The NDIS will not fund support that participants can access from mainstream services such as health and hospital care, education, child care or aged care. The NDIS will not fund daily living expenses, income replacement, support that is likely to cause participant harm or pose a risk or any supports that are not directly related to the participant's disability.

Who is eligible for the NDIS?

To be eligible participants must be:

- under 65 years of age when they first access the scheme,
- an Australian Citizen, permanent resident, or New Zealand Citizen who is a Protected Special Category Visa Holder,
- and have a permanent or significant disability, then you may be eligible.

To determine eligibility, visit the NDIA website and complete the My Access Checker Tool at www.ndis.gov.au/my-access-checker.