



Learn more about the NDIS

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is a national system of disability support focused on providing choice and flexibility through personalised funding.

Until recently, people living with a disability received varying levels of support, depending on where they lived and when, where and how they acquired or developed a disability.

The NDIS recognises that any of us, or our family members, could be affected by disability at any time in our lives and that, as a community, we are all responsible for ensuring that people living with disability receive the support they need.

How does the NDIS work?

The NDIS uses an approach similar to Medicare, ensuring that individual costs are shared among the community. The NDIS supports choice for people with disability, their families and carers, by putting them in control of their own care and support.

Previous systems saw funding delivered directly to service providers. Under the NDIS funding goes directly to the individual. This means people living with a disability are in control of where their funds are spent.

This approach allows individuals to find a provider to meet their needs. Participants can choose to manage their own funds or entrust them to one or multiple providers.

Who administers the NDIS

The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) is an independent statutory agency responsible for the implementation of the scheme. It provides:

- personalised information and referral,
- support to access community services and activities,
- individualised plans and supports,
- a focus on early intervention, and
- funded supports.

Who can access the NDIS

Eligibility is assessed against the access requirements, as detailed below:

Age

In SA, the current age eligibility is up to 7 years, but at full scheme roll out (2018) the general requirement will be persons under 65 years of age.

Residency

Australian citizens, permanent residents and New Zealand citizens who hold a Protected Special category Visa are eligible.

Disability

Participation is confined to those with a permanent disability and whose impairment substantially reduces their ability to participate effectively in activities, or perform tasks or actions unless they:

- have assistance from other people on most days, or
- have assistive technology, equipment (other than common items such as glasses), or
- can't participate effectively even with assistance or aides and equipment.
- In addition, their impairment affects their capacity for social and economic participation and they are likely to require support under the NDIS (and not another service system such as the health system) for their lifetime.

In addition to general access requirements, there are specific requirements for participants wishing to access early intervention. These can be found on the NDIS website.

The NDIA has developed the My Access Checker tool to help you find out if you can access assistance from the NDIS.

Please see our Frequently Asked Questions for further information about the NDIS.

Send us an enquiry or contact us on 08 87325 8600 for further information about the NDIS or to discuss how we can assist you or your family.

Subscribe to our newsletter using the form at the bottom of this page to receive updates about our services, community resources and links, and general information about the NDIS.

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