

NDIS access

Multicultural Peer Network



About the NDIS

- > The NDIS provides **funding** to the person who lives with a disability to **support** them with their **individual needs and goals**
- > The NDIS is for people who live with a **permanent and significant disability**
- > The NDIS helps the person to buy “**reasonable and necessary**” supports
- > The NDIS provides the person who lives with a disability with **choice and control** in their lives
- > The NDIS helps increase the person’s **independence**, including their social and economic participation
- > The NDIS is **free**.

My NDIS pathway

The NDIS pathway is a series of steps designed to help you to become a new NDIS participant:

<https://www.ndis.gov.au/participants>



What is the NDIS?



How can I access the NDIS?



My first plan



Starting my plan



Reviewing my plan

Information is available in various languages: <https://www.ndis.gov.au/languages>

Who is eligible?

1. Be living in **Australia**
2. Be aged between **0 and 65 years**
3. Be an **Australian citizen, permanent resident** or hold a **protected special category visa**
4. Have an **impairment or condition that is likely to be permanent (lifelong)** and that limits their ability to do everyday things by themselves.

NDIS Access Checklist: <https://www.ndis.gov.au/applying-access-ndis/am-i-eligible>

Permanent and significant disability

A **permanent disability** means it is likely to be with you for life.

A **significant disability** affects your ability to take part in everyday activities.

Reasonable and necessary supports

Reasonable and necessary supports help you to pursue your goals and dreams, build your independence, increase your social, economic and community participation, and help you to live an ordinary life.

Included supports:

- > relate to your disability
- > are effective and beneficial
- > are value for money
- > are not funded by another system.



Employment — looking for, getting and keeping a job



Education — obtaining an education (e.g. school, TAFE or university)



Living arrangements — including home modifications such as easy access ramps, toilets etc



Health and wellbeing — visiting specialists (e.g. physiotherapist, dietician, counsellor), as well as having someone to ensure that you live a healthy lifestyle



Social participation — accessing local activities and finding local community groups



Independence — providing care for yourself



Maintaining **family relationships** and **cultural beliefs**

Non-included supports:

- > day-to-day living costs that are not related to disability support needs
- > supports that are already funded through other service systems
- > supports likely to cause harm to a person or pose a risk to others

Collecting information to support your access request

- > talk to family and friends
- > write down your goals and the supports you need
- > choose your support person
- > gather all relevant documents and reports (supporting evidence).

Providing your evidence

- > the Access Request Form
- > the NDIS Supporting Evidence Form.

Health care professionals who can help

- > general practitioners
- > occupational therapists
- > speech pathologists
- > psychologists
- > physiotherapists.

TIS (Translating Interpreting Support) National

TIS National is an interpreting service for people who prefer to use a language other than English to access available services such as the NDIS. It includes:

- > immediate phone interpreting
- > pre-booked phone interpreting
- > on-site interpreting.

Getting an interpreter

- > call TIS National on **131 450** or ask to speak to the NDIS on **1800 800 110**.
- > use a TTY phone by calling: **1800 555 677**
- > interpreter services are **free**
- > interpreters interpret the spoken words and **do not give advice**
- > NDIS Planners, Early Childhood Early Intervention Services, LAC Services or Support Coordinators can help you find or book an interpreter.

Community supports

- > hospitals, GPs and other medical services
- > educational services
- > Centrelink and payments
- > other community services.

Centrelink payments and NDIS packages

Centrelink benefits and payments are completely separate from funding for a NDIS package. For example, if you receive the Disability Support Pension from Centrelink, the NDIS package will be in addition to this.

“Ensure you have your support person at meetings with NDIA.”