



Developing your NDIS plan

As more people prepare to enter the Scheme, we're hearing some discussion about NDIS plans. We know lots of people have questions about transitioning into the Scheme, so we've put together some facts about developing your plan to help you get NDIS Ready.

Everyone who enters the Scheme from 1 July, 2016 will receive a plan

If you're granted access to the NDIS we will work with you to develop your first plan. This is the start of a lifelong relationship with the NDIS and will give you the support you need now. It will also give you time to think about how the supports you currently receive are working for you and what else you might need to achieve your longer-term goals before your scheduled plan review in 12 months. If your circumstances change, you can talk to us about potentially changing your plan. If you're already a participant in the Scheme, your plan won't change. To get ready for the NDIS, start thinking about your immediate support needs and what your current and future goals might be.

The best way to enter the NDIS

Feedback from trial showed us that what worked well for participants was providing the supports they needed now, as well as some time to adjust and think about how their needs and goals might change in the future. It is important to note that when you enter the NDIS, your current supports won't simply be rolled over or automatically allocated based on your disability, like they were under the old system. What is also different is that

goals will be central to the development of your plan right from the start, including your first plan. The NDIS will support you throughout your life for as long as you need it.

There's no limit on the number of goals you can have in your plan

A key part of your plan is identifying short-term and long-term goals. You might not yet know what goals you want to set for the future. That's ok, your first plan focuses on what you need right now and gives you some time to think about your longer-term needs and goals. It's good to start talking to your family, friends and carers about what your goals might look like now and into the future.

You can choose the providers you want to deliver your supports

Having the right supports in place to meet your needs is important. So is being able to choose who, how and when those supports are provided. It is what the NDIS is all about. You can work with one of our partners to help you get your plan into action, if you need to. That will include choosing the providers you want. In some areas,

agreements with the states and territories mean some temporary arrangements will be in place during the transition period. Your NDIS representative will let you know if this affects you and what it all means.

Supports are not limited to what is typical for someone with a particular disability

The NDIS is all about providing supports that are reasonable and necessary for you. We will fund supports that are related to your disability and are required for you to live an ordinary life and achieve your goals. We know some people might need more support with certain things, some people may need less – there's no-one-size-fits-all. To help us understand what supports you might need in your first plan, we'll talk to you about your current situation and how you do everyday things like have a shower or cook food. We then tailor your plan to reflect your individual circumstances. It will be different for everyone. We will help you build a plan that is right for you.

The NDIS funds reasonable and necessary supports

For a support to be funded it needs to be linked to an outcome you have identified in your plan and it also must either:

- Be associated with day-to-day living and activities that increase your social or economic participation
- Be a resource or piece of equipment, such as wheelchair, assistive technology or home and car modifications, to help you live an ordinary life
- Help you build the skills you need to live the life you want, such as opportunities to work, further your education, volunteer or learn something new.

Liaising with us is flexible

Your plan will not be developed without you. We'll talk to you about what works best for your circumstances. That might mean talking to an NDIS representative on the phone or meeting with someone face-to-face. In some cases, if you are receiving support from existing government programs you may receive a phone call from an NDIS representative to check your eligibility for the Scheme. This will help the NDIA gather the information needed to determine whether you are eligible for the NDIS. In that phone call, we may also collect some information that will help us tailor your plan to reflect your individual circumstances, if you are granted access. Depending on your circumstances, the process will be slightly different for everyone. Some things you can do to prepare are collect any reports, information or assessments you already have that might be helpful.

More information

www.ndis.gov.au

1800 800 110*
8am to 5pm (AEST) Monday to Friday

For people with hearing or speech loss
TTY 1800 555 677

Speak and listen
1800 555 727

For people who need help with English
TIS 131 450

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