



Participating in the NDIS in South Australia

About the NDIS

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is a new way of providing community linking and individualised support for people with permanent and significant disability.

The NDIS will deliver a life-long approach to support people with disability through individualised planning processes to identify the reasonable and necessary supports participants need to enable them to achieve their goals.

The NDIS is being rolled out in stages because it's a big change to the current system.

How does my child participate in the NDIS?

To participate, your child needs to meet both the age and residence requirements. Your child also needs to meet the disability or early intervention requirements.

Age requirements

In the second year of the Scheme in South Australia, the age limit expanded to children aged 13 and under (on 1 July 2014).

Parents and carers in urgent need of support for their child whose age group has not yet phased in can contact the trial site office in South Australia to discuss their current situation.

Children aged 13 and under (on 1 July 2014) that are *not* receiving existing support from disability services funded by the Commonwealth or South Australian Government— that is, children receiving disability support for the first time — can apply to access the scheme at any time. This means parents and carers can lodge an NDIS

access request now through the My Access Checker on ndis.gov.au.

Residence requirements

Your child needs to:

- reside in Australia and
- be either an Australian citizen, a permanent resident of Australia, or a New Zealand citizen who is a Protected Special Category Visa holder **and**
- be currently living in South Australia **and**
- be living in South Australia on 1 July 2013 **or**
- come into the care of a person after 1 July 2013 and at least one of the people with parental responsibility was already living in South Australia on 1 July 2013 and this will be their residence.

A child born after 1 July 2013 with at least one of their parents living in South Australia on the day they were born would also meet the residence requirements.

Disability requirements

Your child will meet the disability requirements if:

- the disability is attributable to one or more intellectual, cognitive, neurological, sensory or physical impairments or to one or more impairments attributable to a psychiatric condition **and**
- their impairment is, or likely to be, permanent **and**
- their impairment substantially reduces their ability to take part effectively in one or more activities (ie communication, social interaction, learning, mobility, self-care or self-management), or perform tasks or actions unless:
 - they had assistance with their disability from other people on most days, **or**

- they had assistive technology, equipment (other than common items such as glasses) **or**
 - they can't take part effectively even with assistance or aides and equipment; **and**
 - they are likely to require support under the NDIS (and not another service system such as the health system) for their lifetime.
- mitigating, alleviating or preventing the deterioration of their functional capacity or improving such functional capacity **or**
 - helping their family and carers to keep helping them **and**
- those supports are most appropriately funded through the NDIS, and not through another service system (such as the health system).

An impairment that varies in intensity, for example because the impairment is of a chronic episodic nature, may still be permanent, and the person may require support under the NDIS for the person's lifetime, despite the variation.

Early intervention requirements

Your child may meet the early intervention requirements if:

- they have one or more identified intellectual, cognitive, neurological, sensory or physical impairments that are, or are likely to be, permanent **or**
- they have one or more identified impairments that are attributable to a psychiatric condition **or**
- are aged under 6 years with a developmental delay which results in:
 - substantially reduced functional capacity in one or more of the areas of self-care, receptive and expressive language, cognitive development or motor development **and**
 - results in the need for a combination and sequence of special interdisciplinary or generic care, treatment or other services which are of extended duration, and are individually planned and coordinated; and
- there is evidence that getting supports now (early intervention) will help them by:
 - reducing how much help they will need to do things because of their disability in the future; **or**

What happens next?

You can use [My Access Checker](#) on the website to see if your child may be able to access support from the Scheme. If you think your child may be able to access supports under the NDIS, then you will need to complete the Access Request Form for them.

More information

If you need help understanding the information in this fact sheet, or need more information, please:

- visit ndis.gov.au
- email enquiries@ndis.gov.au
- call 1800 800 110. TTY users phone 1800 555 677 then ask for 1800 800 110
- if you are a Speak and Listen (speech-to-speech relay) user — phone 1800 555 727 then ask for 1800 800 110
- if you are an internet relay user — visit the National Relay Service website and ask for 1800 800 110.