



Supported Independent Living

We want to know what you think

Easy Read version



ndis

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How to use this document



The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) wrote this document. When you see the word 'we', it means the NDIA.



We wrote this document in an easy to read way.
We use pictures to explain some ideas.

Bold
Not bold

We have written some words in **bold**.
This means the letters are thicker and darker.



We explain what these words mean.
There is a list of these words on page 30.



This Easy Read document is a summary of another document.



You can find the other document on our website at www.ndis.gov.au



You can ask for help to read this document.
A friend, family member or support person may be able to help you.

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What is Supported Independent Living?



Supported Independent Living is help with day-to-day tasks around your home so you can:

- be **independent** – you can do things for yourself
- learn new skills.



We call it SIL.

Most **participants** who get SIL **funding** live with housemates who also have SIL funding.



Participants are people with disability who take part in the NDIS.



Funding is the money from your plan that pays for the supports and services you need.



SIL pays for a support person to help you with day-to-day tasks, such as:

- personal care, like showering and getting dressed
- eating and cooking meals.



SIL funding doesn't include things like:

- rent
- groceries.



At the moment over 24,000 participants get SIL funding.



This means 6% of all participants get SIL funding.



At the moment 30% of all NDIS funding is for SIL.

What is this document about?

We want to make sure SIL services and funding:



- are fair



- work well.



We want to make SIL work better.



But before we do this we want to find out what the community thinks.

This includes:



- people with disability



- families and carers



- disability organisations



- **SIL providers.**



SIL providers offer SIL services to people with disability.



In this document we:

- tell you what changes we want to make
- ask questions
- explain how you can tell us what you think.

What needs to change

SIL supports many participants to:



- be more independent



- learn new skills.

But often participants:



- find it hard to make decisions about their supports



- live away from their families and communities.

Funding decisions



We need to make decisions about SIL funding the same way every time for every participant.



At the moment decisions aren't always made the same way.



This means 2 participants with the same needs might not get the same supports.

Participants taking part in decisions about SIL



We need to make sure participants take part in decisions about:

- their SIL supports
- where they live
- who they live with
- who supports them.

At the moment:



- the NDIA or SIL providers make a lot of decisions without participants



- less than 20% of participants feel like they choose who supports them



- a lot of participants get SIL and **support coordination services** from the same service provider.



Support coordination services help participants manage the supports and services in their plan.

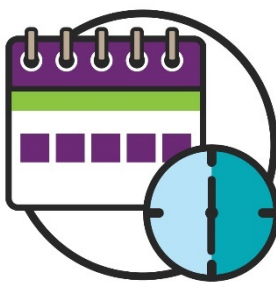


If the same service provider offers both services, they might affect a decision so the result is better for the provider.

Roster of care



A **roster of care** is a document SIL providers use to work out what supports you need during the week.



It breaks a week down into 30-minute blocks.



This helps SIL providers work out how much funding you need for your SIL supports.



We need to make the roster of care:

- simple
- easy to understand.



At the moment about 40% of rosters of care service providers send us have mistakes in them.

SIL is costing more



The costs of SIL services are going up each year.



These costs are going up faster than costs for other services.



We need to make sure the NDIS can keep paying for SIL for a long time into the future.

What we've already done

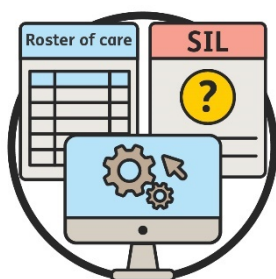


In 2020 we started to make some changes to SIL to start making it better.



We wrote and shared the:

- SIL Operational Guidelines
- SIL Participant Information Pack
- new Provider SIL Pack.



We also changed:

- our roster of care tool
- our computer systems
- how we explain the cost of SIL services.



We are also looking closely at the costs of SIL to make sure they are fair.

Questions to think about



Has your experience of SIL changed since we made these changes in July 2020?



What are 3 good things about your experience with SIL?





What are 3 things you would change about your experience with SIL?



Did you know about the SIL Participant Information Pack we shared in July 2020?
Was it helpful?





What other information would help you understand SIL?



Things we want to change



We want participants to have a better experience with SIL.



We want SIL to work better.



We want to make sure participants take part in decisions about SIL.

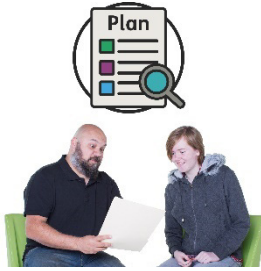
This includes:



- asking participants what supports they need to reach their goals



- asking participants how well their plan and supports are working



- talking to participants about other choices at their plan review meeting



- making sure participants get information about their supports, such as a copy of their roster of care.



We want to make sure our decisions are fair.

We can do this by focusing on what each participant needs.

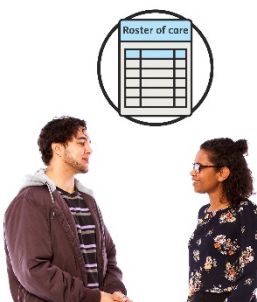
This includes:



- asking participants for more information about the supports they need



- checking that plans meet the participant's needs



- asking participants if they get the supports in their Roster of Care that their funding is paying for.

Questions to think about



Do you understand how your roster of care works?



Did you help make your roster of care?





How would you like to get a copy of your roster of care?



Please tick the box that is right for you.

Would you like to get it from:



☐ the NDIA?



☐ your service provider?



☐ someone else?

Our long term plan

Our principles

6

We have 6 **principles** for our plan to make changes to SIL.



Principles are important ideas that we should always think about.

In the future we want to make more changes to SIL to make it better, including:



- giving participants support to make decisions about their SIL funding and supports



- giving participants support to be independent and learn new skills



- making the SIL process simpler so it is done the same way every time



- helping service providers think about new ways to deliver SIL services



- giving participants get the supports they need



- making sure participants are always safe.

Questions to think about



What do you like about these 6 principles?



What don't you like about these 6 principles?





What other ways could we make SIL better?



What we want to do



Sometimes service providers might affect a decision so the result is better for them if they offer more than one service to the same participant, such as:

- support coordination services
- SIL.



We want to work out how to stop that from happening.



We also want to write a plan for home and living supports and funding.

The plan might include ideas about:



- how to change plans so we focus more on what participants need



- giving participants more support to understand their options before they make decisions



- different living options



- better support options.

Questions to think about



Is there anything else you want to tell us about your experience with the NDIS?



What should be in our new plan for home and living supports and funding?



How to tell us what you think



We want to know what you think about these changes to SIL.

You can tell us what you think by:



- answering our questions



- filling out a survey on
www.surveymonkey.com/r/SupportedIndependentLiving



- sending an email to
SIL.consultation@ndis.gov.au



- sending a letter to
National Disability Insurance Agency
GPO Box 700
Canberra ACT 2601



Please tell us what you think by 10 am on Monday 19 October.

More information

For more information about SIL,
please contact us.



www.ndis.gov.au



1800 800 110



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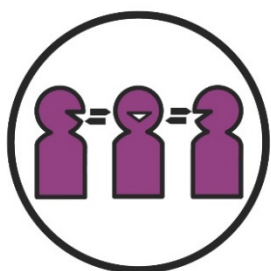
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www.ndis.gov.au/webchat/start

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Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS)

131 450

If you have a speech or hearing impairment, you can call:



TTY

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Speak and Listen

1800 555 727



National Relay Service

133 677

www.relayservice.gov.au

Word list



Funding

Funding is the money from your plan that pays for the supports and services you need.



Independent

When you are independent, you can do things for yourself.



Participants

Participants are people with disability who take part in the NDIS.



Principles

Principles are important ideas that we should always think about.



Roster of care

A roster of care is a document SIL providers use to work out what supports you need during the week.



SIL providers

SIL providers offer SIL services to people with disability.



Support coordination services

Support coordination services help participants manage the supports and services in their plan.



Supported Independent Living

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