# Support categories

A text-only Easy Read fact sheet

## How to use this fact sheet

The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) wrote this fact sheet.

When you see the word ‘we’, it means the NDIA.

We wrote this fact sheet in an easy to read way.

We wrote some important 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 11.

This is an Easy Read summary of another fact sheet.

This means it only includes the most important ideas.

You can find the other fact sheet on the NDIS website.

[www.ndis.gov.au/resources](http://www.ndis.gov.au/resources)

You can ask for help to read this fact sheet.

A friend, family member or support person may be able to help you.

## What is in this fact sheet?

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## About support categories

Your **NDIS plan** is a document that has information about:

* you and your goals
* the supports you need
* the **funding** the NDIS will give you.

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

We will split up your funding to pay for different types of supports.

Your plan can include 4 types of supports.

Each type of support includes support categories.

In this fact sheet, we explain:

* the 4 types of supports
* all of their support categories.

You might not have funding for every support category.

This is because your plan will only include the support categories that you need.

## Core supports

Your **core supports** are the supports and services you use in your day‑to‑day life.

These supports help you:

* with your everyday activities
* work towards your goals.

Core supports include ‘flexible support categories’.

You can use the funding from flexible support categories to pay for supports from another support category.

### Flexible support categories

There are 4 flexible support categories:

1. Assistance with daily life
This funding is for supports you need in your day-to-day life.
For example, support to look after you.
2. Assistance with social, economic and community participation
This funding is for someone to support you to take part in activities in the community.
For example, activities at a community centre.
3. Consumables

This funding is for everyday items you need because of your disability.

For example, equipment you need to buy often.

1. Transport
This funding is for your **provider** to use transport services to take you somewhere.

Providers support people who take part in the NDIS by delivering a service.

### Stated support categories

Core supports also include ‘stated support categories’.

Stated support categories are funding that you must use the way we explain in your plan.

There are 2 stated support categories:

1. Home and living
This funding is for supports to help you:
	* do things for yourself at home
	* build your skills to live with less support.

There are different types of home and living support depending on what you need.

1. Younger person in residential aged care – cross billing
This funding pays for some of the costs if you:
	* are less than 65 years old
	* live in **residential aged care**.

Residential aged care is where older people live when they cannot live in their home anymore.

## Capacity building supports

Your **capacity building supports** are the supports and services that help you build skills to:

* do things for yourself
* work towards your goals.

You must use the funding from these support categories the way we explain in your plan.

There are 10 support categories:

1. Behaviour support
This funding is to help you manage your behaviours that might put:
	* yourself in danger
	* other people in danger.
2. Choice and control
This funding is to get support from a plan manager.
A plan manager is someone who will manage your funding for you.
3. Finding and keeping a job
This funding is to help you find and keep a job.
This includes some training.
4. Health and wellbeing
This funding is to help you to manage how your disability affects your health.
5. Improved daily living skills
This funding is to help you:
	* do more things on your own
	* take part in the community.
6. Improved living arrangements
This funding is to help you find and live in a home that is right for you.
7. Increased social and community participation
This funding is to help you learn how to take part in the community.
8. Lifelong learning
This funding is to help you when you move from school to further education.
For example, to university or TAFE.
9. Relationships
This funding is to help you:
	* build your social skills
	* behave in a positive way with other people.
10. Support coordination and psychosocial recovery coaches
This funding is to get support from a **support coordinator**.
A support coordinator is someone who helps you plan and use your supports.
This funding is also to get support from a **psychosocial recovery coach**.
A psychosocial recovery coach is someone who helps participants with psychosocial disability.
A psychosocial recovery coach:
	* knows about mental health
	* helps you do more things for yourself
	* helps you make the most of your NDIS plan.

## Capital supports

Your capital supports are supports and services:

* that can cost a lot of money
* you might only need to buy once
* that make sure your home works well for you.

You must use the funding from these support categories the way we explain in your plan.

There are 4 support categories:

1. Assistive technology
This funding is for **assistive technology**.
Assistive technology can:
	* make it easier to do things
	* keep you safe.
	Assistive technology might be:
	* an aid or piece of equipment, like a wheelchair
	* technology you can use, like a phone app.
2. Assistive technology – maintenance, repair and rental
This funding is to support you to:
	* fix your assistive technology
	* try assistive technology.
3. Home modifications
This funding is to make your home more **accessible**.
When something is accessible, it is easy to:
	* find and use
	* move around.
4. Specialist disability accommodation
This funding is for **specialist disability accommodation (SDA)**.
SDA is housing for people with disability who need a lot of support.

## Recurring supports

**Recurring supports** are funding we pay into your bank account.

We pay you this funding every 2 weeks.

There is one support category in this budget:

1. Transport recurring
This is funding for people with disability to use everyday transport.
This includes buses, trains or taxis.

## What supports you can use your funding for

Your NDIS supports need to meet our rules about what supports we will give funding for.

You can only use NDIS funding for supports you need because of how your disability affects you.

NDIS supports also need to:

* do what you need them to do
* be a good price for the support you get.

You can find out about what supports we give funding for on the NDIS website.

[ourguidelines.ndis.gov.au/how-ndis-supports-work-menu/reasonable-and-necessary-supports](https://ourguidelines.ndis.gov.au/how-ndis-supports-work-menu/reasonable-and-necessary-supports)

You can also find out more about supports you might be able to use on the NDIS website.

[ourguidelines.ndis.gov.au/home/supports-you-can-access](https://ourguidelines.ndis.gov.au/home/supports-you-can-access)

You can also find guides on the NDIS website about why we fund some supports and not others.

[ourguidelines.ndis.gov.au/would-we-fund-it](https://ourguidelines.ndis.gov.au/would-we-fund-it)

You can also talk to your my NDIS contact to learn more about using your funding.

Your my NDIS contact is a support person who you have a lot of contact with.

You can also contact us to learn more about using your funding.

Our contact details are on page 10.

You can also find out more by contacting your:

* support coordinator
* psychosocial recovery coach
* plan manager.

## More information

For more information about this fact sheet, please contact us.

You can call us.

**1800 800 110**

You can send us an email.

enquiries@ndis.gov.au

You can visit one of our offices in person.

You can find an office near you on the NDIS website.

[www.ndis.gov.au/contact/locations](http://www.ndis.gov.au/contact/locations)

## Word list

This list explains what the **bold** words in this fact sheet mean.

Accessible

When something is accessible, it is easy to:

* find and use
* move around.

Assistive technology

Assistive technology can:

* make it easier to do things
* keep you safe.

Capacity building supports

Your capacity building supports are the supports and services that help you build skills to:

* do things for yourself
* work towards your goals.

Capital supports

Your capital supports are supports and services:

* that can cost a lot of money
* you might only need to buy once
* that make sure your home works well for you.

Core supports

Your core supports are the supports and services you use in your day‑to‑day life.

Funding

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

NDIS plan

Your NDIS plan is a document that has information about:

* you and your goals
* the supports you need
* the funding the NDIS will give you.

Plan manager

A plan manager is someone who will manage your funding for you.

Providers

Providers support people who take part in the NDIS by delivering a service.

Psychosocial recovery coach

A psychosocial recovery coach is someone who helps participants with psychosocial disability.

A psychosocial recovery coach:

* knows about mental health
* helps you do more things for yourself
* helps you make the most of your NDIS plan.

Recurring supports

Recurring supports are funding we pay into your bank account.

We pay you this funding every 2 weeks.

Residential aged care

Residential aged care is where older people live when they cannot live in their home anymore.

Specialist disability accommodation (SDA)

SDA is housing for people with disability who need a lot of support.

Support coordinator

A support coordinator is someone who helps you plan and use your supports.

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