



ndis

First Nations Strategy 2025–2030

Our plan to make the NDIS better for
First Nations people

Easy Read version



[ndis.gov.au](https://www.ndis.gov.au)

Acknowledgement of Country



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are the First Peoples of Australia.

We also use the words First Nations people.



First Nations people have always looked after **Country**.

Country means the land, water, sky and everything within them.

We respect the important connection that First Nations people have with Country.



And we respect their Elders from the past and now.

How to use this strategy



We are the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA).

We wrote this First Nations Strategy with First Nations people.

A **strategy** is a plan for how we will do things in the future.



We wrote some words in **bold**.

We explain what these words mean.

There is also a list of these words on page **28**.



You can ask someone you trust for support to:

- read this strategy
- find more information.



This is an Easy Read summary of the First Nations Strategy.

It only includes the most important ideas.



You can find the full strategy on our website.

www.ndis.gov.au/about-us/strategies/first-nations-strategy

What's in this strategy?

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About our strategy



This is our First Nations Strategy for the **National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)**.

The NDIS supports people with disability by helping them pay for the supports and services they need.



We just call it our strategy.

Our strategy will help us make the NDIS better for First Nations:



- people
- families
- communities
- **participants.**



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

Our strategy explains our goals to make the NDIS better for First Nations:



- people
- families
- communities
- participants.



It also explains how we will achieve our goals over the next 5 years.

How we made our strategy



A group of First Nations people helped us make our strategy.

This group included:



- First Nations participants



- First Nations **providers**



- people who know a lot about issues that First Nations people can face.



Providers support people with disability by delivering a service.

The group also included First Nations people from organisations that:



- work with First Nations people



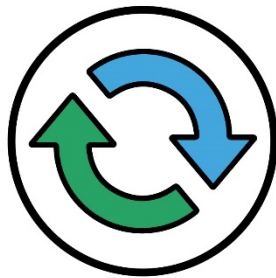
- represent First Nations people.

The goals in our strategy

Our strategy has 4 goals:



1. A safe, fair and better NDIS for First Nations people



2. First Nations people guiding change



3. Work well with services and government



4. Listen to and learn from First Nations people to improve the NDIS.



We explain these goals and how we plan to achieve them on the following pages.

A safe, fair and better NDIS for First Nations people

The goal is to make sure all parts of the NDIS support:



- the wellbeing of First Nations people
- First Nations **cultures**
- First Nations values.

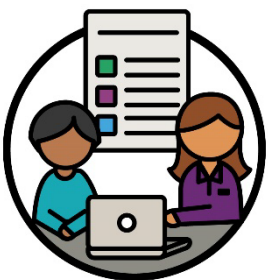


Culture is someone's way of life and what they believe.

This includes when First Nations people:



- join the NDIS



- work with the NDIS on support plans



- choose supports and services.



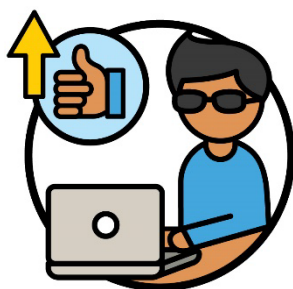
More NDIS supports and services need to be **culturally safe.**



When something is culturally safe, people feel:

- respected and heard
- safe to be who they are.

How we will achieve this goal



We will improve how First Nations people with disability join the NDIS.



We will create culturally safe ways for First Nations people with disability to join the NDIS.



We will listen to First Nations participants about what they want from the NDIS.



This will help make sure First Nations participants have a say about their support plans, including:

- the support they want
- how they want to get support.



We will make sure there are enough services that meet the needs of First Nations participants.



This means First Nations participants will have more choice about their supports.



We will make sure more services in the NDIS are culturally safe for First Nations people.

First Nations people guiding change



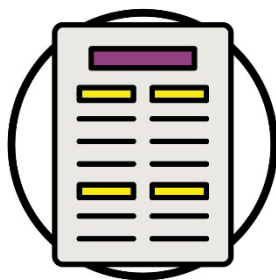
The goal is to include First Nations people:

- as leaders in the NDIS
- in decisions about how the NDIS will work.

This includes decisions about:



- rules



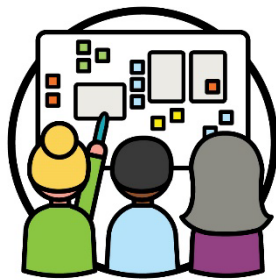
- guidelines



- services and supports.



It also includes decisions about using **co-design** to create culturally safe services.



Co-design is when people work together to:

- make something new
- improve how something works.

How we will achieve this goal



We will use co-design when we create NDIS:

- rules
- guidelines
- services and supports.



This will make sure First Nations people have a say about decisions that affect them.



We will work with disability services that:

- are run by First Nations people
- provide support to First Nations people.

This will help us create disability programs that:



- are culturally safe



- meet the needs of First Nations people

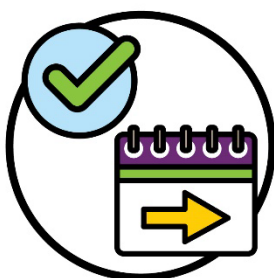


- can last a long time.



We will make sure there are more disability care services that support people by including their:

- community
- family.



This will help us make sure the NDIS can support First Nations people with disability:

- in the way they want
- for as long as they need.

Work well with services and government

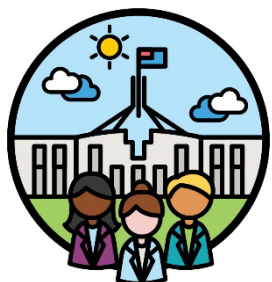


The goal is to improve how the NDIS works with other services and government.

This includes:



- disability care and service providers



- different parts of governments



- First Nations organisations.



This will help improve how well the NDIS works for First Nations people.

How we will achieve this goal



All parts of the NDIA and NDIS must be culturally safe.



We will create new ways to make sure all services can meet the needs of First Nations people with disability.



This might include:

- checking that services are culturally safe
- more training for staff.



We will improve services that support First Nations people with disability in places far away from cities and towns.



This will help us make sure these services work well together to support First Nations people:

- in the way they need
- in places where they need them.

This will make sure they can:



- support First Nations people



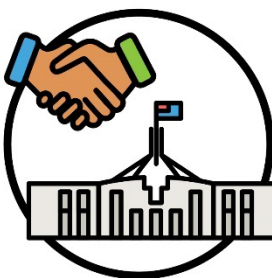
- offer more supports in places very far away from cities and towns



- last a long time.



This will also make sure there are more First Nations workers at these services.



We will improve how we work with different parts of the government to support First Nations people.

Listen to and learn from First Nations people to improve the NDIS



The goal is to keep checking how well the NDIS is working for First Nations people with disability.

This includes checking:



- their experience with the NDIS

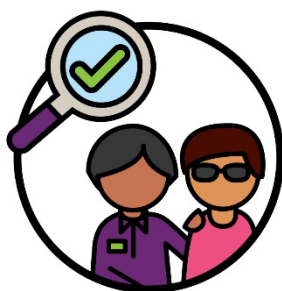


- how well the NDIS is supporting them to achieve their goals.



The goal is also to use what we learn from these checks to keep improving the NDIS.

How we will achieve this goal



We will create a way to check if First Nations participants have enough supports that meet their needs.

This includes supports that:



- are culturally safe



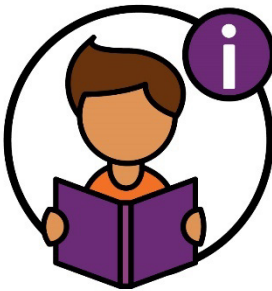
- help First Nations participants achieve their goals.



We will also ask disability services to create a way to check how well services and supports work for First Nations participants.



This will help us regularly check that the NDIS is working well for First Nations participants.



This will also help us share information about how the NDIS is working with First Nations communities.



We will improve how we collect and share information about First Nations people with disability.



This might include a new plan that explains how to manage information.

We would create this plan with First Nations people.



This plan will have rules about how the NDIA collects and manages information.



We will use what we learn to find ways to improve services and supports for First Nations people with disability.



This will help us make sure services and supports:

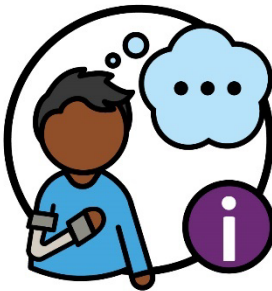
- work well
- are culturally safe.



This includes when we create new services and supports.



We will improve the type of information we collect about First Nations people with disability.



This includes collecting information about the strengths and challenges for First Nations people with disability.



We will find better ways to connect data about First Nations people with disability.



This will help us understand the experiences of First Nations people across Australia.

More information

For more information about this strategy, please contact us.



You can visit our website.

www.ndis.gov.au



You can call us.

1800 800 110



Follow us on Facebook.

www.facebook.com/NDISAus



Follow us on X.

X used to be called Twitter.

@NDIS

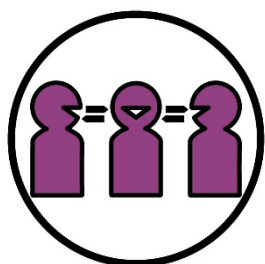
Support to talk to us



You can talk to us online using our webchat feature at the top of our website.

www.ndis.gov.au

If you speak a language other than English, you can call:



Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS)

131 450

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



TTY

1800 555 677



Speak and Listen

1800 555 727



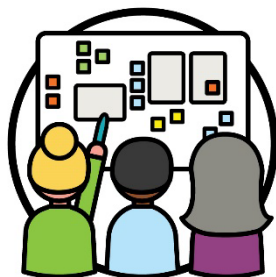
National Relay Service

133 677

www.accesshub.gov.au/about-the-nrs

Word list

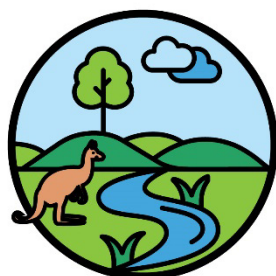
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Co-design is when people work together to:

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- improve how something works.



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Culture

Culture is someone's way of life and what they believe.



National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

The NDIS supports people with disability by helping them pay for the supports and services they need.



Participants

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



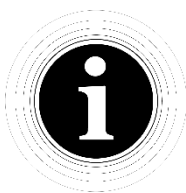
Providers

Providers support people with disability by delivering a service.



Strategy

A strategy is a plan for how we will do things in the future.



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