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The NDIS is a central part of the disability landscape. Our research answers important questions that support participants and us in decision making.

We use careful methods created in partnership with people with disabilities and their families and carers.

We then present our findings to increase independence, choice and control for participants.

Engaging with the NDIS

We help researchers and the disability sector carry out work that benefits participants and relates to our purpose.

Access is available for the following:

- tailored NDIS summary or individual level data
- administrative data held by us such as for corporate, financial, and human resources
- NDIA staff (employees, contractors, and volunteers) for participation as:
- study subjects
- project team members, steering committee experts, working parties or similar
- collaborations or partnerships.

Complete one of the External Research Request forms or email us at research@ndis.gov.au.

For access to summary level NDIS data, complete this form:

- [External Research Request Form - Short Version \(PDF 633KB\)](#)
- [External Research Request Form - Short Version \(DOCX 795KB\)](#)

For all other types of requests, please complete this form and review the supporting attachment:

- [External Research Request Form - Long Version \(PDF 776KB\)](#)
- [External Research Request Form - Long Version \(DOCX 817KB\)](#)
- [Information about Cyber Security requirements \(PDF 314KB\)](#)
- [Information about Cyber Security requirements \(DOCX 48KB\)](#)

For more information please refer to the External Researcher Request Interim Policy:

- [External Researcher Request Interim Policy \(PDF 433KB\)](#)
- [External Researcher Request Interim Policy \(DOCX 888KB\)](#).

For information about NDIS data sharing for research, please review the [Public Data Sharing Policy | NDIS](#)

which explains:

- the type of data shared
- what data is not covered
- the principles underpinning NDIS data
- why data sharing is important
- how to gain access to NDIS data.

This document contains a list of approved external research requests:

[Summary log of external research requests that have been approved \(DOCX 62KB\)](#).

How our evidence supports participants

To ensure participants are fully equipped with information that helps them use their plans, we are developing guides for understanding support and other useful resources.

The guides and tools summarise our research so that participants can make informed choices that will deliver the best outcomes for them.

These tools can also be used by planners, providers and policy makers to support participant decision-making.

Guides for understanding supports

The guides for understanding supports are being developed as a resource to bring evidence-based research to participants. They are based on different sources of information including research evidence, participant experience and expert recommendations.

The guides are being developed with participants, who have told us the type of information they would like included and how it should be presented. They will cover topics including, but not limited to, early childhood interventions, employment and community participation.

The guides include information about:

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- the available research
 - who to talk to if you have questions about a support
 - where you can find more information.

You can use the information in the guides to:

- collect information from different sources
- think about the pros and cons of each support or service
- think about what is right for you.

The following guide is now available:

- [Guide for understanding employment supports](#)

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