

NATIONAL DISABILITY INSURANCE SCHEME (NDIS)

GETTING THE HELP YOU NEED TO LIVE THE LIFE YOU WANT TO LIVE

People living with a disability have the same rights as other Australians including the right to a dignified and meaningful life. Australia's National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) can assist people living with a disability to understand their individual choices and make decisions that best support their needs.

What is the NDIS?

The NDIS provides people living with a disability the services and supports they need to achieve their goals. These may include developing skills for living more independently, taking a more active role in the community, finding a job and purchasing the equipment and care they need.

Am I eligible for the NDIS?

To be eligible for the NDIS, a person must:

- Have a disability that will not go away and which prevents them from taking part in everyday activities. This can be a physical or intellectual disability, as well as a learning disorder or mental health condition.
- Be aged under 65 when they enter the NDIS.
- Be an Australian citizen or holder of a permanent visa or Protected Special Category visa.
- Live in an area where the NDIS is available.

The NDIS and disability support pension are not the same. If a person is eligible for and receives a NDIS Plan it should not affect their approved Centrelink disability support pension payments.

How can I request a NDIS Plan?

If you are aged between seven and 64 years of age, and living with a disability:

- Call **1800 800 110**, from 8am to 8pm, Monday to Friday for more information about the NDIS.
- You can also contact the Local Area Coordinator (LAC) partner office for your local area by visiting the NDIS website: [ndis.gov.au/about-us/locations](https://www.ndis.gov.au/about-us/locations). The LAC will help you to find suitable services and supports in your local area. This might be the only support you need. If you need more support, the LAC will assist you to access a NDIS plan.

If you have a child aged between zero and six living with a disability or developmental delay:

- Call **1800 800 110**, from 8am to 8pm, Monday to Friday and ask for the Early Childhood Early Intervention agency in your local area.

If you need help speaking in English, ask a family member, carer or friend to help you. You can also call the **Telephone Interpreting Service** on **131 450**.

If you have hearing or speech loss, call 1300 555 727 (Speak and Listen) then ask for 1800 800 110, or call 1800 555 677 (TTY) then ask for 1800 800 110.

What if I am not approved to receive a NDIS Plan?

The LAC in your local area can help you to access other services, within your own community and not funded through the NDIS. Advocacy support to understand and appeal a rejected NDIS application is available through the Disability Rights Advocacy Service on (08) 8351 9500.