

# The National Disability Insurance Scheme (also called the NDIS) is the new way of providing disability support.

The NDIS will provide all Australians under the age of 65 who have a permanent and significant disability with the reasonable and necessary supports they need to enjoy an ordinary life.



The NDIS will help people with disability achieve their goals. This may include greater independence, community involvement, employment and improved wellbeing.



As an insurance scheme, the NDIS takes a lifetime approach, investing in people with disability early to improve their outcomes later in life.



The NDIS also provides people with disability, their family and carers with information and referrals to existing support services in the community.



By 2019, the NDIS will support about 460,000 Australians with disability.



## Can I access the NDIS?

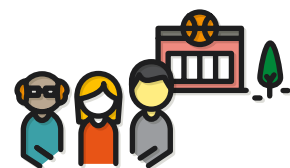
To become an NDIS participant a person must:

- ✓ Have a permanent disability that significantly affects their ability to take part in everyday activities;
- ✓ Be aged less than 65 when they first enter the NDIS;
- ✓ Be an Australian citizen or hold a permanent visa or a Protected Special Category visa; and
- ✓ Live in Australia where the NDIS is available.

The NDIS is being introduced progressively around Australia from 1 July 2016.

## Can I still receive support if I do not meet the access requirements for the NDIS?

A person does not have to be an NDIS participant to receive support from the NDIS.



The NDIS will connect people with disability, their families and carers, including people who are not NDIS participants, to disability and mainstream supports in their community.

To find out more about information, links and referrals to community and mainstream support services visit [www.ndis.gov.au](http://www.ndis.gov.au) or call 1800 800 110.



## When will the NDIS be available in my area?

The NDIS began in a number of trial sites around Australia from July 2013.

The NDIS is being rolled out gradually around the rest of Australia from 1 July 2016.

The NDIS is being introduced in stages around Australia to ensure it is successful and sustainable because it is a major change. Your existing supports will remain in place until the NDIS is available in your area.

People will enter the NDIS differently depending on where they live, how old they are and the type of support they currently receive. In some states and territories, the NDIS will be rolled out by area while in others people will enter by age groups.

To find out when the NDIS is coming to your area visit [www.ndis.gov.au](http://www.ndis.gov.au) or call 1800 800 110.



## Why is the NDIS important?

### Why do we need the NDIS?

People with disability have the same right as other Australians to determine their best interests and to have choice and control over their lives.

The NDIS recognises that everyone's needs and goals are different.

The NDIS provides people with individualised support and the flexibility to manage their supports to help them achieve their goals and enjoy an ordinary life.



The NDIS replaces a disability system that was unfair and inefficient with a new, national system that is world-leading, equitable and sustainable.

This provides certainty and consistency for people with disability, their families and carers.

Australians will now have peace of mind that if their child or loved one is born with or acquires a significant disability that is likely to be with them for life they will get the support they need, when they need it.

### Why an insurance scheme?

The NDIS is social insurance, not welfare. As an insurance scheme, the NDIS takes a lifetime approach to support, investing in people with disability early to improve their outcomes later in life.





## Who is delivering the NDIS?

The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) is the independent Commonwealth government agency responsible for implementing the NDIS.

The NDIA:

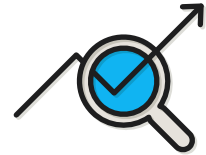
- Helps empower and inform people with disability to be confident consumers.



- Provides information and referrals, links to services and activities, individualised plans and where necessary, funded supports to people over a lifetime.



- Provides service providers with clarity and transparency so they can grow their business and respond to need.



- Raises community awareness and encourages greater inclusion and access for people with disability to mainstream services, community activities and other government initiatives.




The NDIA is partnering with the Commonwealth, State and Territory governments and well known community organisations to deliver the NDIS in your local area.

**For more information about the NDIS please contact:**

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

**National Disability Insurance Agency**

 Telephone 1800 800 110

 Find us on Facebook/NDISAus

 Follow us on Twitter @NDIS

**For people who need help with English**

 TIS: 131 450

**For people with hearing or speech loss**

 TTY: 1800 555 677

 Speak and Listen: 1800 555 727