



# NDIS roll out in Western Australia

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

### What is the NDIS?

The NDIS (National Disability Insurance Scheme) provides support for people with disability, their families and carers in Australia. The NDIS will provide all Australians under the age of 65 with a permanent and significant disability with the reasonable and necessary supports they need to live an ordinary life. The NDIS is being implemented by the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA).

### How does the NDIS work in WA currently?

There have been two versions of the NDIS operating in WA since July 2014; the nationally-delivered NDIS run by the NDIA and the WA NDIS (formerly known as My Way) run by the WA government. Each version of the NDIS has operated in different areas across WA.

The Commonwealth and WA Governments announced in December 2017 that the Commonwealth NDIS (delivered by the NDIA) will be rolled out in Western Australia. This means there will eventually be only one NDIS delivered by the NDIA across every state and territory of Australia.

### How will the national NDIS be different to the WA NDIS?

The national NDIS and the WA NDIS are identical in the ways that count most. Both schemes:

- use the same eligibility criteria for deciding if people with disability can join the NDIS
- focus on helping people access the supports they need to achieve their goals
- value and foster the important role of families, friends, communities and mainstream supports
- use the same guidelines for making decisions about the supports funded in a person's plan
- take a life time approach to assist people to increase their social and economic participation and independence
- encourage existing and new providers to offer a range of supports.

The differences between the schemes are minor and include:

- people with disability who join the national NDIS are known as participants
- participant plans used by the NDIA have a different format to WA NDIS plans and use different terms to describe some participant supports
- different processes are used to help participants choose and engage with providers
- a difference in the prices that each scheme can fund providers to deliver supports.

### What does this change mean for people in the WA NDIS?

All people in the WA NDIS will receive a letter from the West Australian government asking them to give consent to transfer to the national NDIS. Giving consent means that people in WA NDIS can easily transfer their plan and continue to access the support they need.

People who transfer from the WA NDIS to the national NDIS will experience minimal change. Their WA NDIS plan will be transferred into the national NDIS either at the time of their plan review or earlier.

## When will the national NDIS be available?

From 1 July 2018, the NDIA will assume responsibility for delivering the NDIS in WA. The NDIS will continue to roll out on a geographic basis until 2023 with all current people with disability joining by 2020. After 2023 new people can continue to join the scheme.

People with disability already receiving support from WA NDIS will transfer to the national NDIS between April and December 2018.

People with disability living in areas that have not yet joined either version of the NDIS and who are still receiving disability support from the WA government, will be able to join the NDIS as it rolls into their area between July 2018 and June 2020.

People with disability who do not currently receive support from the WA government will be able to apply to enter the national NDIS as it rolls out in their area.

Visit our NDIS geographic roll out in Western Australia page on [www.ndis.gov.au](http://www.ndis.gov.au) to find out where and when the NDIS will be available.

## How can I get more information?

The best place to get information about the NDIS roll out is on the national NDIS website at [www.ndis.gov.au](http://www.ndis.gov.au). The website includes a short video about the NDIS roll out in WA and a regular Q and A forum where the most frequent questions raised in social media and other channels are addressed weekly.

Information sessions about the national NDIS are available from January 2018 for people with disability and providers in those areas transferring from WA NDIA before July 2018. Details are published on the events page on the NDIS website <https://www.ndis.gov.au/news/events/wa.html> and promoted in newspapers and on social media.

Local Coordinators can also provide information about when people will move into the Commonwealth NDIS and where to access more information.

The NDIA provide general information sessions on the first Friday each month at the Midland Office (9.30am to 11am). RSVP by email to [engagementwa@ndis.gov.au](mailto:engagementwa@ndis.gov.au). Family and friends welcome.

## Will any WA NDIS clients receive less support when they transition?

The Commonwealth and WA Governments have agreed that people with disability will not be disadvantaged by transition to the national NDIS and will work together to ensure the transition occurs smoothly with minimal service gaps or disruptions.

For people who have their plan directly transferred to the NDIA, the same types of support and the same hours will be maintained even though the funding for each support may be slightly different. People coming into the NDIA at the time of their plan review will experience a similar process to a WA NDIS plan review.

## Will providers need to register with the national NDIS?

Providers registered exclusively with the WA NDIS will need to register as a national NDIS provider. Visit our Provider Toolkit <http://www.providertoolkit.ndis.gov.au> to learn more about registration process and working with the NDIA.

Providers currently registered with the NDIA do not need to do anything further.

In addition, information sessions for providers new to the NDIS will be held in early 2018. Information sessions will be published on our Events in WA page <https://www.ndis.gov.au/news/events/wa.html> and promoted on our social media channels.