



## The National Disability Insurance Scheme in Victoria

### Answers to your questions



Easy English September 2015

## What is this factsheet about?



This factsheet is about the  
**National Disability Insurance Scheme**  
in Victoria.



The National Disability Insurance Scheme  
is called the **NDIS**.



The NDIS is a new way to help people with  
disability get

- care
- supports.



You might already get money to pay for care  
and supports. For example, from Centrelink.



The NDIS might soon pay for some of your care and supports. We wrote this factsheet to answer questions about the NDIS.

This factsheet has some hard words.

The first time we use a hard word it is in **blue**.

We write what the hard word means.

## When is the NDIS coming to my area?



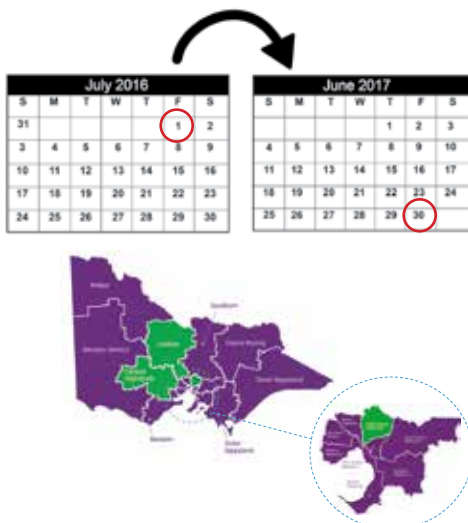
The government has made a plan for how the NDIS will happen in Victoria.



The NDIS will start soon in some places.  
It will start later in other places.

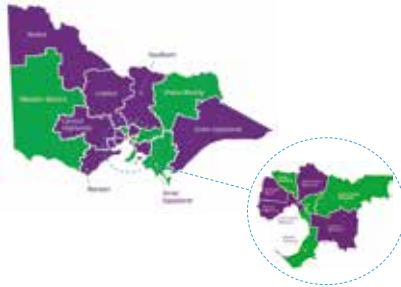
The NDIS will help some groups soon.  
It will help other groups later.

We want to go slowly and get things right.



From 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017  
the NDIS will start in

- North East Melbourne
- Central Highlands
- Loddon.



From 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018

the NDIS will start in

- Inner Gippsland
- Ovens Murray
- Western District
- Inner East Melbourne
- Outer East Melbourne
- Hume Moreland
- Bayside Peninsula.



From 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019

the NDIS will start in

- Southern Melbourne
- Brimbank Melton
- Western Melbourne
- Goulburn
- Mallee
- Outer Gippsland.

See when the NDIS starts where you live

<http://www.ndis.gov.au/vic>

# ndis ?

## Who can get the NDIS in Victoria?

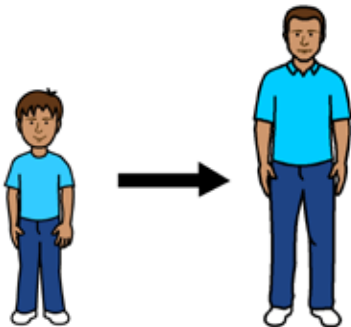


You must live in an area where the NDIS  
has started.



You must be an **Australian citizen**. This  
means you

- were born in Australia  
or
- have a special piece paper that says you  
can live in Australia.



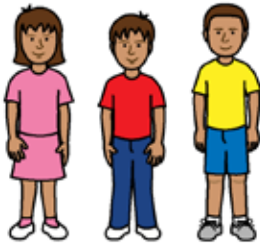
You must be the right age to get help where  
you live.

You must



- have a disability that is **permanent** and fits the NDIS rules. Permanent means the disability will not go away.

or



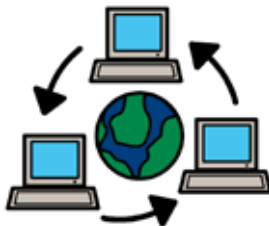
- need **early intervention**. This means to treat something early.



There is an NDIS website.



On the website, you can use the  
**NDIS Access Checklist**. You can check if you  
meet the NDIS rules.



Go to

<http://www.ndis.gov.au/ndis-access-checklist>





## What are the NDIS rules?

The government has made rules for the NDIS.

The rules say that your disability must be permanent.



The NDIS says disability must affect your daily life. For example, it is hard to

- get dressed
- go shopping.



The NDIS says the disability must affect the way you join in things in the community.

For example, it is hard to

- get a job
- go to school.



To do things in your daily life, you must also need

- someone to help you most days

or

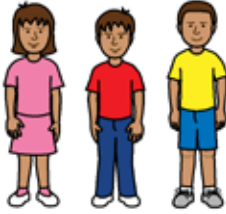


- equipment like a
  - wheelchair
  - walking frame
  - communication device.



Some people might have

- more than one disability
- a disability that comes, goes away and comes back again.



## What are the rules for early intervention?

Early intervention means to treat something early.

The NDIS might pay for early intervention if they are the best choice to help.

The NDIS rules say that the disability must be permanent.



The NDIS rules say that if the NDIS helps **now** it will

- mean less support is needed **later**

- help carers and family members look after you

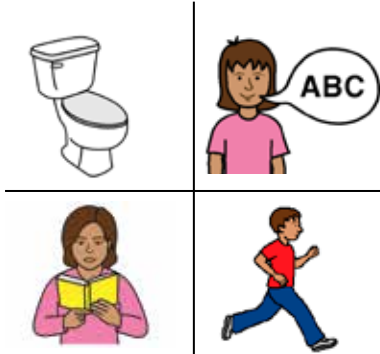


- make the disability better or
- stop the disability getting worse.



The NDIS will pay for some children to get early intervention if they

- are under 6 years old.



- have a **developmental delay**. That means the child finds it very hard to do everyday things. For example

- use the toilet
- talk
- learn
- walk.



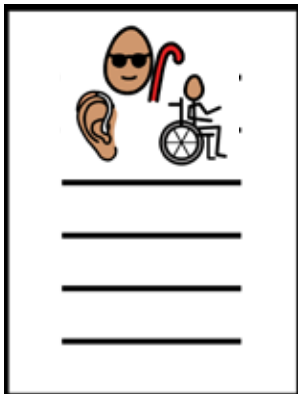
- need help from
  - a speech pathologist
  - a physiotherapist
  - an occupational therapist.



## What information will I need to give the NDIS?

We want to help make the best choices for you. We need to know about

- your disability
- how your disability affects your daily life.



The NDIS might need to see some information about your

- disability
- developmental delay
- need for early intervention.



The information might be

- letters
- reports
- tests.



The information can be from your

- doctor
- teacher
- therapist.



## What are informal supports?

**Informal supports** are the supports you get every day from people who care about you.



Informal support can come from

- family
- friends
- neighbours
- carers.





## What does the NDIS pay for?

The NDIS pays for different supports for different people.



The supports must help you

- be more **independent**. Independent means you can do things by yourself. For example, changes to your car so you can drive to the shops.



- join in the community. For example
  - get a job
  - join a group.



- get the help you need. For example
  - transport
  - a support worker to help you at home
  - therapy like speech pathology.





- get equipment and aids you need.

For example

- a wheelchair
- a communication device.



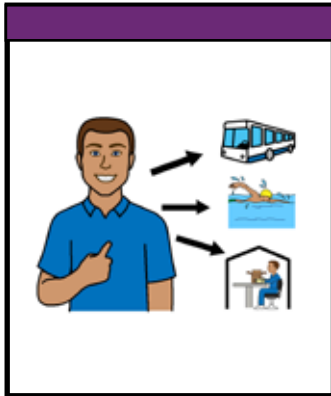
## What does the NDIS not pay for?

The NDIS will say **no** to things that will **not** help with your disability.

The NDIS will **not** pay for



- things that everyone has to pay for like
  - food
  - electricity
  - movie tickets.
- supports that someone else already pays for. For example, Medicare.
- things that might hurt you or other people.



## What is an NDIS plan?

We will help you make an **NDIS plan**. The plan will say what supports

- you need
- the NDIS will pay for.

The plan might be different for everyone.

For example, you can choose

- the supports in your plan
- who gives you those supports.



## How can I look after the money for my plan?



You can

- look after your own plan



- ask a special organisation called a **plan manager**

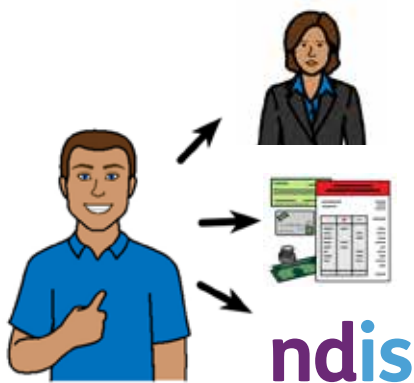


- ask us to put money in a bank account to pay for transport



- ask the **NDIA**.

The NDIA is the **National Disability Insurance Agency**. The NDIA makes the NDIS happen.



You can use **more** than one way to look after the money for your plan.

Sometimes the NDIA or someone else will need to look after the money for your plan. For example, if you hurt yourself.



## What do I need to take to the first planning meeting?

To help you make a plan the NDIA wrote a **planning workbook**. The planning workbook is on the NDIS website.



Go to

[www.ndis.gov.au/participants/planning-process](http://www.ndis.gov.au/participants/planning-process)

Do as much of the planning workbook as you can.



The workbook will help you

- work out your goals
- list what supports you get now
- decide what help you need to reach your goals.



There is a workbook for adults.



There is a workbook for children.



## What will happen to the supports I get now?

You will get the government help and supports you get now until you

- live in an NDIS area
- make a plan with the NDIS.



## When will I know when the NDIS can start helping me?

The NDIA and Victorian Department of Health and Human Services will work together so everyone knows what is happening.

We will let you know when it is time to change to the NDIS.



There is more information about the changes in Victoria on our website.



## More information



Go to our website

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



Call 1800 800 110

Monday to Friday

9am to 5pm



Is English hard for you?

Do you speak a different language?

Call 13 14 50



Are you deaf or hearing impaired?

You can use TTY.

Call 1800 555 677

Then give the number 1800 800 110





Is your speech hard to understand?

You can use the NRS Speak and Listen

Call 1800 555 727

Then give the number 1800 800 110



Send us an email

[enquiries@ndis.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@ndis.gov.au)

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Scope's Communication and Inclusion Resource Centre

wrote the Easy English. September 2015 [www.scopevic.org.au](http://www.scopevic.org.au)

To see the original contact National Disability Insurance Agency

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