

# Disability Support Glossary

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

## A

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### **Access Request Form**

The Access Request Form is the form you fill out to help the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) identify if you are eligible to become a participant in the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

### **Access requirements**

To become a participant in the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) you must meet certain requirements or criteria. The access requirements are:

Age: you must be under 65 years.

Residency: you must live in Australia and be an Australian citizen or have paperwork letting you live here permanently.

Disability: your disability must be permanent (will not go away) or you must need early intervention (i.e. to be treated early to help reduce the need for supports in the future).

### **Approved plan**

See 'Plan'

## C

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### **Carer**

A carer is someone who provides personal care, support and help to you, and who is not contracted as a paid or voluntary worker. A carer is often a family member or guardian.

### **Choice and control**

As an NDIS participant, you have the right to make your own decisions about what is important to you, how you would like to receive your supports and from whom.

### **Community engagement**

Community engagement refers to range of ways you may be involved in the wider community.

### **Community services**

Community services are the activities and services (not supplied by government groups), which are available to you in the community, such as social, study and sporting interests.

## D

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### **Disability**

Disability refers to the total or partial loss of your bodily or mental functions (The Disability Act 1992). It describes an impairment of body or function, a limitation in activities or a restriction in participation when interacting with your environment.

## E

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### **ECEI - Early Childhood Early Intervention**

Early Childhood Early Intervention describes supports and services provided early in life to reduce the effects of disability and to improve functional capacity.

### **Eligibility**

Your eligibility to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) determines whether you can become a participant in the scheme or not. It is determined using the information you provide on the Access Request Form.

## F

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### **First plan**

Your first plan is the start of your journey with the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). An NDIS plan documents your goals and the supports you need to work towards achieving these. NDIS plans are reviewed regularly. See 'Plan'.

### **Formal supports**

Formal supports are supports you have to book and pay for. See 'Support'.

### **Full plan**

See 'Plan'.

### **Full scheme**

Full scheme refers to the dates when the NDIS will be available to all eligible residents across Australia:

ACT – from July 2016

New South Wales – from July 2018

South Australia – from July 2018

Tasmania – from July 2019

Victoria – from July 2019

Queensland – from July 2019

Northern Territory – from July 2019

### **Full scheme roll out**

This refers to when the full scheme will be rolled out across Australia. See 'Full scheme'.

## **Funded supports**

Funded supports are supports the NDIS pays for through your plan. These supports must be reasonable and necessary. See 'Support'.

## **Funded support package**

A funded support package is the money available to you as a participant in the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). Your support package will be broken into three different budgets: Core, Capacity Building and Capital.

# **G**

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## **Goals**

Your goals are the activities or things you wish you could do or achieve in the future, with the help of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

## **Guardian**

A guardian is a person in a formal caring role, acting on your behalf. Parents are usually guardians.

# **I**

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## **Informal supports**

Informal supports are the supports you receive from the people around you – for example, your family, friends and neighbours. See 'Support'.

## **Insurance model**

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) operates as an insurance model. It spreads the cost of an individual's current and future needs across the broader community. The NDIS is available to every Australian that meets the access requirements. It places emphasis on up-front investments to reduce your future NDIS needs.

## **Insurance principle**

The same as Insurance model.

# **L**

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## **Lived experience of disability**

Lived experience of disability refers to your own experience of living with a disability or having a close relationship with someone with disability. For example, a family member or partner.

## **Local Area Coordinators (LAC)**

A Local Area Coordinator (LAC) is a representative from an organisation who works in partnership with the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA), the agency responsible for the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS.). Your LAC will help you and your family/carer to access the NDIS. Your LAC will help you write and manage your plan. After your plan is approved your LAC will connect you to mainstream services and local and community-based supports that will help you achieve the goals in your plan.

## M

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### **Mainstream services**

Mainstream services are government organisations and agencies providing services to the Australian public, such as health, mental health, education, justice, housing, child protection and employment services.

### **Market**

Market refers to the collection of providers offering products and services to you and other NDIS participants.

### **Multidisciplinary**

Multidisciplinary refers to a team of professionals with varying skills and experience who work with one another and share the jobs of evaluating, planning and providing services to you as a participant in the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

## N

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### **NDIA**

The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) is the Commonwealth government organisation responsible for administering the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

### **NDIS**

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is a new way of providing support for Australians with disability, their families and carers.

### **National Access Team (NAT)**

The National Access Team (NAT) is the team of staff from the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) who are responsible for reviewing applications for the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) and decisions relating to a participant's eligibility for the NDIS.

### **Nominee**

If you do not have a parent or guardian, a nominee will be appointed to act and make decisions on your behalf.

## P

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### **Participant**

If you meet the access requirements for the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), you will become a participant in the scheme.

### **Participant Statement**

Your Participant Statement is the information about your living arrangements, relationships, supports, day-to-day life as well as your short and longer-term goals outlined in your NDIS plan.

## Person with disability

A person with disability is someone who has any or all of the following: impairments or activity limitations which make it difficult for them to carry out usual age-appropriate activities, and restrictions which may make it difficult for them to take part in their community, social or family life.

## Plan

Your Plan is the written agreement which states your individual goals and needs, and the reasonable and necessary supports the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) will fund for you. Every NDIS participant has their own individual plan.

## Privacy Act 1988

The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) Privacy Notice explains:

- The personal information the NDIA needs to collect about you and other participants in the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS);
- Who the NDIA may need to collect information from;
- Why the NDIA needs the information; and
- What the NDIS usually does with this information.

## Provider

A provider is an organisation or person who has products or services to help you achieve the goals in your plan. As a National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) participant, you can choose your providers and change providers at any time. This is also known as choice and control.

# R

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## Reasonable and necessary

'Reasonable' is the term the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) uses to mean something is fair. 'Necessary' is the term used to refer to something you must have. The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) funds reasonable and necessary supports relating to your disability so you can live an ordinary life and achieve your goals.

## Registered provider

A Registered Provider is a disability support provider that has met the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) requirements for qualifications, approvals, experience, capacity and quality standards in order to provide a product or service. See 'Provider'.

# S

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## Sector

The disability sector is made up of organisations and companies providing disability support services and the peak bodies that represent them.

## Self-management (funding)

You can choose to self-manage the money you receive through the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). This means you can receive all or part of your funding and you will be responsible for paying your providers directly for the supports and services they provide to you.

## **Self-management**

Self-management refers to the amount of help you need to complete daily tasks, make decisions and handle problems and money.

## **Service agreement**

Your Service Agreement is the contract you sign with each service provider you choose to deliver the supports and services outlined in your plan.

## **Service provider**

See 'Provider'.

## **Supplier**

A supplier is a company or person who provides the items or equipment you need to achieve the goals outlined in your plan.

## **Supports**

Supports refer to the things you need to help you undertake daily life activities, participate in your community and reach your goals.

# **T**

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## **Transdisciplinary**

Transdisciplinary is a service model similar to multidisciplinary. In the transdisciplinary model, a team of professionals works with you, with one lead professional taking responsibility for coordination and progress reporting against your plan. The lead professional coordinates other professionals to work with you as needed.

## **Trial phase**

Before the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) was rolled out across Australia, different ways of working were trialled in different locations. These first three years of the NDIS are referred to as the trial phase.

## **Trial sites**

Trial sites are the locations where the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) was first launched and trialled prior to the full scheme roll-out. In trial sites, the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) worked with participants to test how the NDIS would work.

# **W**

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## **Workforce**

Workforce refers to the people working in the disability support sector, such as support workers and therapists.