

Applying to the NDIS

This factsheet explains:

- how to apply to the NDIS
- eligibility requirements
- information you'll need to support your application
- what happens after you apply.

How to apply

If you want to apply to the NDIS, connecting with a partner is a good first step. If you're 9 or older it's best to contact your [local area coordinator](#) or for children younger than 9, families can contact an [early childhood partner](#). Partners will help you understand the eligibility requirements, and what information and identification you need to give us.

Partners can help you apply to the NDIS by submitting the application on your behalf. This means you don't need to complete the access request form yourself.

You can find a local area coordinator or early childhood partner near you on our [office location](#) page on the NDIS website.

If you live in an area where there are no partners, or if you don't want to meet with them, you can contact the NDIS directly. We might still ask you to meet with a partner to verify your identity.

We can support you to submit the [access request form](#).

To get started, visit the [office location](#) page on the NDIS website or call us on **1800 800 110**.

We'll call the person who helps you apply your **my NDIS contact**. They'll keep supporting you as you interact with the NDIS.

Eligibility requirements

To be eligible for the NDIS, you'll need to meet our requirements for:

- [age](#): you need to be younger than 65 on the day you apply
- [residence](#): you need to live in Australia, and be an Australian citizen, permanent resident, or Protected Special Category Visa holder
- [disability](#), [early intervention](#) or both: you may be eligible under the disability requirements if you have one or more impairments that are likely to be permanent and this substantially impacts your ability to do daily life activities.

Or you may be eligible under the early intervention requirements if you have one or more impairments that are likely to be permanent and [NDIS supports](#) are likely to benefit you by reducing your need for supports in the future.

You can use the [eligibility checklist](#) on the NDIS website to see if you might be eligible. For more information on the eligibility requirements, go to [Our Guideline – Applying to the NDIS](#) on the NDIS website.

Information to support your application

If you apply to the NDIS, we'll need to verify your identity.

To decide if you're eligible for the NDIS, we need evidence that shows you meet our requirements for:

- [age](#)
- [residence](#)
- [disability](#), [early intervention](#) or both.

Evidence of your identity, age and residence

The [Evidence of identity factsheet](#) shows what information we need to verify your identity.

To show you meet the age and residence requirements you can give us consent to check your Centrelink record. We'll only use this to check your age and residence.

In most cases, we can just use your identity documents to check age and residence. For example:

- to check your age, we can use your birth certificate, passport, driver's licence, or proof of age card
- to check evidence of your residence, we can use your Australian birth certificate, Australian citizenship or naturalisation certificate, or a passport or travel document including a valid visa.

Evidence of your disability and functional capacity

We need evidence about the impact of your disability on your daily life. Evidence can include assessments, reports, and written statements.

If you don't have any written evidence, you'll need to contact your treating health professional. They should be the most appropriate person to give evidence of your primary disability and have treated you for a significant time.

Your **my NDIS contact** can help you understand what evidence you'll need and support you to gather it.

Who can provide evidence of disability?

Evidence of your disability should come from a health professional who has treated you for at least 6 months. For example, this might be your GP, pediatrician, or neurologist.

The type of evidence we need, and the best person to share it will depend on your disability. You can use our guide for [types of disability evidence](#) on the NDIS website for common examples.

We have [information for health professionals](#) on the NDIS website that can help your treating professionals give good evidence.

For children younger than 6 with developmental delay, your early childhood partner can give evidence. To learn more, go to [Our Guidelines - Early connections](#).

What happens after you apply?

Once you apply, we'll decide if you're eligible or ask for more information within 21 days. We'll contact you to let you know if you're eligible, how we made our decision, and any next steps.

If you're eligible, you'll become a NDIS participant. We'll send you a letter to let you know:

- you are eligible
- if you met the requirements for disability, early intervention, or both
- the next steps.

Your letter will also confirm the date you became eligible for the NDIS.

From 1 January 2025 your letter will also include a **Notice of impairments** which gives you more information about your eligibility for the NDIS. The Notice of impairments tells you your categories of impairments for which you met the requirements for early intervention, disability or both.

The categories are:

- intellectual
- cognitive
- neurological
- sensory
- physical

You may also be eligible for the NDIS if you have a psychosocial disability. This means you have reduced capacity to do daily life activities and tasks due to your mental health.

When a child younger than 6 with developmental delay becomes a NDIS participant, we'll also send a Notice of impairments. This notice will state that the child has developmental delay.

Learn more about the [Notice of impairments](#).

We'll work with you to set up a meeting and develop your first plan with [reasonable and necessary](#) supports. We can use the information you have shared when you applied, as a starting point to talk about your goals and support needs. Then, we'll work with you to [create your NDIS plan](#).

You'll then receive a plan that sets out your [NDIS supports](#). These are the services, items, and equipment the NDIS can fund.

If you aren't eligible to become an NDIS participant, we'll explain why, and your [review rights](#).

We can keep supporting you even if you aren't eligible for the NDIS. If you want, we can offer [community connections](#) or [early connections](#). If your situation changes or you get new information, you can apply again in the future.

For more information, go to [Our Guideline – Applying to the NDIS](#) on the NDIS website.

National Disability Insurance Scheme

For more information about the NDIS, visit [ndis.gov.au](https://www.ndis.gov.au).

Telephone 1800 800 110

Webchat [ndis.gov.au](https://www.ndis.gov.au)

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For people who need help with English

TIS: 131 450

For people who are deaf or hard of hearing

TTY: 1800 555 677

Voice relay: 1800 555 727

National Relay Service: accesshub.gov.au

DA0848 Applying to the NDIS factsheet - December 2024