



Australian Government

Department of Health, Disability and Ageing

Have your say about access to the NDIS

How should the NDIS make decisions?

Easy Read version



How to use this document



Australian Government

Department of Health,
Disability and Ageing

We are the Australian Government Department of Health, Disability and Ageing.

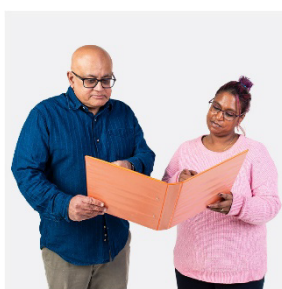
We wrote this document.



We wrote some words in **bold**.

We explain what these words mean.

There is also a list of these words on page [21](#).



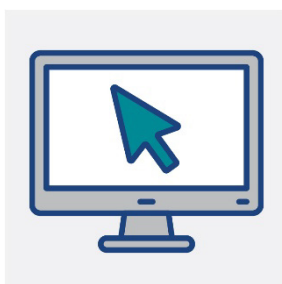
You can ask someone you trust for support to:

- read this document
- find more information.



This is an Easy Read summary of another document.

It only includes the most important ideas.



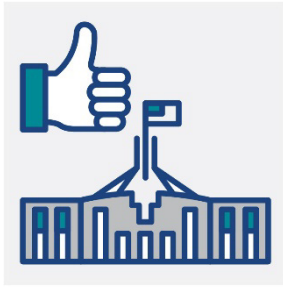
You can find the other document on our website.

www.consultations.health.gov.au/disability-and-carers-group/ndis-access-changes-consultation

What's in this document?

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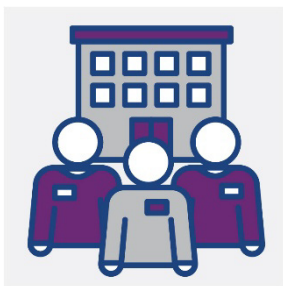
Why are we making changes?



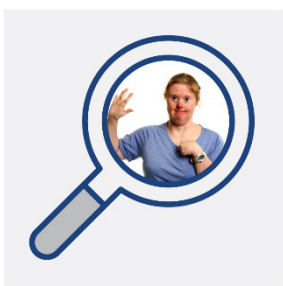
The Australian Government wants to improve the way it decides who can use the **National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)**.



The NDIS supports people with disability by helping them pay for the supports and services they need.



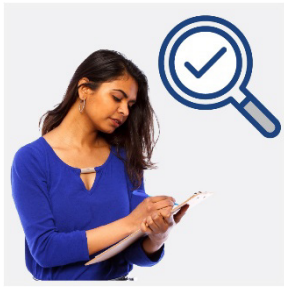
The **National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA)** is the part of the government that runs the NDIS.



The government wants the NDIA to focus on how a person's disability affects their life.



This means the NDIA shouldn't just focus on what disability a person has.



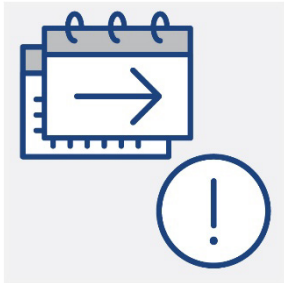
The government checked the NDIS to find out what:

- worked well
- could be better.

They call it the **NDIS Review**.



The NDIS Review showed that the rules about joining the NDIS don't always work for people the same way.



This includes how the NDIA checks if a disability is:

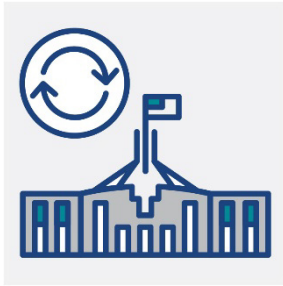
- permanent – it won't go away
- significant – it affects their daily life.



We want to make decisions about who can access the NDIS:

- clearer
- fairer
- the same way each time.

What might change?



The government has some ideas about what might change.

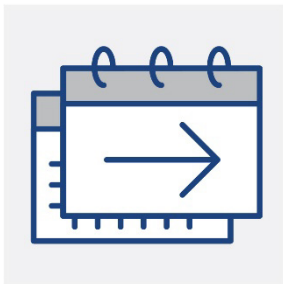


The government wants a better way to check how a person's disability affects their life.



This would help the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) make decisions the same way each time.

The government wants a better way to decide:

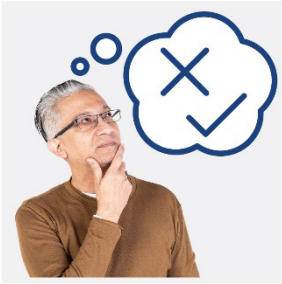


- when someone's disability is permanent

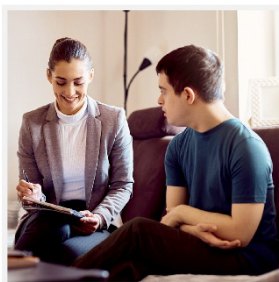


- when the right health care could help someone do everyday activities.

The government wants a better way to:



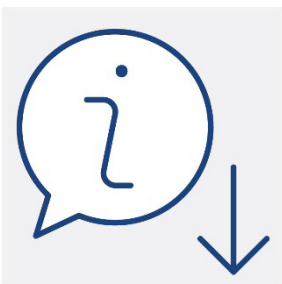
- decide if the NDIS is the right support for someone



- connect people with other services.



The government also wants to make it easier for people who meet the rules to join the NDIS.



This includes asking people for less information to join the NDIS.

Who do we want to hear from?

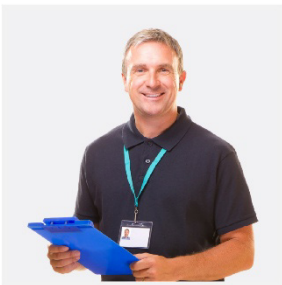
We want to hear from:



- **NDIS participants** – people with disability who take part in the NDIS



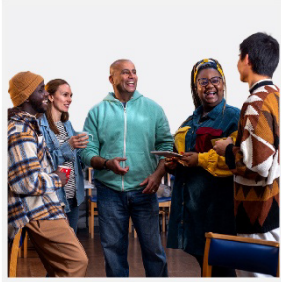
- families and carers of people with disability



- disability **providers** – people who support people with disability by delivering a service



- people and organisations who speak up about disability.



We also want to hear from people in the community.

This includes:



- First Nations people



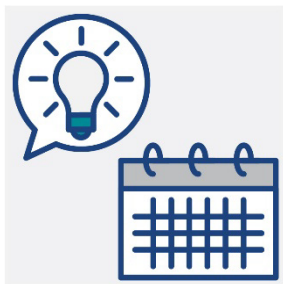
- **culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD)** people.



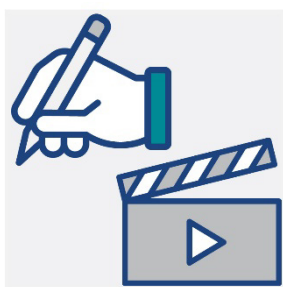
CALD people:

- come from different cultures and backgrounds
- speak languages other than English.

How to share your ideas

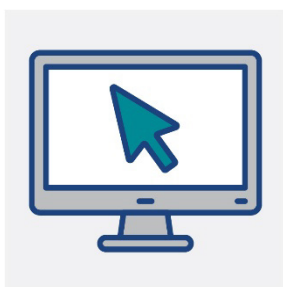


You can share your ideas with us
until **2 October 2026.**



You can:

- fill out the questions on the following pages
- write down your ideas
- record a video – including an Auslan video.



You can share your ideas on our website.

www.consultations.health.gov.au/disability-and-carers-group/ndis-access-changes-consultation



You can send your ideas in an email.

NDISAccessConsultation@health.gov.au



You can also send us an email to ask for a phone call.

What will guide the changes



We have 7 **principles** to follow when we have new rules about who joins the NDIS.

We want to know what you think about these principles.



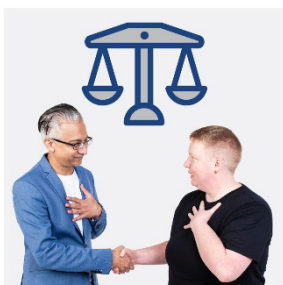
Principles are ideas we:

- believe in
- think are important.



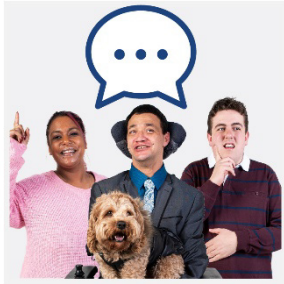
Principle 1: Follow the laws about the NDIS.

This includes respecting the **rights** of people with disability.



Rights are rules about how people must treat you:

- fairly
- equally.



Principle 2: Follow **lived experience**.

Lived experience is when you know what it is like:

- to have a disability
- for someone who has a disability.

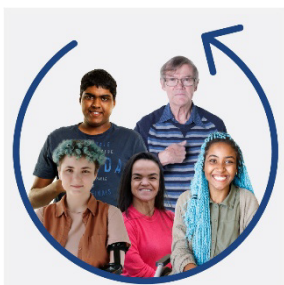


Principle 3: Use **evidence** to make decisions the same way every time.

Evidence is proof that something is true.



Principle 4: Focus on each person's needs and strengths.



Principle 5: Be fair, **inclusive** and safe.

When something is inclusive, everyone:

- can take part
- feels like they belong.



Principle 6: Be clear and **accessible**.

When information is accessible, it's easy to:

- find and use
- understand.



Principle 7: Keep learning and getting better.

Questions about our principles

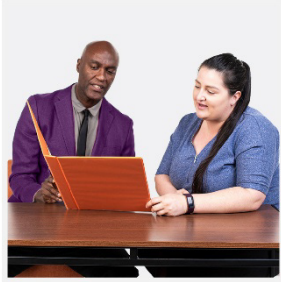


We want to know what you think about our principles.



You don't have to answer every question.

You can choose the ones you want to answer.



Are these the right principles to use when we create the new way to decide who joins the NDIS?



Should we add any principles?

Should we get rid of any principles?

Should any principles change?

How to decide who can join the NDIS

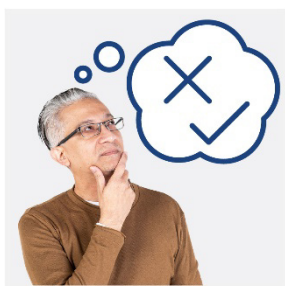


We want everyone to understand how the NDIS decides who can join.



This means decisions about who can join the NDIS should:

- be clear
- be fair
- work the same way for everyone.



We want to know how to decide if:

- someone can access the NDIS
- a different service is right for them.



The way we make these decisions must work well for people who:

- need a lot of support
- come from different backgrounds.



We also want to know how the NDIS should help people find and use other services.

Questions about how to decide who can join the NDIS



We want to know what you think about how to decide who can join the NDIS.



You don't have to answer every question.

You can choose the ones you want to answer.



How can the decisions be fairer?

How can the decisions be clearer?

How can we make decisions the same way
for everyone?



How can we make it easier to join the NDIS?

You can think about:

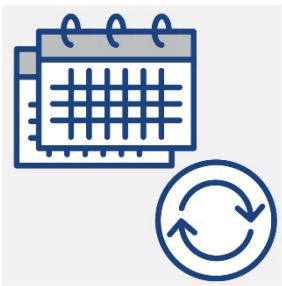


- the information people need to share
- how the NDIA explains decisions
- how the NDIS helps people find and use other services.



How can we make sure the way the NDIS makes decisions works well for people who:

- need a lot of support?
- come from different backgrounds?



This includes people with disabilities that change over time.

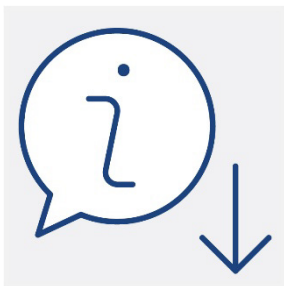


The evidence people need



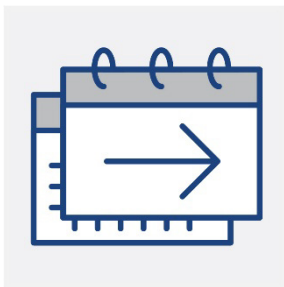
We want to make sure it is easy for people to:

- understand the evidence the NDIS needs
- give the right information to the NDIS.

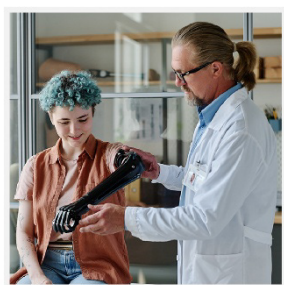


We also want people to be able to share less information to join the NDIS.

We want to know what information the NDIS should use to decide:



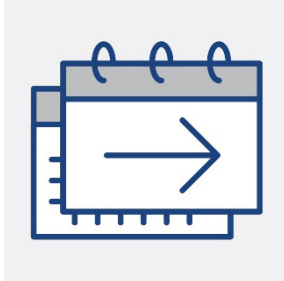
- when someone's disability is permanent



- when the right health care could help someone do everyday activities.

Questions about evidence

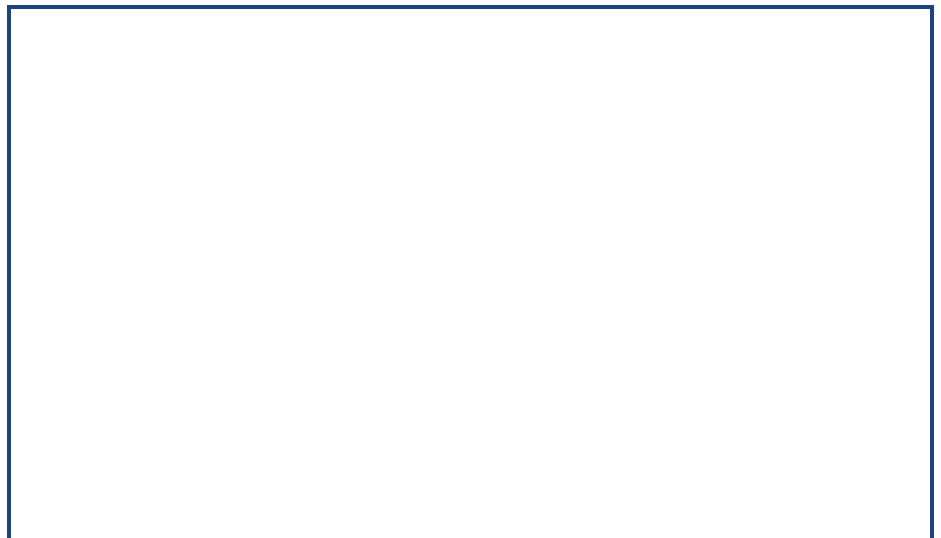
What information should the NDIS use to decide:



- when a disability is permanent?

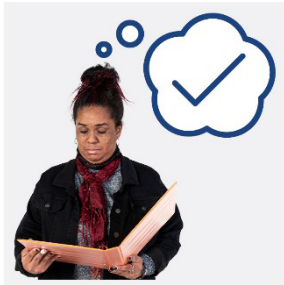


- when the right health care could help someone do everyday activities?



Word list

This list explains what the **bold** words in this report mean.



Accessible

When information is accessible, it's easy to:

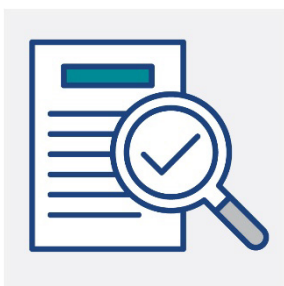
- find and use
- understand.



Culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD)

CALD people:

- come from different cultures and backgrounds
- speak languages other than English.



Evidence

Evidence is proof that something is true.



Inclusive

When something is inclusive, everyone:

- can take part
- feels like they belong.



Lived experience

Lived experience is when you know what it is like:

- to have a disability
- for someone who has a disability.



National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA)

The NDIA is the part of the government that runs the NDIS.



National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

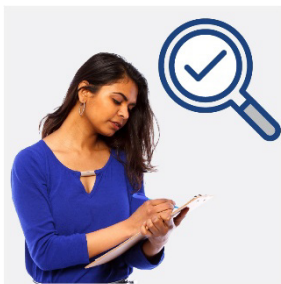
The NDIS supports people with disability by helping them pay for the supports and services they need.



NDIS Participants

NDIS Participants are people with disability who take part in the NDIS.

NDIS Review



The government checked the NDIS to find out what:

- worked well
- could be better.

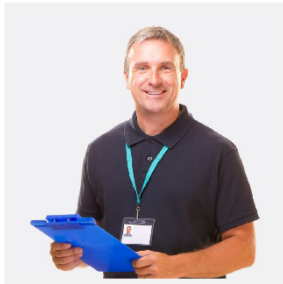
They call it the NDIS Review.



Principles

Principles are ideas we:

- believe in
- think are important.



Providers

Providers support people with disability by delivering a service.



Rights

Rights are rules about how people must treat you:

- fairly
- equally.



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