



**Australian Government**

**Department of Health, Disability and Ageing**

# New rules for NDIS plans

## Have your say on the changes

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.

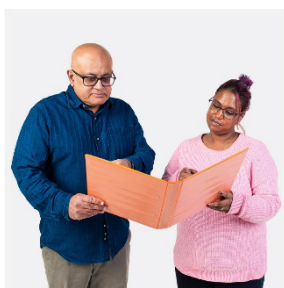
We wrote this document.



We wrote some words in **bold**.

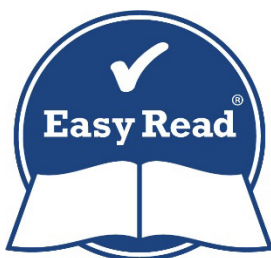
We explain what these words mean.

There is also a list of these words on page 23.



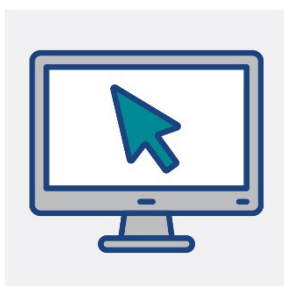
You can ask someone you trust for support to:

- read this document
- find more information.



This is an Easy Read summary of another document.

It only includes the most important ideas.



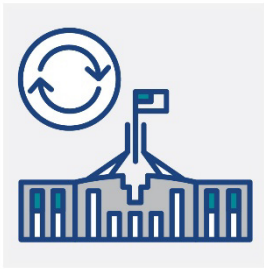
You can find the other document on our website.

<https://consultations.health.gov.au/disability-and-carers-group/nfp-ndis-supports>

# What's in this document?

|                                       |    |
|---------------------------------------|----|
| About the changes to NDIS plans       | 4  |
| We want to know what you think        | 6  |
| Rules about support needs assessments | 8  |
| Rules about funding                   | 12 |
| Rules about updating NDIS plans       | 17 |
| Rules about NDIS supports             | 19 |
| Questions about this document         | 20 |
| How to share your ideas               | 22 |
| Word list                             | 23 |

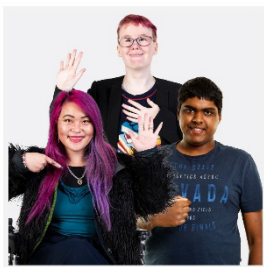
# About the changes to NDIS plans



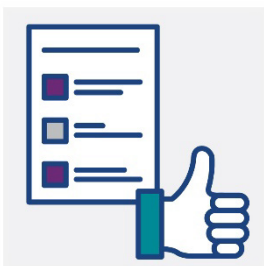
The Australian Government is making some changes to the **National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)**.



The NDIS provides services and supports to **participants**.



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



These changes will help make sure **NDIS plans** are:

- fairer
- easier to use.



An NDIS plan has information about:

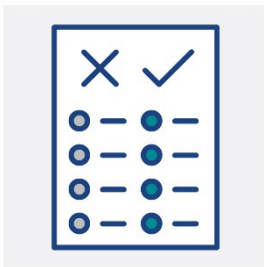
- a participant and their goals
- what supports a participant needs
- what the NDIS will pay for.



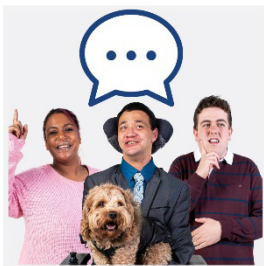
The Australian Government is changing how the **National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA)** makes NDIS plans.



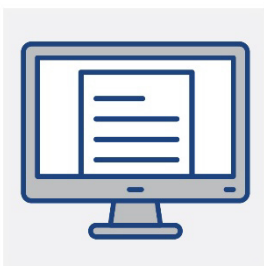
The NDIA runs the NDIS.



There will be **8** new rules about how the NDIA makes NDIS plans.



We already asked the community to have their say about **4** of these rules.



We shared a report about what we heard.

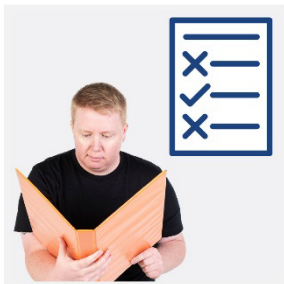
You can read it on our website.

<https://consultations.health.gov.au/ndis/nfp-public-consultation/>

# We want to know what you think



We want to know what you think about the other **4** rules.

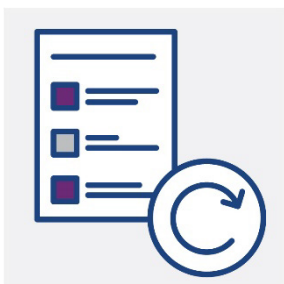


These rules are about how a participant can use their plan.

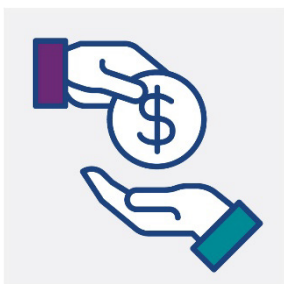
These rules are also about how the NDIA:



- will work out what supports a participant needs



- can update NDIS plans



- decides how much **funding** a participant will get.



Funding is money from an NDIS plan that pays for the supports a participant needs.



We have included questions on the following pages for you to think about.

# Rules about support needs assessments

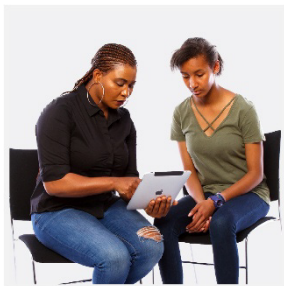


**Support needs assessments** help the NDIA work out:

- how a person's disability affects their life
- what supports a person needs.



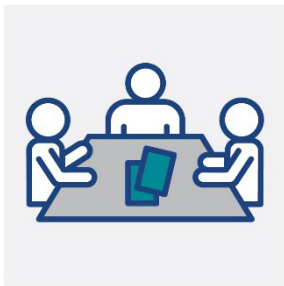
Someone who works for the NDIA does the support needs assessments.



They will talk with a participant about:

- their daily life
- their support needs
- what is important to them.

Participants can have a support person with them during the support needs assessment.



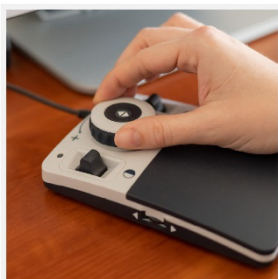
For example:

- a family member
- someone who helps the participant have their say.



The person doing the assessment will also work out if the participant needs certain supports.

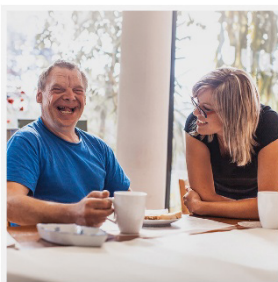
For example:



- **assistive technology** – equipment or a device that can help people do things more easily



- **home modifications** – changes to a home to better fit a person's needs



- **behaviour supports** – ways to support how a participant behaves.



The person doing the assessment will write a report that explains what supports the participant needs.



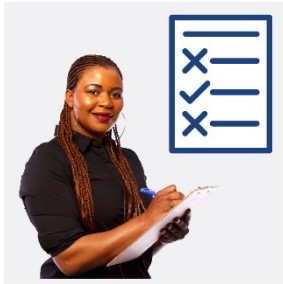
If the participant isn't happy with the report, they can talk to the NDIA.



You can see what a support needs assessment report might look like on our website.

[https://consultations.health.gov.au/disability-and-carers-group/nfp-ndis-supports/user\\_uploads/draft-support-needs-assessment-report-for-new-framework-planning.pdf](https://consultations.health.gov.au/disability-and-carers-group/nfp-ndis-supports/user_uploads/draft-support-needs-assessment-report-for-new-framework-planning.pdf)

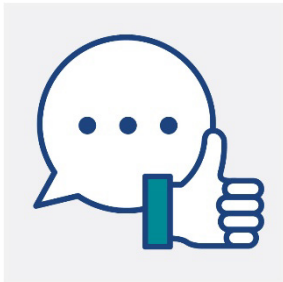
## Questions for you



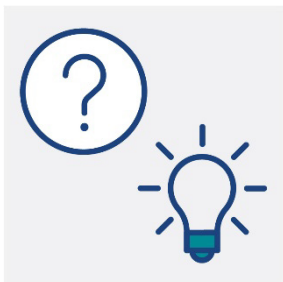
We want to know what you think about the support needs assessment rules.



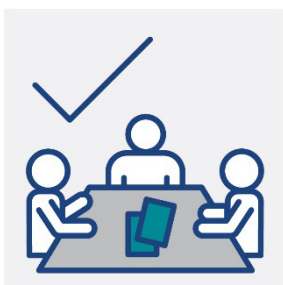
Below are **3 questions** for you to think about.



Are there any parts of how a support needs assessment works that we could explain better?



Do you have any questions or ideas about the example of a support needs assessment report?

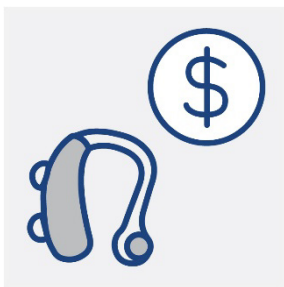


When do you think the NDIA should do a support needs assessment?

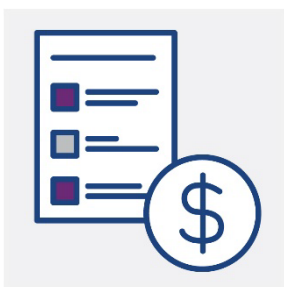
Are there other reasons why the NDIA should do a support needs assessment?

# Rules about funding

The NDIA will use the new rules and information in the support needs assessment report to work out:



- how much funding a participant needs for their supports



- how a participant can use the funding from their NDIS plan.



For example, the NDIA might decide a participant will have **stated supports**.



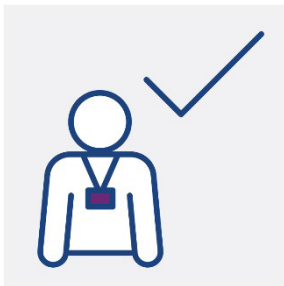
A stated support in an NDIS plan has funding set aside that the participant can only use for that support.



Or the NDIA might decide that the participant will have **flexible supports**.

Participants can choose how they use funding for flexible supports.

This would mean the participant can choose:



- which NDIS supports they need



- how much money to spend.



Under the new rules, participants can use their funding for **18** different groups of NDIS supports.

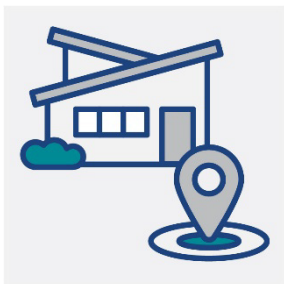
How much funding a participant gets might depend on:



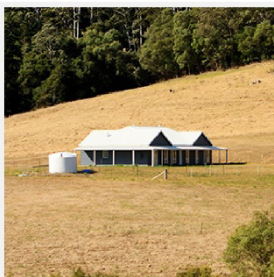
- how many hours of support they need



- how much a certain support costs



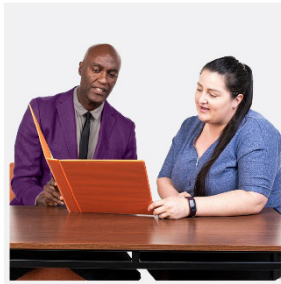
- where they live.



For example, a person who lives far away from cities or towns might need more funding.

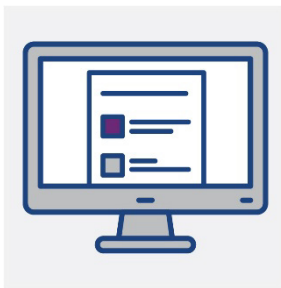


After a participant gets their NDIS plan, they can ask for a meeting with the NDIA.



The meeting is a chance to:

- learn how to use their NDIS plan
- ask questions.



You can see what a new NDIS plan might look like on our website.

[https://consultations.health.gov.au/disability-and-carers-group/nfp-ndis-supports/user\\_uploads/draft-participant-plan-for-new-framework-planning.pdf](https://consultations.health.gov.au/disability-and-carers-group/nfp-ndis-supports/user_uploads/draft-participant-plan-for-new-framework-planning.pdf)



The NDIA is testing how the new rules for funding will work.



We will share more information later this year about how the NDIA will decide how much funding participants get.

## Questions for you



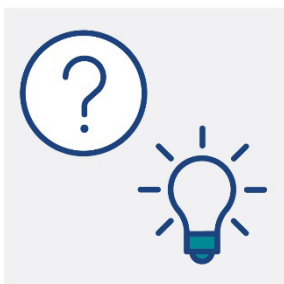
We want to know what you think about the funding rules.



Below are **2 questions** for you to think about.



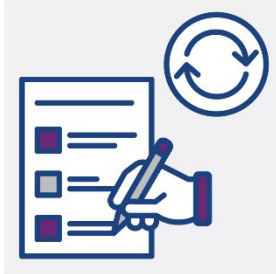
What information would help participants understand how the NDIA works out their funding?



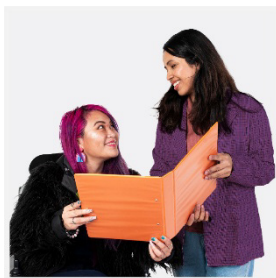
Do you have any questions or ideas about the NDIS plan template?

# Rules about updating NDIS plans

There are **2** ways the NDIA can update NDIS plans:

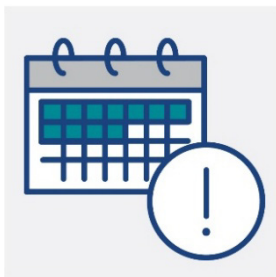


- A **plan variation** – when the NDIA changes small parts of a participant's NDIS plan.

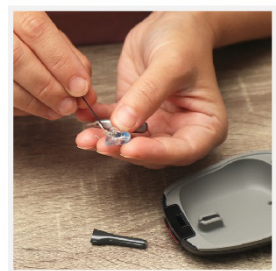


- A **plan reassessment** – when the NDIA works with a participant to create a new NDIS plan.

The NDIA will use a plan variation for:



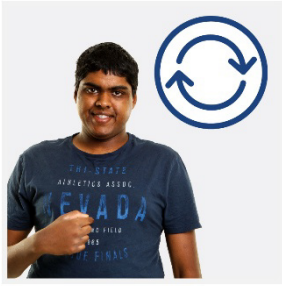
- urgent or short-term changes



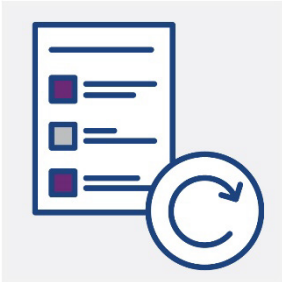
- repairs



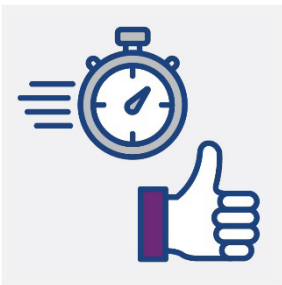
- small funding changes.



The NDIA will use a plan reassessment when a participant's support needs change a lot.



Most NDIS plan updates will use a plan variation.

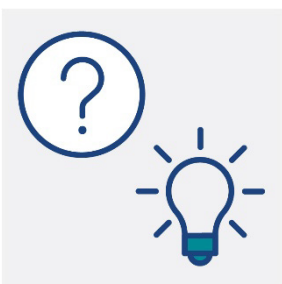


This will make it faster and easier to update NDIS plans.

## Questions for you

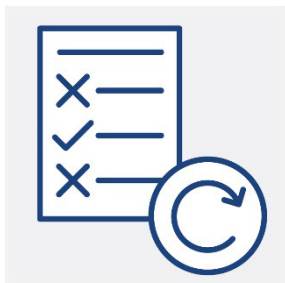


We want to know what you think about the rules for updating plans.



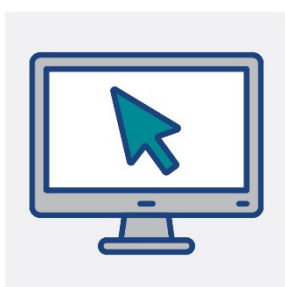
Do you have any questions or ideas about the rules for updating plans?

# Rules about NDIS supports



The Australian Government will update the rules about NDIS supports.

This will make sure the rules work with the new way NDIS plans are made.

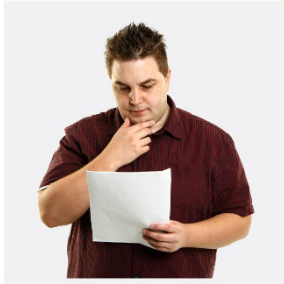


You can find information about the new rules for NDIS supports on our website.

We have Easy Read information and questions for you to think about.

[https://consultations.health.gov.au/disability-and-carers-group/nfp-ndis-supports/user\\_uploads/summary-paper---ndis-supports---easy-read\\_final.pdf](https://consultations.health.gov.au/disability-and-carers-group/nfp-ndis-supports/user_uploads/summary-paper---ndis-supports---easy-read_final.pdf)

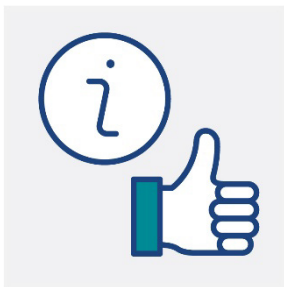
# Questions about this document



We want to know what you think about this document.



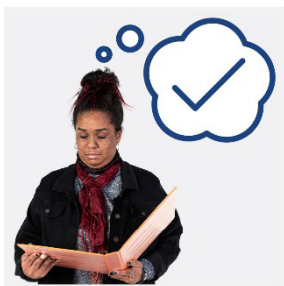
Below are **5 questions** for you to think about.



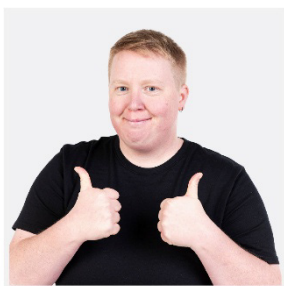
What information in this document was the most useful?



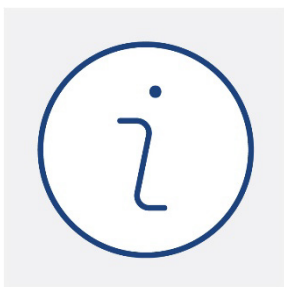
What questions do you still have?



What would help people with disability better understand the new rules about how the NDIA makes NDIS plans?



How could we make the information easier to find and understand?

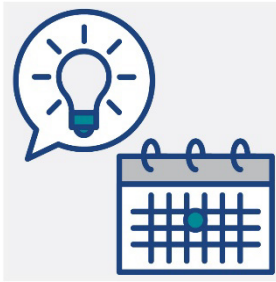


What is the best way for us to share more information about the new rules for NDIS plans?

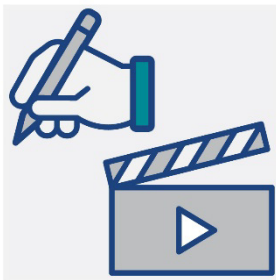
For example:

- Easy Read
- videos
- talking to disability organisations.

# How to share your ideas

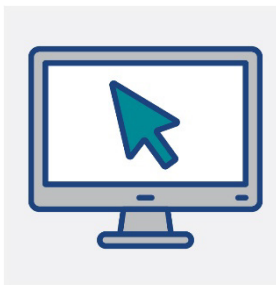


You can share your ideas with us  
until **14 October 2026.**



You can:

- write down your ideas
- record a video – including an Auslan video.



You can share your ideas on our website.

<https://consultations.health.gov.au/disability-and-carers-group/nfp-ndis-supports>



You can send us an email.

[NDISConsultations@health.gov.au](mailto:NDISConsultations@health.gov.au)



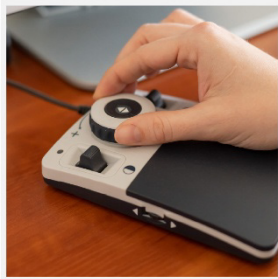
You can call us.

Ask for NDIS consultations.

1800 020 103

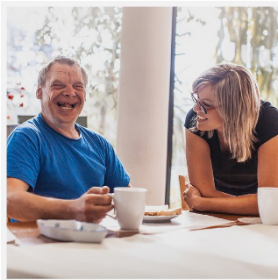
# Word list

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



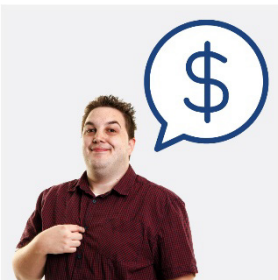
## **Assistive technology**

Assistive technology is equipment or a device that can help people do things more easily.



## **Behaviour supports**

Behaviour supports are ways to support how a participant behaves.



## **Flexible supports**

Participants can choose how they use funding for flexible supports.



## **Funding**

Funding is money from an NDIS plan that pays for the supports a participant needs.



## Home modifications

Home modifications are changes to a home to better fit a person's needs.



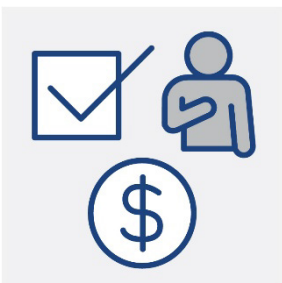
## National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA)

The NDIA runs the NDIS.



## National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

The NDIS provides services and supports to participants.



## NDIS plans

An NDIS plan has information about:

- a participant and their goals
- what supports a participant needs
- what the NDIS will pay for.



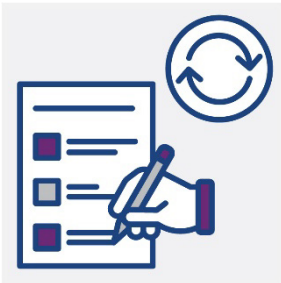
## Participants

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



## Plan reassessment

A plan reassessment is when the NDIA works with a participant to create a new NDIS plan.



## Plan variation

A plan variation is when the NDIA changes small parts of a participant's NDIS plan.



## Stated supports

A stated support in an NDIS plan has funding set aside that the participant can only use for that support.



## Support needs assessment

Support needs assessments help the NDIA work out:

- how a person's disability affects their life
- what supports a person needs.



---

The Information Access Group created this Easy Read document using stock photography and custom images. The images may not be reused without permission. For any enquiries about the images, please visit [www.informationaccessgroup.com](http://www.informationaccessgroup.com). Quote job number 6865-A.