



Australian Government

Department of Health, Disability and Ageing

New rules for NDIS supports

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.

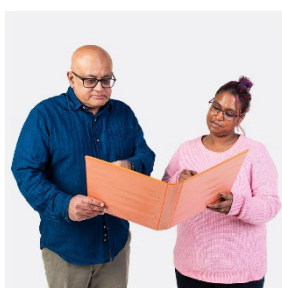
We wrote this document.



We wrote some words in **bold**.

We explain what these words mean.

There is also a list of these words on page [20](#).



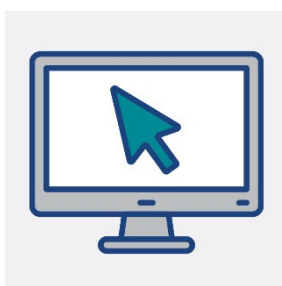
You can ask someone you trust for support to:

- read this document
- find more information.



This is an Easy Read summary of another document.

It only includes the most important ideas.



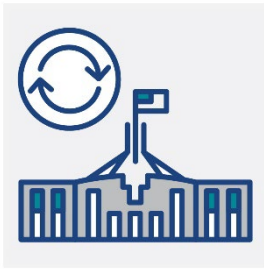
You can find the other document on our website.

www.consultations.health.gov.au/disability-and-carers-group/nfp-ndis-supports

What's in this document?

About the changes to NDIS supports	4
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About the changes to NDIS supports



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:

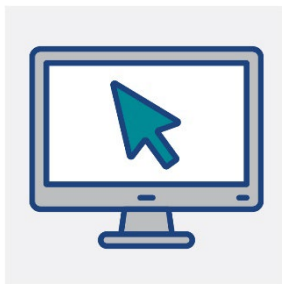
- a participant and their goals
- what supports a participant needs
- what the NDIS will pay for.



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



The NDIA runs the NDIS.



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

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

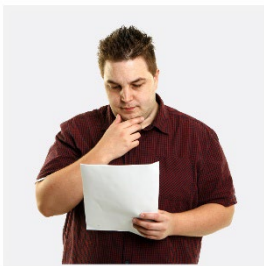
www.consultations.health.gov.au/disability-and-carers-group/nfp-ndis-supports.

What the community told us



We asked the community what they thought about the rules the NDIA has for the NDIS now.

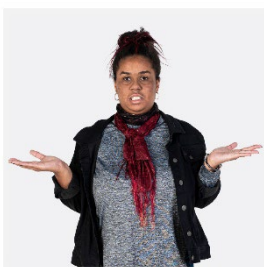
People told us:



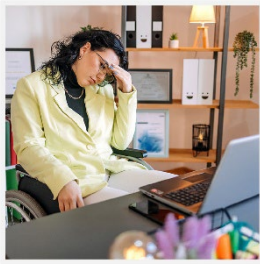
- the rules are hard to understand



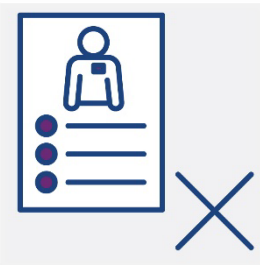
- there are too many types of supports



- the way supports are explained is confusing



People also told us it's hard to apply for **replacement supports**.



Participants can ask to use a support that is not on the NDIS supports lists.

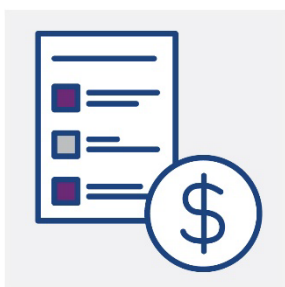
They are called replacement supports.

Rules about groups of NDIS supports



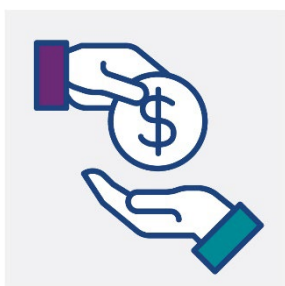
The Australian Government will update the rules about NDIS supports.

This will make sure the rules work with the new way the NDIA makes NDIS plans.



The NDIA decides how much **funding** a participant will get.

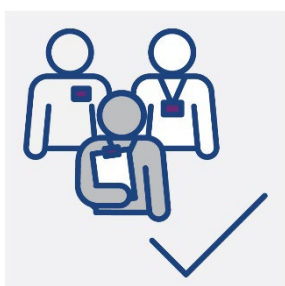
Funding is money from an NDIS plan that pays for the supports a participant needs.



There are **36** different groups of NDIS supports that participants can use their funding for.



Under the new rules, there will be **18** groups of NDIS supports.



The types of supports will not change.

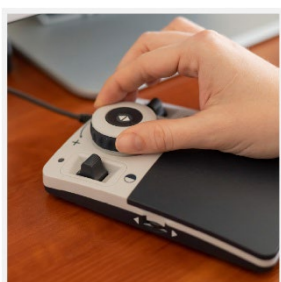
But they might be put in a new group with other similar supports.

New groups of NDIS supports

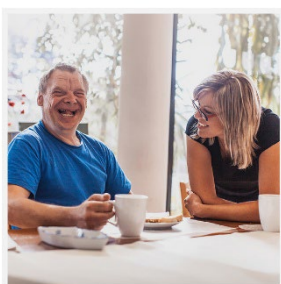
The new groups will include:



- **assistance animals** – animals that are trained to support people with disability in different ways



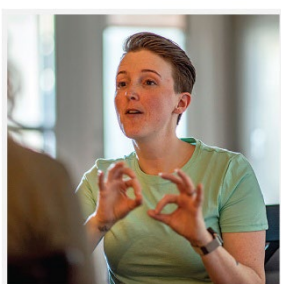
- **assistive technology** – equipment or a device that can help people do things more easily



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



- disability health supports – like nurses

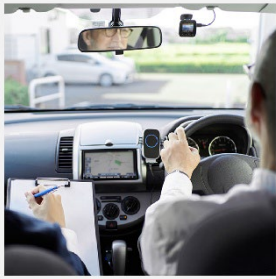


- **interpreter** supports.

An interpreter is someone who:

- uses your language
- helps you understand what someone is saying.

The new groups will also include:



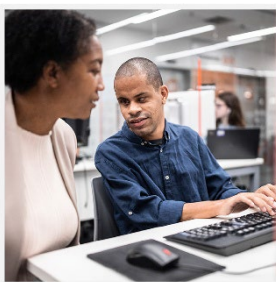
- driver training



- home and community supports



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



- job supports

- **plan management.**

Plan management is when a participant's funding is managed by someone who:

- helps the participant pay for their services
- keeps track of the participant's funding.



The new groups will also include:



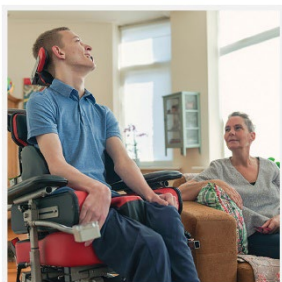
- **short term accommodation** – places where people can live for a short time



- **medium term accommodation** – places where people can live for up to 90 days



- private transport – like taxis



- **specialist disability accommodation** – housing for people with disability who need extra support

The new groups will also include:



- **support coordination** – when someone helps a participant plan and use their supports

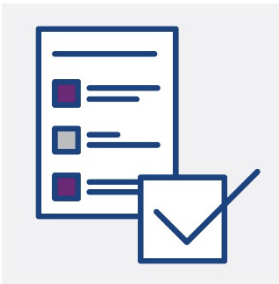
- **therapy.**



Therapy includes different types of support that can help improve how:

- you think and feel
- your body moves.

The NDIA will use the same list of supports for:



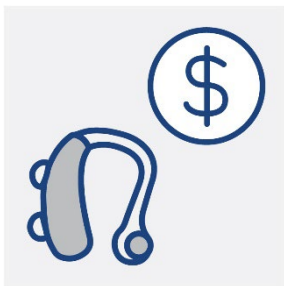
- plans that participants use now



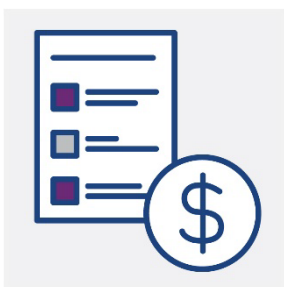
- the new way of making NDIS plans.

Rules about funding

The NDIA will use the new way of making NDIS plans to work out:



- how much funding a participant needs for supports



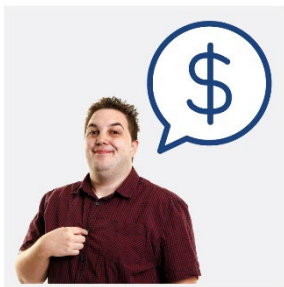
- how a participant can use the funding from their NDIS plan.



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



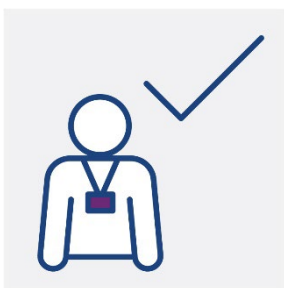
A stated support in an NDIS plan has funding set aside that the participant can only use for that support.



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

Participants can choose how they use funding for flexible supports.

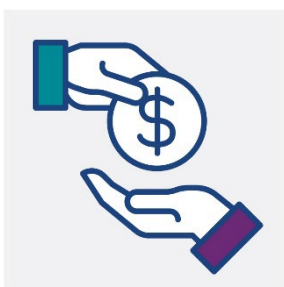
This would mean the participant can choose:



- which NDIS supports they need



- how much money to spend.



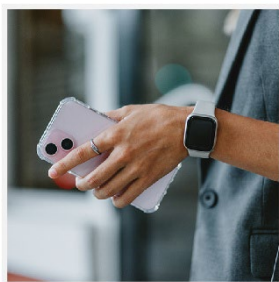
Most participants will use their funding in different ways.

Rules about replacement supports

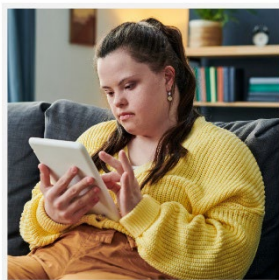


Under the new rules, the NDIS will not pay for replacement supports anymore.

Most replacement supports that participants ask for include:



- smart phones and watches



- tablets



- communication apps.

Under the new rules, these types of supports will be in a participant's NDIS plan if they are:



- **reasonable** – fair and sensible

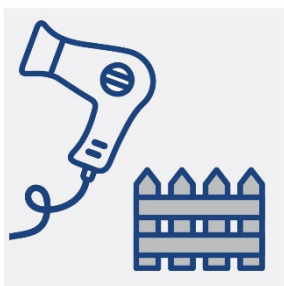


- **necessary** – something we need.

Other changes to rules

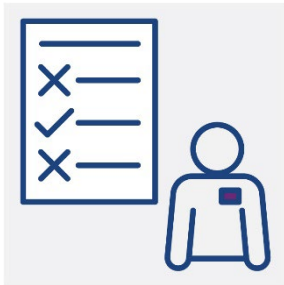


Under the new rules, there are some things the NDIS won't pay for.



For example, hair dryers and fences.

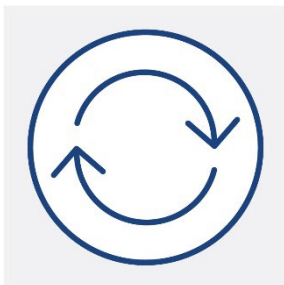
Questions for you



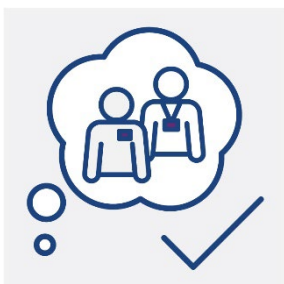
We want to know what you think about the rules about NDIS supports.



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



What do you think about the changes to NDIS supports?



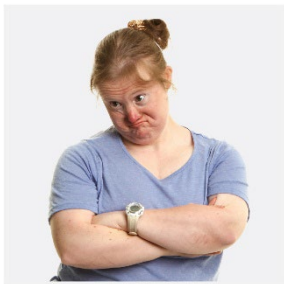
Are the new groups of supports easy to understand?

What would help you understand them better?



Are there any rules that should be explained better?

Are there any rules that need examples?



How do you think participants will be affected if the NDIS doesn't pay for replacement supports?

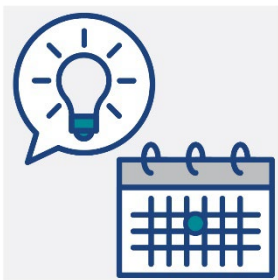
What items or services will participants miss out on?



Are there any issues that we should think about?

Are there other ways that participants might be affected by these changes?

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.

www.consultations.health.gov.au/disability-and-carers-group/nfp-ndis-supports



You can send us an email.

NDISConsultations@health.gov.au



You can call us.

Ask for NDIS consultations.

1800 020 103

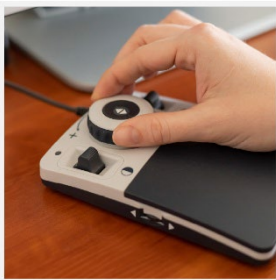
Word list

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



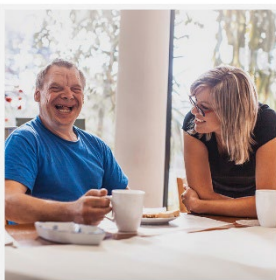
Assistance animals

Assistance animals are animals that are trained to support people with disability in different ways.



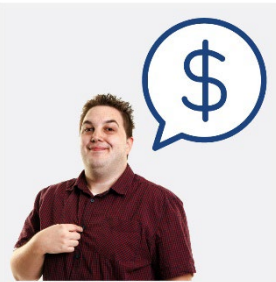
Assistive technology

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.



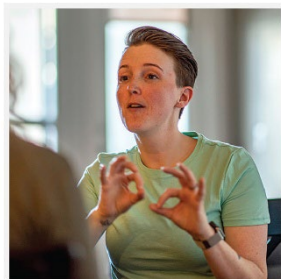
Funding

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.



Interpreter

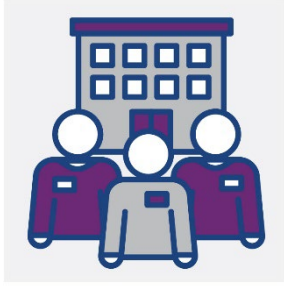
An interpreter is someone who:

- uses your language
- helps you understand what someone is saying.



Medium term accommodation

Medium term accommodation is places where people can live for up to 90 days.



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.



Necessary

When something is necessary, it is something we need.



Participants

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



Plan management

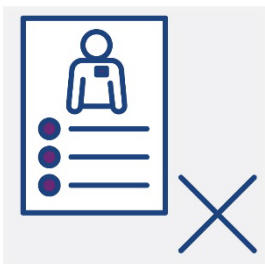
Plan management is when a participant's funding is managed by someone who:

- helps the participant pay for their services
- keeps track of the participant's funding.



Reasonable

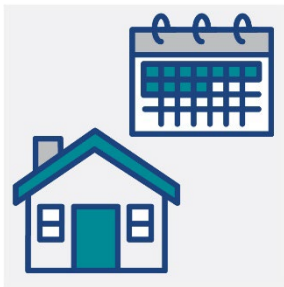
When something is reasonable it is fair and sensible.



Replacement supports

Participants can ask to use a support that is not on the NDIS supports lists.

They are called replacement supports.



Short term accommodation

Short term accommodation is places where people can live for a short time.



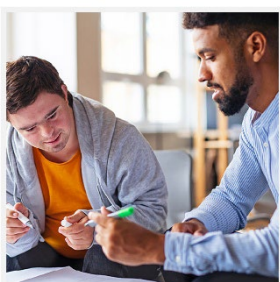
Specialist disability accommodation

Specialist disability accommodation is housing for people with disability who need extra support.



Stated supports

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



Support coordination

Support coordination is when someone helps a participant plan and use their supports.

Therapy



Therapy includes different types of support that can help improve how:

- you think and feel
- your body moves.



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