

# **Preparing for the NDIS in WA**

The Commonwealth and Western Australian Governments have announced that the National Disability Insurance Scheme (delivered by the National Disability Insurance Agency) will be rolled out in Western Australia.

#### What is the NDIS?

The NDIS (National Disability Insurance Scheme) provides support for people with disability, their families and carers in Australia. The NDIS will provide all Australians under the age of 65 with a permanent and significant disability with the reasonable and necessary supports they need to live an ordinary life. The NDIS is being implemented by the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA).

#### How is the NDIS currently being delivered in WA?

There have been two models of the NDIS operating in WA since July 2014:

- the nationally-delivered NDIS run by the NDIA
- the Western Australian (WA) NDIS (formerly known as My Way) run by the WA government.

Both NDIS models have delivered individualised support to people with disability in different locations.

The Commonwealth and WA Governments announced in December 2017 that the nationally-delivered NDIS (delivered by the NDIA) will be rolled out in Western Australia. This means there will eventually be only one NDIS delivered by the NDIA across every state and territory of Australia.

## How will the national NDIS be different to the WA NDIS?

The nationally-delivered NDIS and the WA NDIS are identical in the ways that count most, including taking a life time approach to support, using the same eligibility criteria and guidelines for making decisions about supports in a participant's plan.

The differences are minor and include format used for participant plans, different processes for participants to choose and engage with providers, some new terms used to describe supports in a participant's plan and variations to the prices that providers can be funded to deliver supports.

## What does this change mean for people in the WA NDIS?

All people in the WA NDIS will receive a letter from the West Australian government asking them to give consent to transfer to the national NDIS. Giving consent means that people in WA NDIS can easily transfer their plan and continue to access the support they need. People who transfer from the WA NDIS to the national NDIS will experience minimal change.



### ndis.gov.au

Their WA NDIS supports will be transferred as closely as possible into national NDIS supports. A full NDIA plan review of participant goals, strategies and supports will occur at their review date or within 12 months after transfer.

#### How will the NDIS roll out in WA?

People with disability already receiving support from WA NDIS will transfer to the national NDIS in the following time-frames:

- North East Metro and inner Wheatbelt (April to July 2018)
- South Metro (July to November 2018)
- Central South Metro (August to October 2018)
- Lower South West (September to December 2018)
- Kimberley and Pilbara (October to December 2018)

From 1 July 2018, the nationally-delivered NDIS will begin to be available to new participants in the Wheatbelt and Central South Metro regions.

From 1 October 2018, the nationally-delivered NDIS will begin to be available in the Goldfields-Esperance, North Metro regions and to new participants in the South West region.

From 1 July 2019, the nationally-delivered NDIS will begin to be available in the Midwest Gascoyne, Great Southern, Central North Metro and South East Metro regions.

From 1 July 2020, the nationally-delivered NDIS will begin to be available in Christmas Island and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

People currently receiving disability services from the Western Australian Government or other Commonwealth programs will transition to the NDIS at different times, depending on where they live and the type of support they are receiving.

Existing Commonwealth and State based supports will continue until you are covered by the NDIS.

#### How can I get more information?

The best place to get information about the NDIS roll out is on the national NDIS website at www.ndis.gov.au. The website includes a short video about the NDIS roll out in WA and a questions and answers page. Information sessions about the national NDIS will be available from January 2018 for people with disability and providers in those areas transferring from WA NDIA before July 2018. Details will be published on the events page on the NDIS website and promoted in newspapers and on social media.

#### Getting started with the NDIS

For people with disability, their families and carers, the My NDIS Pathway page on the NDIS website is the best starting point for information about the NDIS, how to access the NDIS and about the planning process.

For service providers who have not already registered with the NDIS the Provider Toolkit on the NDIS website is a user-friendly online tool that takes providers through the seven steps of the Provider Pathway and includes step-by-step guides, videos and FAQs.

#### **NDIS office locations**

The NDIS office in the Perth Hills area of Western Australia is open from 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday.

78-80 Railway Parade, Midland WA 6056

As additional NDIS offices open in Western Australia they will be added to the NDIS website.

Email your queries to engagementwa@ndis.gov.au.

### More information

### www.ndis.gov.au

1800 800 110 8am to 11pm (local time) Monday to Friday

#### For people with hearing or speech loss

- 🔛 TTY: 1800 555 677
- ≩ Speak and Listen: 1800 555 727

#### For people who need help with English

- 🗰 TIS: 131 450
- - Follow us on Twitter @NDIS
  - ) Find us on Facebook Facebook/NDISAus

\*1800 calls from fixed lines are free. Calls from mobiles may be charged.



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