



Western Australia – Update on Transfer and Transition

General Information about the NDIS in WA

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 up to the age of 65 years who have a permanent and significant disability with the reasonable and necessary supports they need to live a better 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 Western Australia (WA) since July 2014:

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

Both NDIS models delivered 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 WA. From 1 July 2018, the NDIA will assume responsibility for the delivery of the NDIS in WA. The NDIS will continue to roll out on a geographical basis and will be operating across all of WA by 2020.

What is the difference between transfer and transition?

Transfer refers to the movement of people who currently have a WA NDIS plan to the nationally-delivered NDIS. There is expected to be up to around 8,700 people in the WA NDIS moving to the NDIS. The NDIA recognises that the transfer of WA NDIS participants into the NDIS brings unique challenges. No other state or territory has run concurrent trials of a state administered and a NDIA administered model.

Transition refers to people who are currently receiving specialist disability support from the WA and Commonwealth Governments as well as new participants entering the NDIS as it is made available geographically.

The NDIA and WA Government are committed to ensuring the transfer and transition of individuals to the nationally-delivered NDIS is managed carefully and supports participants, families and carers, and providers. Regular updates about transfer and transition are provided on the WA page of the NDIS website - <https://www.ndis.gov.au/about-us/our-sites/WA.html>

When will people transfer from WA NDIS to the nationally delivered NDIS?

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



- North East Metro and inner Wheatbelt: Bassendean, Bayswater, Kalamunda, Mundaring, Swan, Chittering, Northam, Toodyay and York (April to July 2018)
- South Metro: Mandurah, Rockingham, Armadale, Murray and Serpentine-Jarrahdale (July to November 2018)
- Central South Metro: Cockburn and Kwinana (August to October 2018)
- Lower South West: Augusta-Margaret River, Boyup Brook, Bridgetown-Greenbushes, Busselton, Donnybrook-Balingup, Manjimup and Nannup (September to December 2018)
- Kimberley and Pilbara: Ashburton, Broome, Derby-West Kimberley, East Pilbara, Halls Creek, Port Hedland, Wyndham-East Kimberley and Karratha (October to December 2018)

When will people transition to the nationally delivered NDIS?

People who do not have a WA NDIS plan and receive specialist disability services from the WA Government or other Commonwealth programs will transition into the NDIS at different times between July 2018 and July 2020, depending on where they live and the type of support they are receiving. People who are 65 years or older when their area transitions into the NDIS will not be eligible to access the NDIS. To ensure people who are over 65 are not disadvantaged, they will continue to receive their current supports and services under the continuity of support arrangements between the Commonwealth and WA Governments.

The NDIA's National Access Team will contact people via phone or letter as their area gets closer to start transitioning to the NDIS. Some people will be contacted before an area starts to transition while others will be contacted during the transition. Existing Commonwealth and State supports will continue until people transition to the NDIS.

A person who is supported by WA or Commonwealth specialist disability services must be under 65 years at the time they make access to the nationally-delivered NDIS. To make sure that people who are turning 65 years are not disadvantaged, the NDIA makes it a priority to contact 64 year olds via phone or letter to confirm their access prior to their area starting to transition to the NDIS.

People who have not previously received any specialist disability support from the Commonwealth or WA Governments can contact the NDIA to see if they meet the eligibility requirements up to six months before the NDIS becomes available in the areas they live. The NDIA can be contacted on 1800 800 110 or enquiries about accessing the NDIS can also be made at an NDIA office. Detailed information about the accessing the NDIS is available on the NDIS website <https://www.ndis.gov.au/people-disability/access-requirements.html>

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

The Wheatbelt region covers the local government areas Beverley, Boddington, Brookton, Bruce Rock, Chittering, Corrigin, Cuballing, Cunderdin, Dalwallinu, Dandaragan, Dowerin, Dumbleyung, Gingin, Goomalling, Kellerberrin, Kulin, Kondinin Koorda, Lake Grace, Merredin, Moora, Mount Marshall, Mukinbudin, Narembeen, Narrogin, Northam, Nungarin, Pingelly, Quairading, Tammin, Toodyay Trayning, Victoria Plains, Wagin, Wandering, West Arthur, Westonia, Wickepin, Williams, Wongan-Ballidu, Wyalkatchem, Yilgarn and York.

The Central South Metro region covers the local government areas of Cockburn, East Fremantle, Fremantle, Kwinana, Melville and South Perth.



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.

The Goldfields-Esperance region covers the local government areas of Coolgardie, Dundas, Esperance, Kalgoorlie-Boulder, Laverton, Leonora, Menzies, Ngaanyatjarraku and Ravensthorpe.

The North Metro region covers the local government areas of Joondalup and Wanneroo.

The South West region covers the local government areas of Augusta-Margaret River, Boyup Brook, Bridgetown-Greenbushes, Bunbury, Busselton, Capel, Collie, Dardanup, Donnybrook-Balingup, Harvey, Manjimup, Nannup and Waroona.

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.

The Midwest-Gascoyne region covers the local government areas of Carnamah, Carnarvon, Chapman Valley, Coorow, Cue, Exmouth, Greater Geraldton, Irwin, Meekatharra, Mingenew, Morawa, Mount Magnet, Mullewa, Murchison, Northampton, Perenjori, Sandstone, Shark Bay, Three Springs, Upper Gascoyne, Wiluna and Yalgoo.

The Great Southern region covers the local government areas of Albany, Broomehill-Tambellup, Cranbrook, Denmark, Gnowangerup, Jerramungup, Katanning, Kent, Kojonup, Plantagenet and Woodanilling.

The Central North Metro region covers the local government areas of Cambridge, Claremont, Cottesloe, Mosman Park, Nedlands, Peppermint Grove, Perth, Stirling, Subiaco and Vincent.

The South East Metro region covers the local government areas of Belmont, Canning, Gosnells and Victoria Park.

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

Information about the WA NDIS transfer process

How will the nationally-delivered NDIS be different to the WA NDIS?

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

As eligibility for WA NDIS and the NDIS are the same, people with WA NDIS plans will not be required to re-test their eligibility.

The differences between the WA NDIS and the nationally-delivered NDIS include the format of participant plans, different processes for participants to choose and engage with providers, some new terms used to describe supports in a participant's plan, some differences in relation to self-managing plans and variations to the prices that providers can use to deliver supports.



How will people in the WA NDIS transfer to the NDIA?

In January 2018, WA NDIS participants were sent a letter from the WA Government informing them that the NDIA will be rolling out the NDIS in WA and that their consent would be sought to transfer to the NDIA.

WA NDIS Local Coordinators (LCs) are progressively contacting WA NDIS participants to confirm they give consent to move into the national NDIS and to transfer their WA NDIS plan to the NDIA. The consent can be made in writing, over the telephone or face to face.

The NDIA is notified when people give consent to transfer to the nationally-delivered NDIS and their details such as name, date of birth, address and phone number are sent to the NDIA. The NDIA will then contact the person via phone to organise a time to discuss the transfer of their WA NDIS plan.

The transfer process involves information from WA NDIS plans being moved from WA's systems to NDIA's systems. It is important to make sure information about the participant and the supports and funding in their WA NDIS is accurately reflected in the NDIA system. The plan transfer meeting is an opportunity for a NDIA planner and the participant to discuss the transfer process.

What is the format of the plan transfer meeting?

We know that people coming into the nationally-delivered NDIS want flexibility to decide how, when and where their transfer meeting takes place. The NDIA contacts people who are transferring to ask how they would like to have the transfer meeting, who they would like to attend the meeting and where to have the meeting.

Based on a participant preference, a plan transfer meeting will be arranged with the participant and a NDIA planner. Some people may like to have the transfer meeting with a family member, service provider or their Local Coordinator present.

Individuals who have a WA NDIS plan and their providers can prepare for the transfer meeting by having information about the nature, duration and days when supports are provided available to share with the NDIA.

How is the national NDIS plan created?

The NDIA will have a plan transfer meeting with the participant to understand their supports and transfer them into their NDIS plan.

How are providers linked during the transfer process?

During the plan transfer meeting, the planner will discuss the participant's current providers and, where there is no change, will make service bookings on behalf of the participant. This will ensure that existing providers are booked to continue to provide supports.

If a participant decides to change providers, the NDIA will not create a service booking at the time of plan transfer. The NDIA will notify via an email to the participant's service provider contact person that the participant will no longer be receiving their services.



Providers must be registered with both NDIA and the state to provide supports and services to NDIS eligible participants

Providers are encouraged to discuss the transfer with participants and monitor the My Place portal for service bookings. Participants and families are encouraged to talk to their providers about service bookings.

After the plan has been transferred, each participant will be contacted by the NDIA to ensure they have been able to connect to the supports and services in their plan. Participants who select new providers can be supported by the NDIA to make service bookings.

When will the next plan review occur?

Plan reviews are a normal part of the NDIS. In most instances the review date will be around one year after the transfer date.

Participants are advised at the plan transfer meeting that if they have a significant change in circumstances that affects the types or amount of support they need, a plan review can be requested at any time.

Where to find 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 question and answer page.

Information sessions about the national NDIS are available for people with disability and providers ahead of the roll out of the NDIS. Details will be published on the events page on the NDIS website and in newspapers and social media.