



Villamanta Disability
Rights Legal Service Inc.

Villamanta Disability Rights Legal Service Inc.

Information Sheet Updated January 2015

The National Disability Insurance Scheme

You may have a right to join up to the National Disability Insurance Scheme. This is also called the NDIS.

The NDIS is a scheme that has been started by the Australian government to help support people with disabilities with everyday life. It has started in some locations, and will be rolled out to the whole country in the next few years.

The NDIS is different to a lot of other disability services, because you have more choice about what you want, and more control over how things happen.

Who can get the NDIS?

At the moment, the NDIS is available if you have a permanent and significant disability that affects your ability to take part in everyday activities. You must be younger than 65 when you first access the scheme and be an Australian citizen, a permanent resident or a New Zealand citizen who holds a Protected Special Category Visa. You also need to live in one of these places:

- Barwon region, Victoria
- Newcastle and Lake Macquarie areas, New South Wales
- South Australia (age 13 and under on 1 July 2014)
- Tasmania (for people age 15–24)
- Australian Capital Territory
- Barkly region, Northern Territory
- Perth Hills area, Western Australia

If you are eligible for the NDIS, you can contact them to ask them to help you get involved. Some of the things you will start doing include talking about what you are doing now, and what is working for you, talking about the things you would like to be better, and working out what supports would help you with this.

Does that mean I have to change my programs?

Important Note - This Information Sheet has been produced only for use in Victoria, Australia. Some of the laws mentioned in this Information Sheet will be different in other places.

Not necessarily. If you are happy with things the way they are, you may not want to change. The important thing is that it is your choice.

Can I have the NDIS and the program I had before?

No. When you start with the NDIS, they take over all of your supports. It is important to understand that because you can't have supports from the NDIS and DHS at the same time.

More Information

Visit: ndis.gov.au

Email: enquiries@ndis.gov.au

Call: 1800 800 110*, 8am to 8pm 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 EnglishTIS 131 450