



Participant Pathway

Your guide to being an NDIS participant



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This booklet will help you understand the path you will travel as you work with us (the National Disability Insurance Scheme or NDIS). It will provide an overview of what each stage means for you.

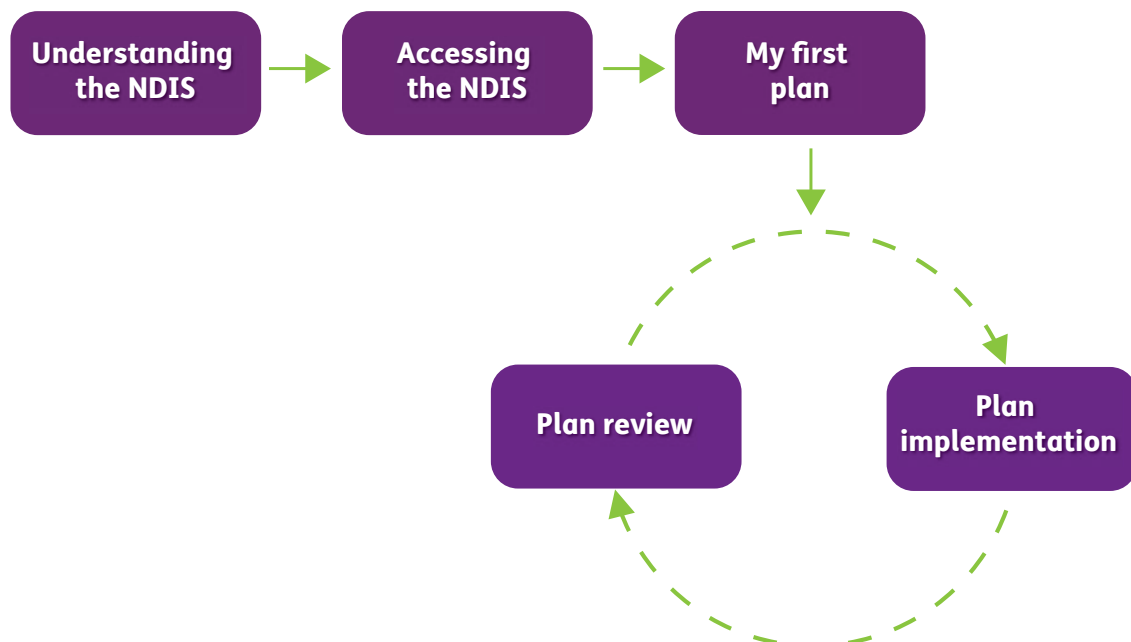
If you need to access the NDIS, there are a few stages to your pathway with us - from understanding and requesting access, to developing and implementing your First Plan.

Your First Plan with the NDIS will continue to give you the support you need now. It will make sure you have time to learn more about all of your options with the NDIS and consider your goals for your next plan.

You can refer back to this booklet as you move from stage to stage to help you to understand what happens next.

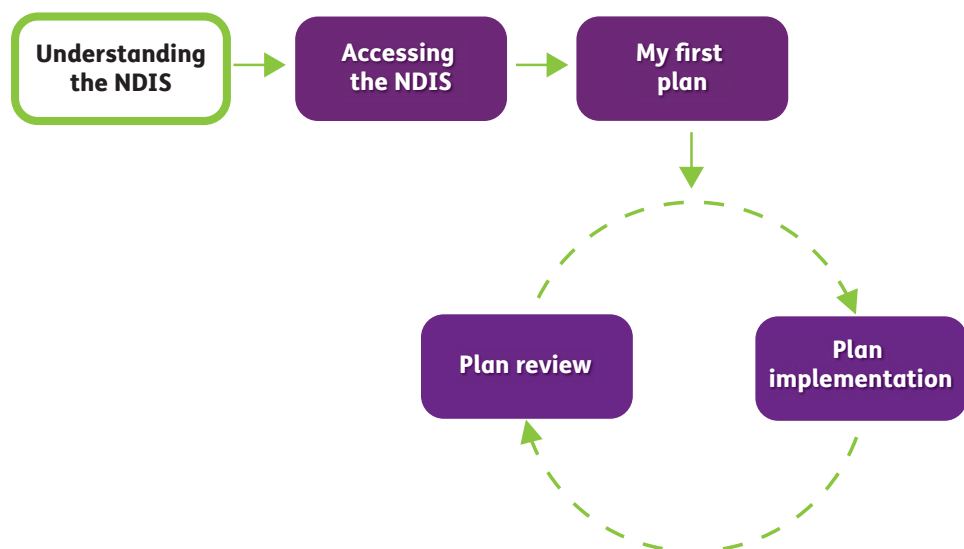
Some words we use to talk about the NDIS might be new to you, so we've explained them along the way. For example when you are part of the NDIS, a person who meets the access requirements and has a plan is called a participant.

Remember, the NDIS will help you throughout your life for as long as you need it, so this pathway will continue on, and you update your plan as your needs change.



The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is a new way of providing disability support. The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) is responsible for delivering the NDIS.





Understanding the NDIS

The NDIS is a new way of providing disability support.

Everyone's needs and goals are different. That's why the NDIS provides you with the flexibility to manage your individual support needs. It also means your experience at each stage of the participant pathway might be different to another person.

The NDIS helps you to:

- **Access mainstream services and supports**

These are the services available for all Australians, that you receive from people like doctors or teachers through the health and education systems. It also covers areas like public housing and the justice and aged care systems.

- **Access community services and supports**

These are activities and services available to everyone in your community, such as sports clubs, community groups, libraries or charities.

- **Support your informal support arrangements**

This is help you get from your family and friends. It is support you don't pay for and is generally part of most people's lives.

- **Receive reasonable and necessary funded supports**

The NDIS can pay for supports that are reasonable and necessary for you. This means they are related to your disability and are required for you to live your life and achieve your goals. You can read more about reasonable and necessary supports on our website www.ndis.gov.au/participants.

The NDIS will be available to you as long as you need support to manage your disability.

Once you have a plan, it is generally in place for 12 months. If your needs change you can ask for it to be reviewed.

To learn more about the NDIS visit www.ndis.gov.au.

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