



# NDIS Transition

## Frequently asked questions

### **Transitioning to the nationally-delivered National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) - Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ).**

#### **When will Western Australia (WA) join the nationally-delivered National Disability Insurance Scheme?**

Western Australia will join the nationally-delivered National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) from 1 July 2018.

All current participants in the WA NDIS will transfer to the nationally-delivered Scheme from April 2018 until 31 December 2018.

The NDIS will continue to roll out on a geographic basis in line with the previously agreed roll out schedule and will be fully rolled out across Western Australia by 2020.

#### **What is the benefit of WA joining the nationally-delivered Scheme?**

The NDIS provides choice and control for people with disability, their families and carers. A sustainable national Scheme will provide greater assurance to Western Australians. A state-delivered scheme would not have been able to match the resourcing of the nationwide approach.

As the last State to join the NDIS, Western Australia will benefit from the lessons learnt in other states and territories as the Scheme has rolled out across the country. Western Australia's experience throughout its trial of the NDIS will be shared, and as part of a truly national Scheme, Western Australia can meaningfully participate in shaping the future of the NDIS as a truly national endeavour, for the benefit of all Australians.

#### **How will the nationally-delivered scheme be different to the WA-delivered scheme?**

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

#### **What does this change mean for participants?**

People who transfer from the WA NDIS to the nationally-delivered Scheme will have their WA NDIS plan transferred into the nationally-delivered Scheme and Local Coordinators will work with the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) to transfer plans. Together with the NDIA, they will explain the transfer process and support people as they develop a plan in the nationally-delivered Scheme.



## **What is the process for my transfer to the nationally-delivered Scheme?**

You will receive a letter from the WA Government to let you know that the national Scheme will operate in WA and ask you to agree to transfer to the NDIA. When it is your turn to transfer, your Local Coordinator will contact you with more details about how you will be supported as you transition to the NDIA.

The NDIA and WA NDIS are offering general information sessions about the national Scheme in a range of locations. You will be invited to attend further information sessions, which will provide specific information about implementing your plan through the NDIA.

## **Where can I get further information?**

The best place to get information about the NDIS roll out is on the national NDIS website at [www.ndis.gov.au](http://www.ndis.gov.au). The WA page includes a short video about the NDIS roll out in WA and a regular Q and A forum for WA, where the most frequently asked questions raised in social media and other channels will be summarised and answered regularly. You can also call the NDIS on 1800 800 110.

Your Local Coordinator can give you general information about how and when people will transfer from the WA NDIS. If your Local Coordinator does not have the answer to your questions, they will direct you to another contact or source of information.

The NDIA and Department of Communities will hold general information sessions about transitioning to the national Scheme. These will be held initially in each current WA NDIS area transferring to the national Scheme.

The NDIA provides a free Community Information Session on the first Friday of each month at the NDIS office at 78 Railway Parade, Midland, between 9.30am and 11am. To attend please email your name and contact details to [engagementwa@ndis.gov.au](mailto:engagementwa@ndis.gov.au) or phone (08) 9235 7200.

## **Will all current participants of the WA NDIS be automatically transferred to the nationally-delivered Scheme?**

All current WA NDIS participants will transfer to the NDIA by 31 December 2018.

All people in the WA NDIS will be asked to give their consent to transfer to the nationally-delivered Scheme. Giving consent means that people within the WA NDIS can have their plan transferred easily and continue to access the support they need.

## **Will participants in the current WA NDIS need to negotiate new plans?**

People who move from the WA NDIS to become participants in the nationally-delivered Scheme will transfer in a staged geographic approach.



Local Coordinators will work with the NDIA to transfer plans for people they have been supporting in the WA NDIS. They will explain the transfer process to participants and how the NDIA plan reflects the same or similar supports to their WA NDIS plan.

**Will current arrangements be maintained for people receiving State Government-funded disability supports who are not eligible for the NDIS?**

Yes, these arrangements will be maintained for those people who are not eligible for the NDIS.

If there is a change in a person's circumstances they can make an access request to the NDIA at any time to test their eligibility for the NDIS.

**Will I be able to keep my current support provider/s?**

Most service providers operating in the metropolitan area in WA are already registered to provide supports for people in the national Scheme. The NDIA is encouraging service providers who currently provide supports only for the WA NDIS to also register with the NDIA.

If any of your providers do not register with the NDIA, you may need to choose an alternative provider.

**Will I have an opportunity to discuss/renegotiate my current plan?**

You will have an opportunity to renegotiate the goals and supports in your current plan when you have your first NDIA plan review.

**I have not yet joined the NDIS and live in an area that is currently receiving disability supports under the WA government. Where can I get further information?**

The best place to get information about the NDIS roll out is on the national NDIS website at [www.ndis.gov.au](http://www.ndis.gov.au). The WA page includes a short video about the NDIS roll out in WA and a regular Q and A forum for WA, where the most frequently asked questions raised in social media and other channels will be summarised and answered regularly.

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If you already receive disability supports from the WA Government or from a Commonwealth program then you will automatically be contacted by the NDIA once your area starts to roll into the national Scheme. The staff member will check your details and confirm your eligibility to come into the NDIS.

Once your eligibility is confirmed, you will be offered an appointment to attend your planning meeting. You will also be invited to attend a small group discussion to get information about the planning process and to get ready to consider the goals and supports you need in your plan.

### **I have not yet joined the NDIS and live in a current WA NDIS area. Can I still join the NDIS before WA transitions to the nationally-delivered NDIS?**

Yes, if the WA NDIS is available in your region, you are encouraged to contact your Local Coordination office and find out if you are eligible to join the Scheme.

Your Local Coordinator will confirm your eligibility for the WA NDIS before helping you through the planning process. More information is available from the NDIS section of the Disability Services website at [www.disability.wa.gov.au](http://www.disability.wa.gov.au).

Between April and December 2018, people taking part in the WA NDIS will transfer to the nationally-delivered NDIS in a phased approach. You will receive a letter from the WA Government to let you know how you will be supported to transfer to the NDIA. You will continue to be supported by the WA NDIS until you transfer to the nationally-delivered NDIS.

### **I do not receive disability supports from the WA Government or from a Commonwealth program. What information can you give me?**

If you are not already receiving disability supports from the WA Government or from a Commonwealth program (or you are unsure) then you need to make a request to access the national Scheme.

Information about accessing the NDIS is found at [www.ndis.gov.au/people-disability/access-requirements](http://www.ndis.gov.au/people-disability/access-requirements). Once your access request has been considered, you will receive a letter confirming if you have met the disability requirements to enter the NDIS.

If you are eligible to come into the NDIS:

- You will be offered an appointment to attend your planning meeting.
- You will be invited to attend a small group discussion to get information about the planning process and to get ready to consider the goals and supports you need in your plan.



### **Will providers under the WA NDIS need to register through the NDIS portal?**

Providers registered exclusively with the WA NDIS will need to register as an NDIA provider.

Providers currently registered with the NDIA do not need to do anything further.

More information on becoming a provider is available from the provider section on [www.ndis.gov.au](http://www.ndis.gov.au) .

In addition, information sessions for WA providers new to the NDIS will be held in early 2018.

### **Where and when can I find out more information?**

The Western Australia page on the nationally-delivered NDIS website ([www.ndis.gov.au](http://www.ndis.gov.au)) contains general information about the roll out and answers to common questions about the transition to the nationally-delivered NDIS.

For existing WA NDIS clients, please refer to the NDIS section of the Disability Services website [www.disability.wa.gov.au](http://www.disability.wa.gov.au) or contact your Local Coordinator.

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