

About the NDIS

How to join the NDIS



Easy English

Hard words

This factsheet has some hard words.

The first time we write a hard word

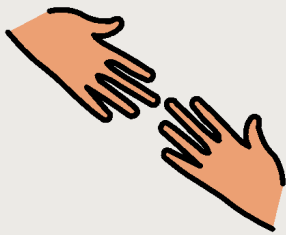
- the word is in **blue**
- we will write what the hard word means.

About this factsheet



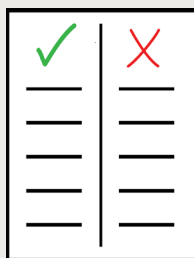
This factsheet is about how to join the **National Disability Insurance Scheme** or NDIS.

The NDIS helps people under 65 with a disability get

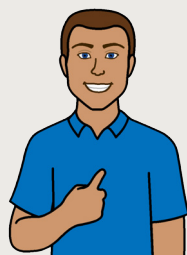


- care
- supports.

How to join the NDIS

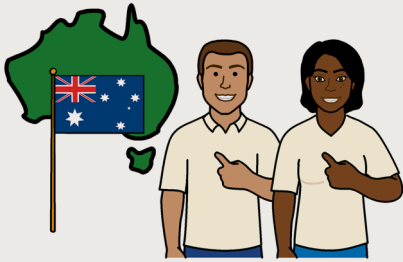


There are rules about who can be an NDIS **participant**.



Participants are people who get support from the NDIS.

A participant must

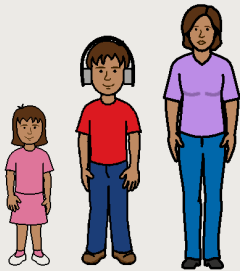


- be an **Australian citizen**. This means you
 - were born in Australia

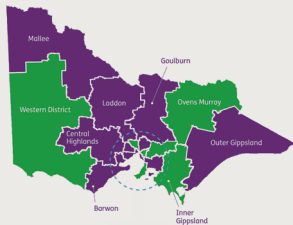
or



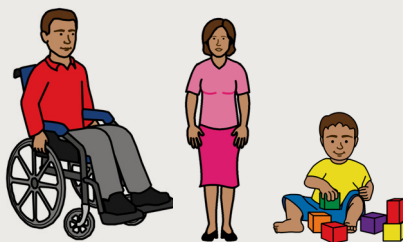
- have a special piece of paper that says you can live in Australia.



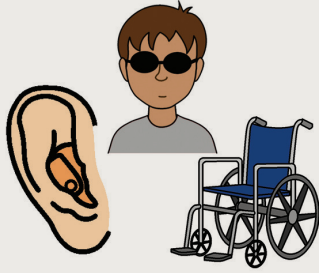
- be under 65 years old



- live in an area where the NDIS is available

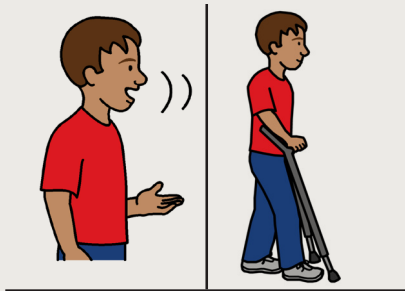


- have a **permanent disability**, **developmental delay** or need **early intervention**.



Permanent disability means the disability will **not** go away.

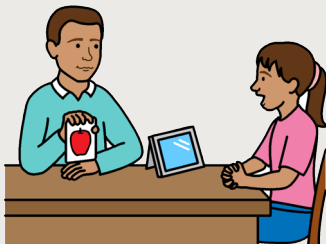
Developmental delay means it can be hard for a child to do everyday things. For example



- talk
- walk



- learn.

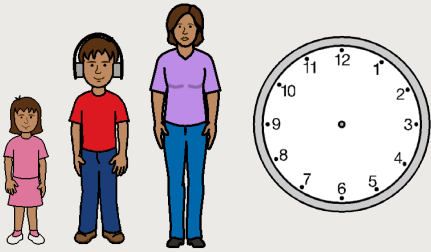


Early intervention means to act on something early.

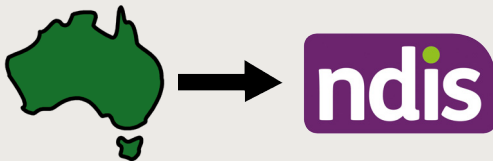
Early intervention may help your child get better.



When can I join the NDIS?



The NDIS is available to different people at different times.

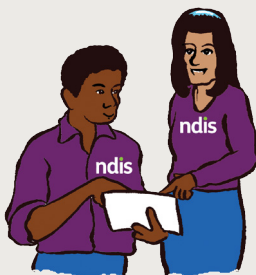


You may get government supports now.

You will still get government supports until you have an NDIS plan.



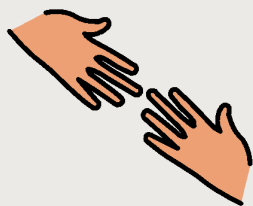
When it is your time to join the NDIS, you will get a letter and phone call from the **National Disability Insurance Agency** or NDIA.



The National Disability Insurance Agency are the people that manage the NDIS.

If you do **not** get government supports you can ask to join when the NDIS is in your area.

How can I get ready to join the NDIS?



You can get help from people you know.

For example



- a family member



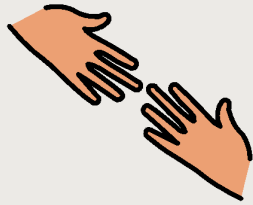
- a friend



- a carer



- a doctor.



You can also get help from an NDIS

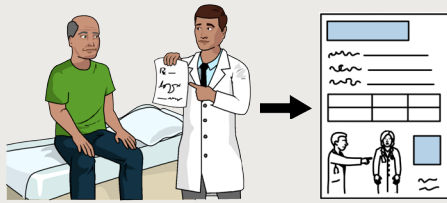


- **Local Area Coordinator.** This is a person provided by the NDIS. They can help you join the NDIS.



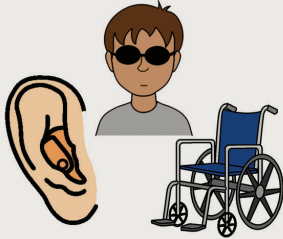
- **Early Childhood Partner.** This is a person provided by the NDIS. They can help children join the NDIS.

What do I need from my doctor?

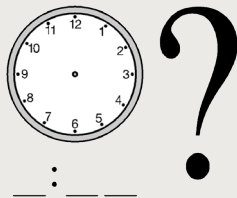


You might need your doctor to give **evidence** of your disability.

Evidence means information about



- what your disability is



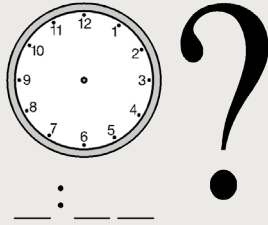
- how long your disability will last



- how you live with your disability.

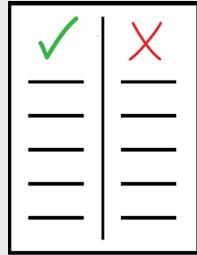


The information from your doctor can help you to join the NDIS.

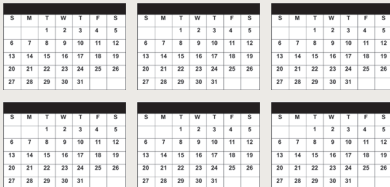


How long will it take to join the NDIS?

You must be **eligible** to join the NDIS.



Eligible means you meet the NDIS rules.



If you are eligible, it can take about 6 months for you to join the NDIS.



More information



Go to our website

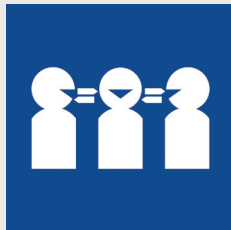
www.ndis.gov.au



Call 1800 800 110

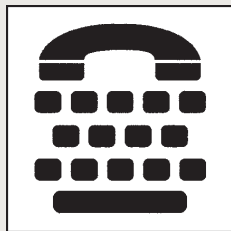
Monday to Friday

8 am to 11 pm



Telephone Interpreting Service

131 450



TTY users

1800 555 677 then ask for 1800 800 110



Speak and listen users

1800 555 727 then ask for 1800 555 727

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To see the original contact The National Disability Insurance Agency.

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