



INCLUSIVE
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ART



1 HOW DO I ACCESS THE NDIS?

If you are an Australian citizen, aged under 65, live in SA with a permanent or lifelong disability, you may apply for NDIS funding by calling **1800 800 110**.

They will ask you to send in evidence of your disability in a form (the Access Request Form) completed by your doctor or health professional. The form asks about any help you need (such as learning new things, transport, support for daily living). The forms will ask what your primary disability is and whether you have any other impairments, and how long have you had these disabilities. You might say “an intellectual disability with anxiety.”

If you receive a letter that states you are ELIGIBLE for the NDIS. The next step is a planning meeting.

2 PREPARING FOR MY PLANNING MEETING

If you would like to include a Tutti program in your plan, please make a time to speak with Tutti's NDIS Transition Project Officer, Sophie Laguna, BEFORE your planning meeting.

You will meet with a planner – a local area coordinator (LAC) or a NDIS planner. This meeting can be over the phone or in person and you can invite anyone you want to the meeting to help you answer the questions.

You will be asked about your life. Do you need support with self-care (e.g. showers, getting dressed)? Do you need support with dealing with money? Do you need support with transport and getting out in to the community? You will also be asked if you need any equipment (e.g. orthotics, wheelchair, braille reader).

You will be asked about your “informal supports”. This means your family and friends- those people in your life who support you (not paid workers). How much do they support you every day?

You will be asked what your goals are. The NDIA wants to know your short term goals and your long term goals. A short-term goal might be: “Developing my social skills and making new friends” or “Learning new skills to develop my arts practice.” A long-term goal might be “To gain the skills to live independently and find my own accommodation.”

Your stated goals will relate to your funding.

3 UNDERSTANDING YOUR NDIS PLAN

Your NDIS plan will usually last for 12 months. You can self-manage the plan (funding goes straight to you when you need it and you pay your providers) or it can be agency managed (the NDIA pays your providers directly).

There are three main categories of NDIS funding:

1. **Capacity Building:** funding to help you learn new skills: like finding a job, learning to be artist, developing social skills, or having therapy.
2. **Core:** Funding to support with daily living: including transport, a support worker, assistance with social and community participation.
3. **Capital:** Equipment or vehicle/home modifications: wheelchair, orthotics, a ramp or handrail.

Your plan goals (written in your plan) relate to your funding. If your goal is to have support in finding employment, you may receive funding for “Capacity Building- Employment”. If your goal is to develop your social skills and meet new people, you may be allocated funding for “Capacity Building – Increased Social and Community Participation.”

4 USING YOUR NDIS PLAN

You can have multiple providers, such as Tutti, Minda, a physiotherapist and a support worker. They can all be paid using your NDIS plan budget.

To start using your NDIS funding, you need to make a “Service Agreement” with your providers. For example, if you want to participate in a program at Tutti, you make a Service Agreement with Tutti, and Tutti will be paid from your NDIS budget. You can change or end a Service Agreement at any time.

5 NDIS PLAN REVIEW

An NDIS plan usually lasts for 12 months. At the end of your plan, you will have a plan review. At the review meeting, you have the opportunity to talk about what your goals are for the next year, and what changes there are (e.g. leaving school, moving out of home, needing new equipment).

If you are not happy with your current NDIS plan, or your circumstances have changed (e.g. your mother or carer is in hospital and can't drive you to your work or classes) you can ask for an early plan review. You need to fill out a plan review form and send it to the NDIA.