

NDIS Helpful Definitions

This group of definitions has been developed as a guide to assist you, when reading information related to the National Disability Insurance Scheme.

National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) & National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA)

The NDIS is a new way of providing individualised support for people with a permanent and significant disability that affects their ability to take part in everyday activities. The NDIA is the agency that is responsible for the implementation of the NDIS.

Life Domains

The NDIS has outlined ten key life domains. These domains are designed to help you identify different needs you may have. They will be explored during your planning session and will be used to group and describe the supports in your individual support plan. They are:

- Learning and applying knowledge
- General tasks and demands
- Communication
- Mobility
- Self-care and special health care needs
- Interpersonal interactions and relationships
- Community, social and civic life
- Education and training
- Employment
- Domestic life activities

Supports

Support is a broad term. It encompasses all of the people and systems that enable you to participate in your daily life. This might include formal supports such as paid staff that assist you with domestic chores, support workers and health professionals and informal supports such as your family and friends, or members of your local community. It is important to consider all of these supports when you commence planning.

Reasonable and Necessary Supports

Reasonable and necessary supports are the supports that will be funded under the NDIS. To be deemed reasonable and necessary the support needs to be related to your disability. These are the supports you require to participate in daily life. They do not include other costs that are unrelated to your disability support needs. Your supports are determined on an individual basis taking into account your personal context and also your current formal and informal supports.

Participant Statement

Your Participant Statement is a statement that you prepare and show to your planner. It is a brief outline of the support needs that you have. This statement should outline your goals and aspirations; what you would like your life to look like; the supports you have currently; support you will continue to need and the supports you would like to have. You can use any format when making your Participant Statement.

Individual Support Plan

Your Individual Support Plan is the plan that you will make in collaboration with your planner which outlines what supports you will use with your NDIS funding.

Registered Plan Management Provider

Registered Plan Management Providers are organisations that are separate from the NDIA who can support you in managing your NDIS funding. These organisations are registered under the NDIS and work alongside the NDIA to assist you in organising and managing your funding.

Plan Nominee

A plan nominee is a person who can act on your behalf in organising your supports and plan, and managing your funding. If you currently have a carer or family member who coordinates your support needs you might choose to appoint them as your plan nominee under the NDIS.

Safeguards

Safeguards refer to the supports and mechanisms in place to protect your safety and your rights. Safeguards are present at various levels and might include your informal support network such as your friends and family and the people who support you in your community. They will also include organisations who can advocate for you, government legislation and regulations, and quality assurance systems. Safeguards are vital to ensure you are not at risk of experiencing any adverse events under the NDIS such as abuse, harm or neglect. It is important to discuss safeguards when you meet with your planner.