



MOVING IN TO RESIDENTIAL AGED CARE?

Here's how the NDIS can support you.

SEPTEMBER 2018

What is the NDIS?

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is the new system for the Australian Government to provide support and funding for people with a disability, their families and carers. It is currently rolling out in different regions from now until late 2019. If you are aged below 65 years and you have a disability, you may be eligible for the NDIS. Under the NDIS, you can choose the types of support that are most suitable for you and use these supports to work towards your individual short-term and long-term goals.

The NDIS might be able to provide funded access to support such as:

- Daily personal activities - e.g. assistance with personal care
- Home and vehicle modification - e.g. installation of ramps, rails, hoists
- Assistive technologies - e.g. electric wheelchair, DAISY player for audio books
- Transport and mobility support - e.g. contribution to the cost of taxi transport
- Therapeutic support - e.g. allied health assessments such as physiotherapy
- Community activities - e.g. support to access social groups, sports clubs or study.

To find out more about the types of support that the NDIS might be able to provide, go to:

[ndis.gov.au/participants/reasonable-and-necessary-supports](https://www.ndis.gov.au/participants/reasonable-and-necessary-supports)

But if I'm living in residential aged care, won't my support needs be covered by 'My Aged Care' instead? Doesn't this mean I can't access the NDIS?

If you are under 65 and moving in to residential aged care, you may be able to access additional supports through the NDIS that are not available through aged care funding. For example, you might like to be involved in community-based social activities that your residential aged care facility does not routinely provide.

People living in residential aged care have the same access to the NDIS as people living in other areas of the community.

To find out more about the eligibility requirements for NDIS, go to: [ndis.gov.au/people-disability/access-requirements](https://www.ndis.gov.au/people-disability/access-requirements)

It's all a bit confusing. Is there someone who can support me in connecting with the NDIS?

There are people working in support roles that can help you to work out whether you are eligible for the NDIS, assist you to apply for the NDIS and discuss with you the types of support that you might like to access.

Facilitated Access Workers are specialised NDIS support people, available only to people aged under 65 years who are living in aged care. Once you are living in an aged care facility, a Facilitated Access Worker might come to see you at this early stage to discuss the NDIS with you, and to see what type of support you might need to access and implement the NDIS. Facilitated Access Workers may also work with staff in residential aged care to identify people that might be eligible for support from the NDIS.

You don't need to wait for a Facilitated Access Worker to contact you to request access to the NDIS. You might choose to contact the NDIS directly, or to ask a family member or supporter to assist you to get in contact with the NDIS. In each region there are also teams of NDIS staff called 'Local Area Coordinators' who are available to discuss and connect people with the NDIS.

To find the NDIS Local Area Coordinator in your region, go to: [ndis.gov.au/communities/local-area-coordination](https://www.ndis.gov.au/communities/local-area-coordination)

To find out more about the various NDIS staff, see our fact sheet 'Key NDIS roles and how they can support you': [summerfoundation.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Reconnecting-with-the-community-key-roles-participant.pdf](https://www.summerfoundation.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Reconnecting-with-the-community-key-roles-participant.pdf)

If you would like to know whether to expect a visit from a Facilitated Access Worker, phone 1800 800 110 or complete the NDIS online contact form by going to: [ndis.gov.au/form/contact-form](https://www.ndis.gov.au/form/contact-form)

I'm still not sure whether residential aged care is the best place for me. Is it true that the NDIS might support me to explore other housing options?

We believe that no one under 65 should be forced to live in a nursing home. The NDIS will provide people with a disability who are under 65 with reasonable and necessary support to live in the community.

There are also specialist NDIS support workers called support coordinators who can help you examine your housing alternatives. This funding can include up to 75 hours for a support coordinator to assist you to develop a housing plan, and up to 50 hours of allied health assessments for you to consider whether there are home modifications that might be suitable for you. For some people, this NDIS support may mean that they can move out of residential aged care into their own home or specialist disability accommodation. Others might be able to use this NDIS funding to stay out of residential aged care altogether.

To find out more about access to housing through the NDIS, go to: [summerfoundation.org.au/ndis-housing-resources/](https://www.summerfoundation.org.au/ndis-housing-resources/)

Can the NDIS help me with my aged care fees?

The good news is that the NDIS may pay for some of your aged care fees if you are a young person and living in aged care. Although the NDIS will not cover basic daily fees that relate to everyday living costs such as food, utilities and laundry, there are other means-tested fees that can be paid through the NDIS. Means-tested care fees, for example, relate to day-to-day personal care and nursing costs and means-tested accommodation fees cover regular building maintenance of the aged care home. Both of these fees may be covered under the NDIS.

To find out more about NDIS funding for aged care fees, see our fact sheet 'Understanding how the NDIS can pay for residential aged care fees': [summerfoundation.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/ndis-and-aged-care-fees.pdf](https://www.summerfoundation.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/ndis-and-aged-care-fees.pdf)

How do I know if now is the right time to move in to residential aged care?

We really want you to have all the information you need to make the right decision about moving in to residential aged care. If you are close to 65 years of age, and you have decided that it is best for you to move in to residential aged care, you should be aware that the timing of your move can make a difference to the supports you receive.

If you are in hospital or living in the community and already have NDIS funding, if you move in to residential aged care after you turn 65 your NDIS funding will stop. On the other hand, if you move in to residential aged care before your 65th birthday, your NDIS funding will continue after you turn 65.

How has the NDIS helped other young people in residential aged care?

To see examples of people sharing their real-world experiences of the NDIS, go to:

summerfoundation.org.au/people-category/ndis-access-stories/



This project has been funded by the National Disability Insurance Scheme.

We value your feedback about this resource – please contact the Summer Foundation at info@summerfoundation.org.au, or 1300 626 560.

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