

The Genetic and Rare Disease Network (GaRDN) represents over 100 support groups and support organisations for people with genetic and rare conditions across Australia.

National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

What is the NDIS?

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) has been described as the most significant social reform since Medicare was introduced and it is the only national scheme of its kind in the world.^{1 2} Following the 2011 Productivity Commission's report into Disability Care and Support³ the *NDIS Act* was passed in 2013⁴. NDIS trial sites began during 2013 and from 1 July 2016 the NDIS was introduced in Australia over a three-year transition period⁵. National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) is the independent statutory agency responsible for administering the NDIS.

*The NDIS provides support to people with disability, their families and carers.*⁶

Western Australia

In Western Australia, separate trial sites were implemented by the Commonwealth and the WA State Government and a Bilateral Agreement was signed January 2017 that the NDIS would be implemented by the WA State Government. However, during 2018 the policy position shifted, the Commonwealth and the WA State Government announced the national NDIS, delivered by the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA,) would be rolled out in Western Australia. This ensures there is one NDIS delivered by the NDIA across Australia.⁷ From 1 July 2018 the NDIA will assume responsibility for the delivery of NDIS in WA.⁸

- Geographic roll out in [Western Australia](#).

¹ <https://theconversation.com/understanding-the-ndis-a-history-of-disability-welfare-from-deserving-poor-to-consumers-in-control-58069> (access date 11/10/2017)

² <https://theconversation.com/understanding-the-ndis-the-challenges-disability-service-providers-face-in-a-market-based-system-57737> (access date 2/10/2017)

³ <http://www.pc.gov.au/inquiries/completed/disability-support/report> (access date 11/10/2017)

⁴ <https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/C2013A00020> (access date 11/10/2017)

⁵ <https://www.ndis.gov.au/about-us/what-ndis.html> (access date 11/10/2017)

⁶ https://www.aph.gov.au/About_Parliament/Parliamentary_Departments/Parliamentary_Library/pubs/rp/rp1617/Quick_Guides/NDIS (access date 6/2/2018)

⁷ <https://www.ndis.gov.au/about-us/our-sites/WA.html> (access date 6/2/2017)

⁸ <https://www.ndis.gov.au/about-us/our-sites/WA/rollout.html> (access date 6/2/2018)

- NDIS is not means tested, it is individualised packages of support to eligible people with disability.⁹ Access requirements [here](#).
- Supports people with a permanent and significant disability through providing access to individualised funding, plans and support. For example, if a person's disability needs support from another person, or equipment to take part in everyday activities and they are under the age of 65, the NDIS will apply.¹⁰
- Allows for national consistency and people with a disability get a say in the sort of assistance they need.¹¹
- It is an individualised person-centred approach about choices, decisions, involvement in own community, education and employment. With a focus on overall health and wellbeing and greater participation in a more inclusive community.¹²
- There is choice about how, when and where supports are provided from and who will deliver them.¹³
- The NDIS will fund support that are '[reasonable and necessary](#)' this is about people living a full life, not just getting by.¹⁴
- NDIS is required by law to provide lifelong sustainable support for participants. The NDIS gives certainty and support needed for participants' whole lifetime.¹⁵
- Disability Service Providers to operate in a market-based system.

More information

Western Australia – Questions and Answers

<https://www.ndis.gov.au/about-us/our-sites/WA/qanda.html>

NDIS in WA <https://ndis.gov.au/about-us/our-sites/WA.html>

Department of Communities <https://www.communities.wa.gov.au/news/national-disability-insurance-scheme-announcement/>

Getting started

Planning process <https://www.ndis.gov.au/participants/planning-process.html>

Videos and stories <https://www.ndis.gov.au/people-disability/videos-and-stories/videos.html#wa>

Top 10 tips <http://www.everyaustraliancounts.com.au/10-top-tips-preparing-for-the-ndis/>

⁹ http://www.aph.gov.au/About_Parliament/Parliamentary_Departments/Parliamentary_Library/pubs/rp/rp1617/Quick_Guides/NDIS (access date 2/10/2017)

¹⁰ <http://www.everyaustraliancounts.com.au/faqs/lets-start-at-the-beginning-what-is-the-ndis/> (access date 10/10/2017)

¹¹ <http://www.everyaustraliancounts.com.au/faqs/why-did-we-need-a-new-system/> (access date 10/10/2017)

¹² <http://www.everyaustraliancounts.com.au/faqs/so-how-is-the-ndis-different/> (access date 10/10/2017)

¹³ <http://www.everyaustraliancounts.com.au/faqs/will-we-be-able-to-choose-the-type-of-support-we-receive/> (access date 10/10/2017)

¹⁴ <http://www.everyaustraliancounts.com.au/faqs/does-it-cover-more-than-the-day-today-basics/> (access date 10/10/2017)

¹⁵ <http://www.everyaustraliancounts.com.au/faqs/is-it-really-here-to-stay/> (access date 10/10/2017)