

# Younger people receiving a home care package

This information sheet is for people under the age of 65 who are currently receiving a home care package who may be eligible for the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

One of the purposes of the NDIS is to give you access to services that are most appropriate for your needs.

## About the NDIS

The NDIS is a new way of providing support for people with disability, their families and carers in Australia. The NDIS will provide all Australians under the age of 65 with a permanent and significant disability with the reasonable and necessary supports they need to live an ordinary life. This may include personal care and support, access to the community, therapy services and essential equipment.

The National Disability Insurance Agency (the Agency) has been set up to put the NDIS in place (visit the NDIS website at [ndis.gov.au](http://ndis.gov.au) for more detail).

The Agency will help educate service providers and the local community about how they can assist people with disability.

## How will the NDIS support people being cared for in the aged care sector?

The NDIS aims to support people to live in the community setting or other settings that are suitable for their age (see the [NDIS website](http://ndis.gov.au) for more detail).

If you are under 65 years old you may be eligible to receive assistance from the NDIS including:

- supports to access social, civic and community activities and keep up informal support networks with family, friends and carers.
- therapy including allied health supports (e.g. occupational therapy, speech pathology and physiotherapy) which have been shown to improve independence.
- specialised equipment for someone who has an on-going problem with some activities, which are not part of the residential aged care package or which may be provided in the treatment of a medical condition.

## How can the NDIS assist me to remain in the community?

The NDIS may pay for modifications to make your home accessible. It may also assist you to live independently with supports such as personal care to help with showering or dressing, or help preparing meals and cleaning.

## Home care package fees

While you continue to access a home care package, you will continue to pay your aged care fees:

- a [basic daily fee](#) (everyone pays which the NDIS will not cover); and
- an [income-tested care fee](#) – an additional contribution towards the cost of your care (depending on your personal and financial circumstances).

(visit the My Aged Care website at <http://www.myagedcare.gov.au/> for more detail about aged care fees and payments).

## What to do next?

As you are already receiving a home care package, an NDIS representative will call you or your representative (if you have one) to talk about your eligibility. If the NDIS cannot contact you by phone, you will be sent a letter and paper Access Request form.

To help the Agency with getting in contact with you, please ensure that your contact details (including phone numbers) and your representative (if you have one) contact details (including phone numbers) are up to date. You can do this by contacting the Department of Human Services (DHS) on 1800 227 475.

## What happens once my eligibility has been determined?

You and your family will discuss your goals with an NDIS representative as part of the planning conversation.

Your plan will include the supports funded under the NDIS and those supports that are the responsibility of other parties.

## What happens with my home care package if I'm determined to be eligible to receive NDIS?

The intention is that you may move to the NDIS as soon as you have a plan. However, this may depend upon the termination provisions of your home care package agreement. Even if you cannot move from your home care package immediately, you may be eligible to receive additional services through the NDIS.

Please note there will be some significant changes to the delivery of home care services from 27 February 2017.

A home care package will be assigned to you and funding for the home care package will also follow you. This will provide more choice for you in selecting your provider, as well as flexibility to change your provider if you wish to do so. The home care package will be portable if you move to another location.

You may wish to find out more about the home care reforms including information about [unspent funds when a person leaves their home care package](#) (before and after 27 February 2017).

If you are not eligible for the NDIS, and a home care package is still appropriate for you, you may continue to access care and services through the home care package program. You will continue to pay your aged care fees to your home care provider.

## When will the NDIS be available in my region?

Roll out of the NDIS in all States and Territories (except [Western Australia](#)) started progressively from 1 July 2016.

The current rollout schedule is available on the NDIS website at [www.ndis.gov.au/about-us/our-sites](http://www.ndis.gov.au/about-us/our-sites)

## Where can I go for more information?

### NDIS

- Visit the NDIS website at [www.ndis.gov.au](http://www.ndis.gov.au).
- Contact the NDIS by using their [contact form](#).
- Call 1800 800 110\* Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm EST.
- For people with hearing or speech loss:
  - TTY: 1800 555 677
  - Speak and Listen: 1800 555 727
- For people who need help with English TIS: 131 450

*\* 1800 calls are free from fixed lines; however calls from mobiles may be charged.*

### Department of Health

- Visit the My Aged Care website at [www.myagedcare.gov.au](http://www.myagedcare.gov.au).
- Visit the Department of Health website at [www.agedcare.health.gov.au](http://www.agedcare.health.gov.au).

For questions about responsibilities while a person remains in aged care, email [agedcarefeesandpayments@health.gov.au](mailto:agedcarefeesandpayments@health.gov.au).