National Disability Conference Initiative 2014-15

The following questions and answer are specific to this funding round. Please also refer to the [Frequently Asked Question](http://www.dss.gov.au/grants/frequently-asked-questions) page for general questions about applying for DSS grants.

1. **How can I apply for National Disability Conference Initiative (NDCI) funding?**

The 2014-15 NDCI funding round is a restricted competitive selection process. This means that the department approaches selected service providers directly asking them to apply for funding if they see fit. A restricted funding round is still competitive because providers who choose to apply will still be assessed against the stated selection criteria.

1. **What can I use the NDCI funding for?**

NDCI funding is provided to assist people with disability to attend conferences with a national focus held within Australia.

Funding is available to assist conference organisers to maximise the attendance and/or participation of people with disability (or a family member or carer(s) attending to provide support) and may:

* assist with their costs e.g. conference fees, accommodation, travel; and
* facilitate their access to and/or participation at the conference e.g. by funding Auslan interpreters, hearing loops, the provision of material in alternate formats, note-takers and/or the provision of aids or appliances.

1. **What is the definition of a “disability conference”?**

A conference is deemed to be a ‘disability conference’ if at least half (50 per cent) of the conference program focuses on people with disability and/or issues that affect people with disability.

1. **Is funding available to a carer if the person with a disability is not attending?**

No. NDCI funding only extends to family members or carers if they are accompanying the person with a disability to provide support to that person during the conference.

1. **My organisation is a hosting conference in July to September 2013, am I still eligible to receive NDCI funding?**

Yes, successful funding applicants who are hosting national disability conferences in 2014-15 financial year, before the outcome of the funding round is announced, will be retrospectively funded by DSS.

1. **Where can I find information about other funding to assist a person with disability to attend a conference?**

The Australian Government [GrantsLINK website](http://www.grantslink.gov.au/) provides information about government grants and assistance for individuals, businesses and communities.

1. **If an application from an eligible organisation was approved, when would the NDCI funding be paid?**

Payment of the approved amount in the Grant Agreement will be made approximately six weeks prior to the date of the conference as advised in the Application Form.

I am a person with disability.

* How do I find out whether a particular conference has received funding?
* How do I find out about my eligibility for assistance?

You will need to contact the conference organisers to determine whether they have received funding to assist people with disability to attend the conference.