

General key messages

- The Prime Minister and the Premier of SA have announced that the first stage of a National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) will be launched across the whole of South Australia from July 2013. It will be jointly funded by the Australian Government and the SA State Government.
- The South Australia launch will be through a children's cohort model, initially for children 0-5 years for the first year.
- When fully implemented the first stage of an NDIS in South Australia will apply to all children 0-14 years across the State. The first stage will benefit an estimated 4,700 children with disability in South Australia, including who need support from an NDIS, and will include children who are currently receiving services.
- In South Australia this cohort was chosen in recognition of the key role that quality early childhood intervention plays in improving long term outcomes for children with disability.
- The agreements that the Prime Minister has reached with State and Territories include more people and sites than originally announced in the Budget. This reflects the Australian government's commitment to an NDIS and the commitment of the states and territories that will host a first stage location.
- A National Disability Insurance Scheme represents a real change in the way disability services are provided. It will give people with disability and their families and carers choice and control over the services and support they need and certainty that their reasonable and necessary care and support needs will be met.
- The need for change is undeniable, and we are working hard to make it real for as many people as possible in the shortest time possible.
- However, the new scheme will involve major changes in the way that governments work with people with disability, for services and for the families and carers of people with disability. We want to make sure we get this reform right so that we build a system that is sustainable over the long term.
- The Australian Government made it clear in the 2012-13 Budget that lessons learned in launching the first stage will inform when and how to proceed to a full scheme.
- Therefore we are building the scheme in a limited number of selected locations in the first instance to ensure that the implementation of the scheme is informed by sector feedback, and the needs of people with disability, their families and carers, service providers and disability service organisations.
- This will help governments develop a sustainable, comprehensive and robust national scheme that is responsive to the needs of people with disability.
- The Australian Government and the SA Government will soon commence detailed planning to make an NDIS real for children in South Australia.

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- This planning will include active engagement with the community to implement the scheme across the state.
 - More detailed information is available on www.ndis.gov.au or by calling 1800 800 110. You can also register your details on this website to receive updates on progress.
- As more detailed information about the arrangements becomes available it will be posted on www.ndis.gov.au. You can also register your details on the website to receive updates on progress.
- The Launch Transition Agency can be contacted on 1800 800 110.
- ~~As more detailed information about the arrangements becomes available it will be posted on www.ndis.gov.au. You can also register your details on the website to receive updates on progress.~~

Launch location additional talking points

- The Prime Minister and the Premier of SA have announced that the first stage of a National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) will be launched across the whole of South Australia from July 2013. The South Australia launch will be through a children's cohort model, initially for children 0-5 years for the first year.
- When fully implemented the first stage of an NDIS in South Australia will apply to all children 0-14 years across the State. The first stage will benefit an estimated 4,700 children with disability in South Australia, including who need support from an NDIS, and will include children who are currently receiving services.
- This means that from July 2013, regardless of where an eligible child lives in South Australia, they can get the necessary care and support they require.
- Supports will no longer be decided for families, but by families. Supports will be designed around you and your child's needs.
- The main focus of the scheme is to provide the supports needed over a lifetime for children in South Australia with a disability that significantly affects their communication, mobility, self-care or self-management.
- Details of the assessment process are currently under development. However, a fundamental principle is that the assessment should be a streamlined process, conducted in your area by trained professionals assessors. It will take into account any assessment your child has already undertaken and will not require you to tell your story again.
- There is nothing you need to do right now. Over the coming months, the NDIS Launch Transition Agency will be working with the South Australian government, local service providers and workforce to prepare for the commencement of the scheme in South Australia in from July 2013 and to make an NDIS real for children in your community.
- ~~This includes the appointment of senior staff from the Launch Transition Agency in your local area to help your family through the process.~~
- ~~The Australian Government and the SA Government will soon commence detailed planning to make an NDIS real for children in your community.~~
- As more detailed information becomes available it will be posted on our website – www.ndis.gov.au
- You can also register your details and we will keep you up-to-date on progress.

Questions and Answers for launch locations

Question: Where are the first stage launch locations for the National Disability Insurance Scheme?

Answer: The Prime Minister and Premiers have announced that the first stage of National Disability Insurance Scheme will be launched in South Australia from July 2013.

Question: When will a National Disability Insurance Scheme start operating in my town/region/state? (*for callers from launch locations)

Answer: The Prime Minister and Premiers have announced that a National Disability Insurance Scheme will be launched in XX locations from July 2013.

Over the coming months, governments will work together to ensure that everybody is ready when the scheme starts in your area. This will include working with children-people with disability and their families and carers, and with local service providers and their workforce to help them get ready for the transition to an NDIS.

Question: Why is the first stage of a National Disability Insurance Scheme only in a few locations? (*for callers from non-launch locations)

Answer: The new scheme will involve major changes for the way that governments work with people with disability, their families and carers, and for disability services and for people with disability and their families and carers.

We want to make sure that we get this reform right so that we build a system that is sustainable over the long term for people with disability, their family and carers.

Therefore we are building the scheme in a limited number of locations, including South Australia, in the first instance to ensure that the implementation of the scheme is informed by sector feedback, and the needs of people with disability, their families and carers.

Question: How was South Australia chosen as a launch site?

Answer: First stage locations, such as South Australia, were chosen to ensure that all aspects of an NDIS can be fully evaluated to inform the full scheme.

Question: Who will be eligible for support in the first stage locations of an NDIS?

Answer: From July 2013, an NDIS will be launched across the state focussing on children aged 0-5 with significant and permanent disability. By 2014 the age limit will be extended to 14 years with a total of 4,700 children with significant and permanent disability to benefit from the scheme.

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The South Australian approach has been chosen for the first stage as it will assist in determining the importance of early intervention in delivering positive outcomes for children and families.

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~~When fully implemented the first stage of an NDIS in South Australia will apply to all children 0-14 years across the State. The first stage will benefit an estimated 4,700 children with disability in South Australia, including children who are currently receiving services.~~

Question: I'm a person with a disability. What does this mean for me? .

Answer: If you live in South Australia and your child is eligible for funding from 1 July 2013, a National Disability Insurance Scheme will give your family certainty that your child's reasonable and necessary support needs will be met.

In addition, you will have more control over the support that your child receives. You will be able to choose how those supports are provided and by who, that suit your child's needs and enable your child to reach their goals.

Question: What supports and services are included in the first stage of a National Disability Insurance Scheme? What's covered? What's in and what's out?

Answer: A fundamental principle of a National Disability Insurance Scheme is to consider a person's care and support needs over their lifetime. For many people this will involve the type of support that they are familiar with, for example a support worker who comes to assist them with activities that they cannot do.

However, a key objective of the first stage of an NDIS is to develop increased flexibility and innovation, so many people will also look to different types of support. This will be developed as part of a new planning process with people with disability, their families and carers, during which, their goals and aspirations and their daily life is affected by disability, is fully understood, and support options explored.

Question: Where can I find more information about the first stage launch locations?

Answer: As more detailed information about the arrangements becomes available it will be posted on www.ndis.gov.au. You can also register your details to

receive updates on progress or phone the NDIS Launch Hotline on 1800 800 110.

Question: What will happen to current care and support arrangements?

Answer: If your child is currently receiving care and support we will make sure that these arrangements continue. We will contact you to discuss your child's goals and aspirations and to see if there is anything more your family needs, or if there are things you would like to do differently.

Question: I'm not living in one of the first stage locations. What does this announcement mean for me?

Answer: The Government made clear in the 2012-13 Budget that lessons learned in launching the scheme will inform when and how we to proceed to a full scheme.

The Australian Government is continuing to boost investment in care and support for people with disability, their families and carers around the country including:

- \$8.7 billion from 2009-10 to 2015-16 under the National Disability Agreement to increase and improve specialist disability services such as supported accommodation, targeted support and respite.
- a further \$3 billion from 2011-12 to 2014-15 in Disability Employment Services to strengthen links to training and skills development for job seekers with a disability.
- an extra \$200 million from 2011-12 to 2013-14 for support for school students with a disability; and
- providing \$118 million from 2011-12 to 2015-16 for access to early intervention services for children with vision or hearing impairments, cerebral palsy, Down syndrome or fragile X syndrome.
- in excess of \$220 million for early intervention services for children with autism under the Helping Children with Autism initiative.

Question: Why are only children 0-14 years eligible in the first stage?

Answer: In South Australia this cohort was chosen in recognition of the key role that quality early childhood intervention plays in improving long term outcomes for children with disability. It will ensure that from July 2013, regardless of where an eligible child lives in South Australia, they can get the necessary care and support they require.