



Information for providers

Outside School Hours Care for Teenagers with Disability June 2016

Transition to the National Disability Insurance Scheme

The gradual introduction of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) has begun, and will continue on a large scale from 1 July 2016.

The transition to the NDIS will occur over a number of years. People will gain access to the scheme at different times, depending on where they live and how old they are.

For start dates in each state and territory visit the NDIS website at www.ndis.gov.au.

Changes to Commonwealth disability programmes

Over the next three years, funding for a range of Commonwealth funded disability programmes will transition to the NDIS.

Outside School Hours Care for Teenagers with Disability (OTD) is one of the affected programmes. For providers, this will mean a gradual reduction in programme funding as more clients become participants in the NDIS.

Providers are encouraged to register to deliver services under the NDIS as it commences in your area. After 1 July 2016, if you provide services to a NDIS participant you will need to claim the cost of providing that service from the NDIS. Find out more at www.ndis.gov.au/providers.

There will be significant opportunities for providers under the NDIS. In exercising choice and control, NDIS participants will be looking for quality providers that deliver the services they want, and in a format that best meets their needs.

Gradual transition of funding

The Department of Social Services has finalised three-year funding offers for OTD, to commence on 1 July 2016. The three-year funding offer reflects the gradual transition of funding to the NDIS.

The funding allocations take into account the NDIS start dates for your service locations, and recognises the need for programme funding to be maintained until an OTD client has successfully gained access to the NDIS and has a funded support plan in place.

Any funding offered can only be used to assist OTD clients who will not be able to access the NDIS until it commences in their region, or clients who have submitted NDIS access requests but do not yet have an approved NDIS plan.

By the end of June 2019, all OTD clients are expected to have transitioned to the NDIS or continuity of support arrangements, and OTD will be closed.

More information on continuity of support arrangements is provided below.

OTD and the NDIS

All OTD clients are expected to meet the age and disability requirements of the NDIS. OTD clients must also meet the residence requirements of the NDIS in order to become participants for the scheme.

Supports currently provided under the OTD programme will not necessarily be directly replicated by the NDIS. They may take the form of different supports or services, depending on the needs and decisions of each NDIS participant and their family.

Advising your clients

OTD clients can check their expected access online via the NDIS Access Checklist at www.ndis.gov.au/ndis-access-checklist.

The NDIS website contains advice, information and resources to help them get started on their NDIS journey. See www.ndis.gov.au.

As a provider, you will have an interest in guiding your clients through the transition.

This is also a requirement of your grant agreement.

All OTD clients should be encouraged to request access to the NDIS when it is due to commence in your region.

You will be funded to maintain services for OTD clients while their access request is processed and while their individual support plan is developed.

Continuity of support

For existing Commonwealth clients who are assessed as not meeting the NDIS access criteria, the Commonwealth has committed to providing continuity of support.

Continuity of support means existing OTD clients who are ineligible for the NDIS will be supported to achieve similar outcomes, even if the arrangements for doing that change over time.

In the short term, continuity of support will be provided through your existing programme funding. You will be notified once long term arrangements for providing continuity of support have been finalised.

Resources for providers

NDIS website

The provider section of the NDIS website has information, advice and links for providers who want to work under the scheme.

Visit www.ndis.gov.au/providers

The NDIS website also contains resources for families and carers, recognising them as important partners in the support of people with disability. You may wish to refer your clients to this section of the NDIS website.

Visit www.ndis.gov.au/families-carers

NDIS Ready communication toolkit

The 'NDIS Ready' section of the NDIS website includes a communication toolkit which provides individuals and organisations with communication materials that can help spread the word about the NDIS across a range of communications channels, including websites, intranets, social media platforms and electronic and printed newsletters.

These resources may help you communicate with your clients about the scheme.

Visit www.ndis.gov.au/ndis-ready

NDIS Information Sessions

The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) is running information sessions across the country for providers and participants.

They are opportunities to learn more about the NDIS, including the ways that your clients can apply to and access the scheme, and what other supports will be available.

For upcoming sessions in your area visit www.ndis.gov.au/news/events

NDIS Provider Portal

Providers who wish to deliver services to NDIS participants need to register on the NDIS Provider Portal. A new version of the NDIS Provider Portal will be launched on 1 July 2016. It will be called **myplace**.

Access to **myplace** is via PRODA, an online authentication system designed to provide secure access to specific government services and is required to access

the new Provider Portal. This replaces the previously used authentication process, AUSkey.

Whether you are new to the NDIS, or already registered to do business, you will need to sign up to **myplace**.

Visit www.ndis.gov.au/providers/registering-provider/accessing-new-provider-portal

NDIS Provider Toolkit

This practical self-assessment tool helps providers check their readiness for the NDIS, and work out where they may need to enhance their capabilities.

The toolkit is free for providers to use. It has been developed by National Disability Services (NDS) with funding from the Australian Government Sector Development Fund.

Visit www.nds.org.au/resources/ndis-provider-toolkit

Sector Development Fund projects

Through the Commonwealth's Sector Development Fund, a number of not for profit organisations have been funded to help the disability services sector get ready for the NDIS. The projects focus on developing the sector as a whole, including people with disability, their families, carers and providers.

Information about completed projects is available on the NDIS web site. The resources include practice change and service delivery resources, operational tools, workforce planning resources and change management resources.

Visit www.ndis.gov.au/people-disability/sector-development-fund/sdf-projects

Costing and Pricing advice

Organisations will need to establish, and operate under, a market based, competitive, fee-for-service model prior to the NDIS commencing in their region.

This practical Costing and Pricing Learning Program aims to increase costing and pricing skills for disability service providers across Australia. It has been developed by National Disability Services (NDS) and the Curtin University Not-for-profit Initiative.

Visit www.nds.org.au/resources/costing-pricing-learning-program