# 2010–2020 National Disability Strategy

## Third Implementation Plan

### Easy Read version

## How to use this plan

The Australian Government wrote this plan. When you see the word ‘we’, it means the Australian Government.

We have written this plan in an easy to read way.

We have written some words in **bold**. We explain what these words mean. There is a list of these words on page 19.

This Easy Read plan is a summary of another plan.

You can find the other plan on our website at [www.dss.gov.au/nds](http://www.dss.gov.au/nds)

You can ask for help to read this plan. A friend, family member or support person may be able to help you.

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## What is the National Disability Strategy?

The National Disability Strategy is a plan for improving the lives of people with disability.

In this document we call it ‘the Strategy’.

This plan is for 10 years.

We have been using it since 2010.

The Strategy is based on ideas that are in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UN Convention).

The UN Convention is an international agreement. It applies all around the world.

The UN Convention sets out the rights of people with disability. It explains how people with disability should be treated fairly.

## Who uses the National Disability Strategy?

The National Disability Strategy is for all Australians.

It is used by all the governments in Australia, including:

* the Australian Government
* state and territory governments
* local governments.

The Strategy is making a difference in people’s lives.

All governments know there is still lots to be done to achieve the Strategy’s goals.

People in the community have been telling us what they think about   
the Strategy.

This includes:

* people with disability
* families and carers
* people who work with people with disability.

We use their ideas and feedback to make sure that the Strategy   
is working.

Since the Strategy started, different governments around Australia have also worked on their own disability plans.

## Our implementation plans

So far, we have written 3 plans.

We call them **implementation plans**.

Implementation plans help us make sure everybody knows what work we all need to do so we can reach our goals.

They help make Australia more **inclusive**.

If something is inclusive, everyone can take part.

This is our third implementation plan.

We call it the Plan.

It talks about the important things that need to be done in the last years of the Strategy.

## Areas we need to really focus on

There are 5 areas that need extra effort across Australia:

1. Supporting people with disability who want to work
2. Giving people with disability a chance to have their say
3. Using NDIS and mainstream services
4. Collecting and using information about what works best
5. Working together to be inclusive

We talk about these 5 areas in more detail on the following pages.

### Supporting people with disability who want to work

We found out from a survey that only 53.4% of people with disability have jobs.

There are barriers that can stop people with disability from:

* finding work
* getting and keeping a job.

Governments have ways to make things better in this focus area.

They include:

* supporting people with disability who want to work through   
  the NDIS
* finding more jobs for people with disability who want to work for   
  the government
* giving businesses information about the good things that can happen when they give jobs to people with disability.

### Giving people with disability a chance to have their say

We want to know what people with disability think about our **policies** and programs for:

* people with disability
* everyone in the community.

Policies are government plans.

Governments want to make sure people with disability have their   
voice heard.

Governments can also:

* talk to people with disability when they talk to the community about new disability policies for the future
* support people with disability to take part in overseas conferences on human rights.

### Using NDIS and mainstream services

Within the next 5 years, there will be up to 500,000 people with disability using the NDIS.

Governments around Australia are talking about ways to make **mainstream services** inclusive.

Mainstream services are services for everybody to use, such as:

* health care
* housing
* public transport
* education and training
* employment.

Examples include developing:

* a Health Pathway for people with disability in the ACT
* a guide for schools in the NT to use when they work with NDIS service providers to help students with disability.

### Collecting and using information about what works best

We need to collect good information about:

* the challenges and barriers people with disability face
* what we need to do better
* how we can do better.

We are:

* developing a new way to collect information about people with disability – this is called the National Disability Data Asset
* supporting research in SA about how many young people who get in trouble with the law have disability
* supporting research in Victoria about how things have changed for people who work with people with disability since the NDIS started.

### Working together to be inclusive

The Australian Government has agreements with governments around Australia about:

* how services should work
* ways to make things better.

Many of these agreements affect people with disability.

The Australian Government wants to make sure these agreements:

* are inclusive of people with disability
* have the same goals as the Strategy.

## The 6 main areas we are working on

Some of the main ideas in the Strategy are making sure that people with disability:

* are included in our community
* can become who they want to be
* are treated as equals.

The Strategy covers 6 main areas:

1. **Taking part in the community**
2. **Our rights for fair treatment**
3. **Work, money and housing**
4. **Getting support**
5. **Learning and skills**
6. **Health and wellbeing**

## What are we doing in these 6 main areas?

### Taking part in the community

We have been working hard to make sure our community is inclusive of people with disability.

For example, many community spaces and tourist sites in Queensland are now more **accessible**.

When something is accessible, everyone can use it. This might be:

* a place or a building
* transport
* a service
* information
* a website.

Public transport in NSW is becoming more accessible.

People building new houses in the ACT are being encouraged to think about accessibility.

In WA, 300 homes were built using **Universal Design**.

Universal Design means we think about what everybody needs when we plan or start new projects and services.

### Our rights for fair treatment

All Australians have the right to feel safe:

* at home
* at work
* in their community.

We have been working hard to make sure people with disability   
don’t experience:

* violence
* abuse
* neglect.

We have been teaching people across Australia about ways to protect women and children with disability from violence.

We are making the justice system better.

The justice system includes:

* police
* the courts
* the law.

There are plans being developed to make the justice system better in:

* ACT
* SA
* WA.

### Work, money and housing

People with disability who have jobs and earn money can:

* plan for their future
* be in control of their own lives.

We are helping people with disability get jobs.

The Dress for Success Career Support Program helps give women with disability a better chance of finding a job.

In SA, places where people work are encouraged to be inclusive.

In Queensland, people with disability are getting better support to find and use training they need.

The Victorian Government has set a goal to find more jobs for people with disability who want to work for the government.

### Getting support

Some people with disability need support:

* at home
* out in the community.

Family members and carers play an important part in supporting people with disability.

Some people with disability rely on the NDIS to meet their needs.

But many people with disability use mainstream services.

Our work in this area includes helping:

* carers get the support they need
* people in the NT learn Auslan in Aboriginal languages
* business and service providers in SA work together.

### Learning and skills

People with disability have the same rights as other Australians to:

* go to school
* learn.

All schools, universities and other places people go to learn need to   
be inclusive.

Learning programs need to be the best they can be so people with disability can get good results.

The Australian Government gives money to help schools meet the needs of their students with disability.

For example, in Tasmania and the NT, there are new plans for schools to become more inclusive.

### Health and wellbeing

People with disability must be able to:

* find and use good services for their health and wellbeing
* have choice and control over the services they use.

Health care providers must be able to meet the needs of people   
with disability.

For example, in NSW health services are make sure there are good health services for people with:

* **intellectual disability**
* mental health problems.

An intellectual disability affects:

* the way you think
* how your brain works.

Victorian health services are developing their own plans to give people with disability better care.

In Tasmania, more people will take part in the Connecting People training program.

This program helps health care workers better understand how to support people who are very sad or who might want to hurt themselves.

## How much money will we spend?

Governments around Australia will spend $40 billion on the NDIS.

The Australian Government will also spend:

* $34.1 billion on the Disability Support Pension
* $1.5 billion on Disability Employment Services.

The Australian Government will also:

* spend $45 million to develop a website and phone service for people who need information about disability supports and services close to where they live
* set a goal for people with disability to make up 7% of people who work for the Australian Public Service by 2025
* spend $131.4 million for the Information Linkages and Capacity Building part of the NDIS.

We usually call it ILC.

ILC helps more people with disability take part in our community.

## What happens next?

The Strategy will end in 2020.

Governments around Australia are working together to develop a new disability strategy.

The new strategy needs to include ideas that are important to:

* people with disability
* their family and carers.

It also needs to think about what has changed in the last 10 years.

We are talking to the community about the new strategy.

We will use what we have learned to make sure the new   
disability strategy:

* includes the best way to do things
* works well.

## Word list

**Accessible**

When something is accessible, everyone can use it.

This might be:

* a place or a building
* transport
* a service
* information
* a website.

**Implementation plans**

Implementation plans help us make sure everybody knows what work we all need to do so we can reach our goals.

**Inclusive**

If something is inclusive, everyone can take part.

**Intellectual disability**

An intellectual disability affects:

* the way you think
* how your brain works.

**Mainstream services**

Mainstream services are services for everybody to use, such as:

* health care
* housing
* public transport
* education and training
* employment.

**Policies**

Policies are government plans.

**Universal Design**

Universal Design means we think about what everybody needs when we plan or start new projects and services.

## Contact us

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