

## Community and Stakeholder Update – 06 November 2024

# ndis

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### What's New

### Support lists boost clarity for NDIS participants and providers

On 1 October The Hon. Bill Shorten MP released the final lists of what NDIS participants can and cannot spend their funding on.

The lists will provide much needed clarity and certainty to participants and providers. This is the first time this list has been reviewed since the commencement of the NDIS and updates current guidelines and practices.

The list came into effect on 3 October 2024 and makes it easier for participants to identify what is appropriately funded by the NDIS, and what NDIS funding can be used to purchase.

More information can be found on the NDIS Website.

### New digital tool to support Care Sector planning

Disability and aged care providers will have access to new data about supply and demand for the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) and aged care services thanks to the launch of the Care Sector Demand Map.

More information can be found on the Department of Social Services Website.

### Information about self-management evidence requirements

As part of our improvements to systems and processes in the NDIS, from 14 October, selfmanaged participants who submit claims to the NDIA may be asked to upload supporting evidence for claims.

There are no changes to how claims are made for participants who have their supports plan managed or NDIA-managed.

More information can be found on the NDIS Website.

### \$4.67 million invested in NDIS knowledge and skills

The Albanese Government has committed \$4.67 million in new grants which go towards improving the knowledge and skills of National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) participants, providers and workers.

More information can be found on the Department of Social Services Website.

### Introducing the new Administrative Review Tribunal

On 14 October, the Administrative Appeals Tribunal was replaced by a new body called the Administrative Review Tribunal (new Tribunal).

More information can be found on the NDIS Website.

## Major increases to penalties and criminal offences planned for NDIS providers

Minister for the National Disability Insurance Scheme and Government Services the Hon. Bill Shorten MP announced on the 28 October 2024 the second part of NDIS legislation Getting it Back on Track Bill, which will significantly increase protections for Scheme participants and workers, as well as improve the quality and safety of supports for all participants.

More information can be found on the Department of Social Services Website.

### NDIS supports transition period for providers

#### **Transition period**

For providers who deliver or claim for supports for participants, there is a 30-day transition period to adjust to the legislative requirements.

The 30-day provider transition period for NDIS supports started on 3 October 2024 and ended on Friday 1 November 2024 (inclusive).

#### What's changed

From 3 October 2024, participants and their authorised representatives:

- can only spend NDIS funding on things that are in the approved list of NDIS supports
- cannot spend NDIS funding on things in the list of non-NDIS supports.

These lists are available on the NDIA website - What does NDIS fund?

This change makes it clear what NDIS funding can be spent on.

The change applies to all participants and providers.

#### How it affects you

The changes mean providers and plan managers must only claim NDIS funds for items on the list of NDIS supports.

From 2 November 2024, if incorrect claims are repeated or fraudulent we may take further action, including raising a debt against the provider.

### **Refreshed continence provider list**

The refreshed continence provider list is now available on the NDIS website. The continence provider list – a collation of NDIS registered providers, and their service offerings – helps participants, their families and carers to find trusted information on continence products.

The list is an additional resource to help with finding and comparing continence products and providers.

More information can be found on the <u>NDIS Website</u>.

## NDIS \$1 billion dollars better off than forecast, Scheme on track to hit growth target

Reforms led by the Minister for the NDIS are contributing to Scheme expenditure being \$1 billion lower than forecast in the 2024-25 Budget.

The reforms are expected to stabilise the growth in Scheme expenses over the next 4 years.

More information can be found on the NDIS Website.

## **Data and Insights**

### Children's Expert Advisory Group October 2024 communique

The Children's Expert Advisory Group (CEAG) met for their third meeting Tuesday 1 October 2024. This was an online meeting.

More information can be found on the NDIS Website.

### **Participant Reference Group Meeting summary**

Summary of the Participant Reference Group's (PRG) meeting. The PRG consists of participants and carer representatives across Australia.

The PRG is a key platform to make sure the participant voice is heard and understood by the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA).

Feedback from meetings is used to inform strategy, policy development, system and service delivery development and review, to support continuous improvement.

- PRG Summary 16 and 17 July 2024
- PRG Summary 24 July 2024
- PRG Summary 14 August 2024
- PRG Summary 30 August 2024
- PRG Summary 4 September 2024
- PRG Summary 12 September 2024

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### **Inclusion and Diversity awareness days**

• 24 November to 1 December – Disability Action Week

## **National Events**

### Information about changes to NDIS planning and budgets

The National Disability Insurance Agency invites current and prospective NDIS participants, their families and carers to attend information sessions to learn about the changes to planning and budgets in participant plans.

Event Dates: <u>Tuesday, 12 November 2024</u>, <u>Thursday, 14 November 2024</u>, <u>Wednesday, 20</u> <u>November 2024</u>, <u>Tuesday, 26 November 2024</u> and <u>Thursday, 28 November 2024</u>.

### Information about NDIS supports and your funding

The National Disability Insurance Agency invites current and prospective NDIS participants, their families and carers to attend information sessions to learn about the NDIS supports you can and cannot purchase with your NDIS funds.

Event Date: <u>Thursday, 7 November 2024</u>, <u>Wednesday, 13 November 2024</u>, <u>Tuesday, 19</u> <u>November 2024</u>, <u>Thursday, 21 November 2024</u> and <u>Wednesday, 27 November 2024</u>.

## **Provider Events**

### Introducing changes to NDIS legislation for providers

On 22 August 2024, the National Disability Insurance Scheme Amendment (Getting the NDIS Back on Track No. (1) Bill 2024 was passed by the Parliament and came into effect on 3 October 2024. In these sessions, the NDIA will deliver an overview of the NDIS Bill amendments, key changes for providers and a Q&A.

Event Date: Thursday, 7 November 2024, Tuesday, 12 November 2024, Thursday, 14 November 2024, Wednesday, 20 November 2024, Thursday, 21 November 2024, Monday, 25 November 2024 and Thursday, 28 November 2024.

## Contact us.

If you have any questions about the information in the update, want to make any suggestions about the sessions, would like to be or recommend a guest speaker, please email us at <u>community.engagement.east@ndis.gov.au</u>

For general enquiries, please contact 1800 800 110 or email enquiries@ndis.gov.au

### Join our community.

If you know other people who would like to be included in the Community and Stakeholder Update forums, please email a request to <u>community.engagement.east@ndis.gov.au</u>. We will confirm the request and add them to our attendee list.

### **More information**

Our website is regularly updated with information on:

- latest news and advice
- <u>upcoming events</u>
- subscribing to our newsletters
- have your say
- Participant First: Help improve the NDIS | NDIS
- join Participant First today.

The next Community and Stakeholder update will be held on Wednesday 01 December 2024.