

Changes to the NDIS

Department of Social Services



Easy English

Blue words



Some words in this book are **blue**.

We write what the blue words mean.

Help with this book



You can get someone to help you

- understand this book

- find more information.



Contact information is at the end of this book.

About this book



Australian Government
Department of Social Services

This book is from the Department of Social Services.



We are part of the Australian government.

We call ourselves **the department**.



This book is about the **National Disability Insurance Scheme** or NDIS.



The NDIS gives services and support to people with **permanent disability**.

Permanent disability means a disability that will **not** go away.



This book says how we want to make the NDIS better.

Why do we want to change the NDIS?



We asked someone from outside the department to do a **review** of the NDIS.



A review is when we check

- what is **not** good about the NDIS

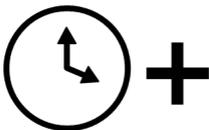


- how we can make the NDIS better



Our review gave us ideas about how we can make the NDIS

- better for people with disability



- last a long time.

What we will do first



We will make a new **law** to change the way the NDIS works.

A law says

- what is allowed



and



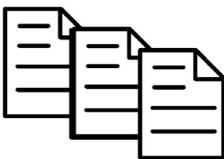
- what is **not** allowed.



Our law will let us make new rules about the NDIS.

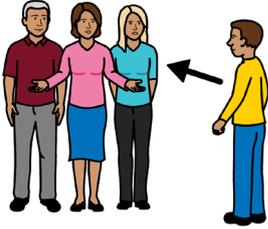


We will ask people with disability to help us make the new rules.

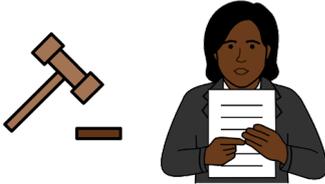


Our law will have 3 parts.

1 How we will change access to the NDIS



Access is when you can be part of something.



Our law will say we will tell you why you are part of the NDIS.



This could be

- because of your disability



- because you need **early intervention**



- because of your disability **and** you need early intervention.

Early intervention means we give support to some people before their disability gets too bad.



Early intervention is for

- children



- people with **psychosocial disability**.

Psychosocial disability means mental illness that causes disability.

We will make new rules about early intervention.



We will check if people who get early intervention still need it.



We might decide that someone

- still needs early intervention



- does **not** need early intervention but still needs to be in the NDIS



- does **not** need early intervention and does **not** need to be in the NDIS.



We will make new rules for how we test **functional capacity**.



Functional capacity means what a person with disability

- **can do**



- needs support to do.



We will make new rules for how we do a **needs assessment**.

A needs assessment is when we find out what support a person with disability needs.



We will test if someone

- needs support from the NDIS



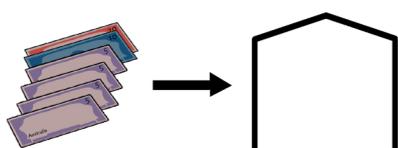
- needs support from other services.
 - for example, a doctor.

2 We will make new rules for how budgets can be spent



A budget is how much NDIS money you have.

We will make new rules about what people can spend on **stated supports**.



Stated supports say what you **must** spend some of your NDIS money on.



We will make new rules about **flexible** budgets.

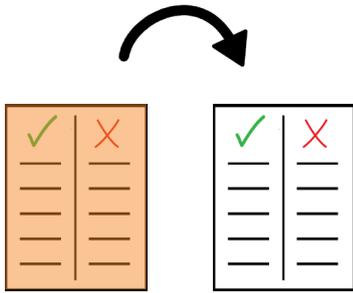
Flexible means you can choose what you spend some of your NDIS money on.

Sometimes we might tell you what you **must** spend some of your flexible budget on to

- keep you safe
- stop your money running out.



3 We will make sure we have the best possible services



We will make new rules for the **NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission**.

The NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission makes sure

- NDIS services are the best they can be
- NDIS services are safe
- people who give NDIS services do a good job.



We call it **the commission**.



We will make new rules about

- who **can** give services in the NDIS



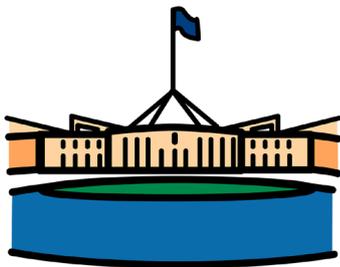
- who **cannot** give services in the NDIS.



The commission will make rules about how we check people who give NDIS supports.

For example, how we check that people who work in the NDIS do the right thing.

When will we make our new law?



The Australian **parliament** will make our new law.

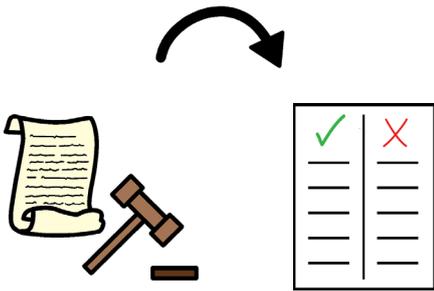


The parliament is a group of people that makes laws for Australians.



We have asked the parliament to make our new NDIS law this year.

When will we make the new NDIS rules?



We will make the new rules **after** the parliament makes our new law.



We will ask people with disability to help us make the new rules.



All the state and territory governments **must** agree to the new rules.

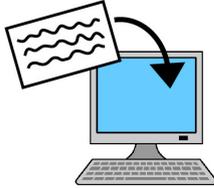


We will tell you when you need to follow the new rules.



More information

For more information contact the
Department of Social Services.



Email

enquiries@dss.gov.au



Call 1300 653 227

**You can read about our new law on our
website**



Website dss.gov.au/NDISreforms

Join our list to

- get new information about our law

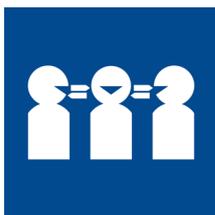
- hear about consultations.



Website

dss.gov.au/disability-and-carers

If you need help with English



Use the free Translating and Interpreting Service or TIS to make a phone call.

You can call the TIS in your language.



Call 131 450

Give the TIS officer the phone number you want to call.

If you need help to speak or listen



Use the National Relay Service to make a phone call.

You must sign up to the service first.



Website accesshub.gov.au/nrs-helpdesk



Call 1800 555 660

This Easy English document was created by Scope (Aust) Ltd. in March 2024 using Picture Communication Symbols (PCS). PCS is a trademark of Tobii Dynavox, LLC. All rights reserved. Used with permission. This document must not be sold to third parties. The images must not be reused without permission. For more information about the images, contact Scope on 1300 472 673 or visit scopeaust.org.au

