



NDIS Amendment (Securing the NDIS for Future Generations) Bill 2026

May 2026

The National Disability Insurance Scheme Amendment (Securing the NDIS for Future Generations) Bill 2026 will make changes to the *National Disability Insurance Scheme Act 2013*. These changes will protect the NDIS for people with permanent and significant disability and for future generation who will rely on it.

This document provides a summary of key changes in the Bill. It does not describe minor or technical changes.

Schedule 1 – Access and Planning Measures

Part 1 - Defining functional capacity

- Part 1 establishes the legal framework for determining access to the NDIS based on substantially reduced functional capacity. It also provides a definition of functional capacity.
- This enables future access decisions to be based on a consistent, objective and evidence-based assessment of functional capacity. The threshold and assessment process for this will be informed by advice from a Technical Advisory Group and engagement with the community and states and territories.

Part 2 - Limit unscheduled plan reassessments

- Part 2 tightens the criteria for unscheduled plan reassessments.
- Only participants, their plan nominee or guardian will be able to request an unscheduled plan reassessment.
- Unscheduled reassessments will only be possible when:
 - there have been significant and ongoing changes to a participant's support needs arising from changes in their functional capacity
 - there has been an unanticipated, significant and ongoing change in a participant's living, education, work or informal support arrangements.

Part 3 - Strengthen link between an impairment and need for support

- Part 3 clarifies that supports will only be funded where the need for a support arises directly from an impairment for which the participant met the criteria for accessing the NDIS.

Part 4 - Support determinations

- Part 4 enables the Commonwealth Minister to make determinations to reduce funding for groups of supports.
- This will enable a Ministerial determination to reset participant support budgets for social, civic and community participation and capacity building daily activities.
- Critically, participants requiring continuous 24/7 supports will continue to have these provided at all times. The social, civic and community participation funding reduction will not impact these critical supports.

Part 5 - Plan renewal

- Part 5 introduces a legislated end date for all participant plans.
- When a participant reaches their plan reassessment date, this will become their end date and a renewed plan will be created immediately after
- Unspent funds from the previous plan will not be carried over to the renewed plan.

Part 6 - Reasonable and necessary supports

- Part 6 clarifies factors that must be considered by the NDIA when determining what supports are reasonable and necessary to fund.
- The NDIA must consider Scheme sustainability and equity across NDIS participants, including participants with similar needs and circumstances.

Part 7 - Plan suspensions

- Part 7 allows the NDIA to suspend an individual's plan when reasonable attempts to contact them have been made and a response or adequate response has not been provided.
- It also allows an individual's status as a participant to be revoked if their plan has been suspended for at least 90 days when the NDIA has not been able to contact them.

Part 8 - Tightening meaning of permanence to reduce access where an impairment can be treated

- Part 8 clarifies the definition of permanence in the Act, specifying that access will only be granted when:
 - all appropriate treatment to remedy or alleviate an impairment has been undertaken
 - no other treatment is likely to materially improve the impact of the impairment
 - the impairment is likely to be lifelong.
- There will be an instrument to outline circumstances where a participant has accessed all appropriate treatment.

Part 9 - Eligibility based on access to other services

- Part 9 clarifies where an individual is not eligible for NDIS if they access other service systems.
- Applicants will need to disclose if they are eligible for or accessing supports from a workers' compensation or motor vehicle accident scheme for relevant impairments.

Schedule 2 – Fraud measures

Part 1 - Registration of NDIS providers

- Part 1 amends the definition of an NDIS provider.
- This will enable expanded mandatory registration requirements for providers delivering support to participants who are most at risk of abuse and/or exploitation.

Part 2 - Civil penalties and regulatory powers

- Part 2 inserts new civil penalties into the Act that can be enforced by the NDIA. The NDIA will be able to issue penalties for failures to comply with certain requirements, including requirements to provide information.
- It also gives the NDIA access to monitoring and investigation powers by triggering relevant provisions of the *Regulatory Powers (Standard Provisions) Act 2014*. The NDIA must undertake a risk assessment process before exercising regulatory powers in relation to a participant.

Part 3 - Information gathering powers

- Part 3 strengthens the NDIA's information gathering powers.
- The NDIA will have stronger powers to ensure information can be lawfully obtained and used for the full range of its statutory functions, including criminal investigations and prosecutions.

Part 4 - Retention of records

- Part 4 sets out requirements for retaining certain records.

- Providers and participants will be required to retain records relating to the payment and receipt of NDIS amounts. A failure by a provider to retain the required records will result in a civil penalty. Where an individual receives a NDIS payment but has not kept records, a debt will be owed to the NDIA.

Part 5 - Reducing claim times

- Part 5 reduces the timeframe for making a claim for supports under a participant's plan.
- All claims for NDIS supports will need to be made within 90 days of service delivery.

Part 6 - Registered plan management providers

- Part 6 clarifies the definition and registration requirements for plan management providers.
- This will enable the Government to commission a panel of plan management providers.

Schedule 3 – Governance arrangements

Part 1 - Decision-making on pricing

- Part 1 makes the Commonwealth Minister the decision maker on NDIS pricing.
- The NDIA will retain responsibility for conducting independent analysis and stakeholder engagement through its Annual Pricing Review to inform pricing advice to the Minister.

Part 2 - Automation of administrative action

- Part 2 allows the NDIA to automate specific administrative actions, with appropriate oversight and safeguards. This will include processing claims and payments.

Schedule 4 – New framework planning

Schedule 4 makes amendments to support the rollout of new framework planning from 1 April 2027. These amendments:

- enable budget method rules to identify the type of supports and level of need arising from a support needs assessment
- clarify the supports needs assessment must identify support needs directly linked to impairments for which a participant meets access
- clarify who can carry out a support needs assessment
- enable rules to specify what information an assessor must and must not consider
- enable a notice to transition to new framework planning where a support needs assessment needs to be paused
- clarify that official NDIA documents can be incorporated in the rules and be updated from time to time
- broaden the scope of value for money assessments for quotes for assistive technology and home modifications.