



Australian Government

COVID-19 VACCINATION

Disability provider alert

10 June 2021

On 4 June 2021, National Cabinet agreed to open access to COVID-19 vaccines from 8 June 2021 to:

- all NDIS participants aged 16 years and over; and
- carers aged 16 years and over of NDIS participants of any age.

The following people with disability are now eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine:

- residents of disability residential accommodation settings (with two or more people with disability)
- people living with disability (such as Down Syndrome, muscular dystrophy, traumatic brain or spinal cord injury, or severe intellectual disability) and need frequent assistance with activities of daily living
- people with disability who attend centre-based services such as day programs, respite care or supported employment.
- all NDIS participants aged 16 years and over
- people with disability who have an underlying medical condition.

Some states and territories will amend their eligibility based on their COVID-19 situation and vaccine supply and uptake. Please stay up to date with information from your local state department of health.

Where people with disability can receive vaccinations

The Commonwealth Government is continuing to provide in-reach vaccinations to people with disability in residential disability accommodation settings with two or more residents.

People with disability who are eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine, but who are not in a residential disability accommodation setting may receive a vaccination through:

- State and territory operated clinics offering both Pfizer and AstraZeneca. Workers can contact their local state or territory department to make a booking. For contact details and websites of local state and state and territory departments, visit the [Department of Health website](#).
- GPs, Commonwealth Vaccination Clinics or Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services offering the AstraZeneca vaccine for those aged 50 years and over. These locations can be found through the [Eligibility Checker](#).

Disability service provider-led hubs

Some commercial vaccine providers are establishing hubs in collaboration with disability providers. As the first priority, these disability service provider-led hubs can be accessed by residential disability accommodation residents (where there are two or more residents) and to disability workers providing support to those residents.

Disability workers can also consider other options available to them. Please refer to the [2 June 2021 provider alert](#) for these options.

Disability support worker meeting

The Australian Government Department of Health will host a virtual meeting on Thursday, 17 June 2021 at 11:30am-12:30pm (AEST). The purpose of the meeting is to answer questions from disability support workers about the COVID-19 vaccination program.

Professor (Practice) Alison McMillan, Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer will chair the discussion. The panel will also include:

- Professor Nick Lennox, Senior Medical Advisor, Health and Disability Interface
- Chris Faulkner, the Assistant Secretary, COVID-19 Vaccine Task Force – Disability

A Life Without Barriers representative, and a disability support worker will also be on the panel to answer questions about the COVID-19 vaccination program.

An Eventbrite link to the meeting can be found at this [link](#). Please share this link with disability support workers in your network.

Updates to Eligibility Checker

The Government has updated the [Eligibility Checker](#) to reflect changes to eligibility for COVID-19 vaccines. The Checker allows you to see if you are eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine and helps people find an appropriate clinic to make a booking.

Research on communication

The Department of Health is working with researchers, peak disability service provider bodies, and trade unions to investigate vaccine hesitancy and help information communication materials.

Social posts and tiles

The below social media post has been developed for your to distribute through your channels.

Post	Tile
<i>Vaccinations now available for NDIS participants aged years 16 and over, and carers of NDIS participants</i>	
<p>Facebook</p> <p>Australia's #COVID19 vaccination is now open to all NDIS participants aged 16 years and over, and carers of NDIS participants of any age.</p> <p>To find out if you are eligible for a vaccine visit the Eligibility Checker: https://covid-vaccine.healthdirect.gov.au/eligibility</p> <p>Twitter/LinkedIn</p> <p>Australia's #COVID19 vaccination program is now open to NDIS participants aged 16 years and over, and carers of NDIS participants of any age.</p> <p>Learn more at www.health.gov.au/COVID-19-vaccines</p> <p>#COVID19vaccines #COVID19 #eligibilitychecker</p> <p>Instagram</p> <p>Australia's #COVID19 vaccination is open to all NDIS participants aged 16 years and over, and carers of NDIS participants of any age.</p> <p>You can get your #COVID19 vaccine at a clinic or vaccination hub near you. Learn more at www.health.gov.au/COVID-19-vaccines</p> <p>#COVID19vaccines #COVID19 #eligibilitychecker</p>	

Vaccinations now available for people 40 years and over

Facebook

The #COVID-19 vaccination is now open to:

- all adults aged 40 to 49
- all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 16 years and over
- NDIS participants aged years 16 and over, and carers of NDIS participants of any age
- temporary visa holders.

To find out if you are eligible for a vaccine visit the Eligibility Checker: <https://covid-vaccine.healthdirect.gov.au/eligibility>

Twitter/LinkedIn

Australia's #COVID19 vaccination program is open to:

- people aged 40 and over
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples aged 16 years and over
- NDIS participants aged years 16 and over, and carers of NDIS participants of any age
- temporary visa holders

Learn more at www.health.gov.au/COVID-19-vaccines

Instagram

Australia's #COVID-19 vaccination program is now open to:

- all adults aged 40 to 49
- all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 16 years and over
- NDIS participants aged years 16 and over, and carers of NDIS participants of any age
- Temporary visa holders aged under 50 years who are eligible for an inwards travel exemption and who have a strong compassionate or compelling reason to leave Australia.

You can get your #COVID19 vaccine at a clinic or vaccination hub near you. Learn more at www.health.gov.au/COVID-19-vaccines

#COVID19vaccines #COVID19
#eligibilitychecker



Resources to support people getting vaccinated

The Department of Health encourages disability providers to have vaccination resources available in [Easy Read](#) format and in [other languages](#) for people getting vaccinated. These resources cover all aspects of the vaccination process including preparing for COVID-19 vaccination and after the COVID-19 vaccination. You can download and print these from the Department of Health website.

**For more information call the National Coronavirus and COVID-19
Vaccination Helpline on 1800 020 080.**