



Australian Government

COVID-19 VACCINATION

Keep your disability workforce up to date by circulating this alert widely in your organisation

Disability provider alert

22 April 2022

Upcoming Webinar: Preparing for winter and the impacts of influenza and COVID-19

The Department of Social Services (DSS), in collaboration with National Disability Services (NDS) is preparing a national webinar for disability service providers. The webinar will provide important information about helping to support high risk people living with disability in managing the impacts of the winter season.

Australia is expecting a challenging flu season combined with a potential increase in COVID-19 infections. It's important that plans are made to ensure support is in place throughout the coming months.

Event Details

Date: Friday, 29 April

Time: 1.30pm to 2.30pm AEST

Location: Online

National Disability Insurance Scheme Practice Standards

The **National Disability Insurance Scheme Practice Standards** require providers to have contingency plans and options in place to ensure continuity of services to participants in the event of an emergency.

In support of this, the National Disability Insurance Agency has engaged a national single provider of workforce support to disability providers.

This aims to support disability service providers, across all states and territories, experiencing workforce disruptions to maintain and/or recover their services as part of their contingency plan.

Support services include:

- triage and assessment to prioritise workforce issues and potential response options
- peer support, coaching and mentoring assistance to help resolve issues
- if required and available, additional workforce support on the ground.

To access the national single provider of workforce support, NDIS providers should email provider.support@ndis.gov.au.

The following supporting resources are also available online:

- Organisational support tools
- Workforce support tools
- Participant supports
- General supports

Visit [For providers - coronavirus \(COVID-19\) | NDIS](#) to access these resources.

Continuing Commonwealth in-reach support

The Commonwealth will continue to actively offer in-reach vaccinations to residential disability settings, including through GPs and pharmacies. In-reach clinics provided by Commonwealth Vaccination Administration Provider Program (VAPP) providers continue to be available as a vaccination pathway where primary care channels, such as GPs and pharmacies, are not available.

Disability service providers may submit an expression of interest (EOI) to the Department of Health for Commonwealth in-reach support, where in-reach is still the most appropriate vaccination service. The EOI form is available [here](#).

More information on the Winter dose, vaccination options, and the in-reach program for people with disability is available on the Department of Health website.

Enquiries can be sent to: DisabilityCovidVaccineDelivery@health.gov.au

RAT demo videos for disability support workers

Queensland Health have published a series of videos to support disability support workers with administering a rapid antigen test. The videos are now published [here](#). There is also a new Easy Read factsheet on '[How to complete a saliva rapid antigen test](#)'.

Assistance for people with disability and their families/friends/providers

Disability Gateway on **1800 643 787** - open from 8 am to 8 pm, Monday to Friday.

Department of Health website at www.health.gov.au

National Coronavirus and COVID-19 Vaccine Helpline on **1800 020 080** (people with disability, their families and carers should select Option 5, disability workers should select Option 4).

For information in a language other than English, call the National Coronavirus and COVID-19 Vaccine Helpline on **1800 020 080** and press option 8. This is a free service.

The Translating and Interpreting Service is also available on **131 450**.

For people who are deaf, or have a hearing or speech impairment, call the National Relay Service on **133 677**.

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