



# Easy English

## NDIS Reform and Recent Government Changes



### What is the NDIS?



The **NDIS** is the **National Disability Insurance Scheme**. It helps people with disability pay for the supports they need.

Supports can help with:

- Daily life
- Learning new skills
- Getting involved in community
- Living more independently

### Why is the NDIS changing?



The Australian Government says:

- The NDIS is **not working the way it should**
- It costs **much more money than planned**
- Some supports being paid for are **not disability supports**
- Some people are **not getting safe or good-quality services**



The Government wants to:

- Protect the NDIS for the future
- Make sure money is spent on the **right supports**
- Improve safety and fairness

These changes are called NDIS reform [[health.gov.au](http://health.gov.au)]

### New NDIS Law (2024)



In **August 2024**, the Government passed a new law called:

**The National Disability Insurance Scheme Amendment**

**(Getting the NDIS Back on Track No. 1) Act 2024**

This law **does not change everything straight away**. It creates a **framework** to start reforming the NDIS step by step

### What changes are planned?

#### 1 Clearer rules about what the NDIS will pay for

The law creates a **new, clearer definition of "NDIS supports"**.

This means:

- There will be a **clear list** of supports the NDIS **will pay for**
- There will also be a list of supports the NDIS **will not pay for**
- This helps reduce confusion for participants and providers

#### 2 Stronger focus on needs and daily life

When deciding if someone can access the NDIS, the focus will be on:

- How a person's disability affects their daily life
- What supports they need to function and participate

This is instead of focusing only on a medical diagnosis

#### 3 Changes to NDIS plans and budgets

Future changes may include:

- Clearer information in plans
- More consistent budgeting
- Better explanation of how funds can be used

These changes are meant to make plans **fairer and easier to understand**

#### 4 More power to protect people

The **NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission** will have **more power** to:

- Monitor providers
- Act when services are unsafe or poor quality
- Protect people with disability from harm

### Minister Butler's Announcement



**Minister Mark Butler**, the Minister for Disability and the NDIS, has said:

- The NDIS must be **financially sustainable**
- Money must go to **people who need the highest level of support**
- The Scheme must return to its **original purpose**
- Safety and quality must improve across the system [[health.gov.au](http://health.gov.au)]



The Government says these changes are needed to make sure:

- The NDIS is still available in the future
- People with disability are properly supported

### Will changes happen straight away?



Many changes:

- Will happen **over time**
- Need new **NDIS Rules**
- Will be introduced in **stages**



The Government says it will:

- Talk with people with disability
- Work with families, carers and providers
- Use **co design**, which means designing changes together [[health.gov.au](http://health.gov.au)]

### Where can I get more information?



You can read more here:

**Australian Government - NDIS reforms and reviews**

<https://www.health.gov.au/topics/disability-and-carers/reforms-and-reviews> [[health.gov.au](http://health.gov.au)]

**NDIS website (updates and Easy Read resources)**

<https://www.ndis.gov.au>