



See **Differently**

# Preparing for the NDIS

## What is the NDIS?

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is the Federal Government's way of providing individualised support for people with permanent disability. With the NDIS, you will have more choice and control over the support and services you receive and have far greater say in how you live your life.

## What will the NDIS fund?

Support services that are funded by the NDIS aim to help you reach your goals, objectives and aspirations in a range of areas. These aim to help you to increase your independence, increase social and economic participation and develop your capacity to actively take part in the community.

The NDIS will pay for supports that are related to your disability and are required for you to live an ordinary life and achieve your goals.

## What services can I receive?

### The types of support the NDIS may fund include:

- Independent living services, to help you maintain your lifestyle, and strategies to assist you with cooking, cleaning, and safety around your home
- Transport to enable your participation in community, social, economic and daily life activities
- Workplace assistance for you to successfully obtain or maintain employment
- Counselling and support services to help you and your family discuss and adapt to your vision loss
- The purchase and training of equipment, aids and adaptive technology
- Home assessments and modifications, including tactile marking and changes to lighting
- Health and wellness activities, such as sporting, cooking, craft, travel and exercise groups
- Print alternative services to provide material in a variety of accessible formats  
- Braille, large print, or audio
- Mobility equipment and training, including white cane and adaptive technology, or a guide dog

## Why choose the RSB to deliver your NDIS services?

The RSB is committed to supporting people who are blind or vision impaired. We provide a wide range of specialist skilled staff who understand the unique challenges relating to vision loss.

The RSB is knowledgeable, innovative, and responsive to your individual needs.

You can be confident that we will continue to provide access to the skills and services you need to remain independent and an integral part of the community.

## Step by step guide to accessing the NDIS

1. **Contact the RSB for Assistance.** Our team is here to help you understand how the NDIS can support you, how to utilise your current NDIS Plan and answer any questions you may have.
2. **Access Request Form.** To become a participant of the NDIS, you will need to complete an Access Request Form which can be obtained by calling the NDIS on 1800 800 110. Additional information is attached to your Access Request Form from your General Practitioner or Specialist. RSB Pathway Support Specialists can assist you with providing additional information of what may need to be included in this form to become eligible for an NDIS Plan.
3. Once you have been deemed **eligible for an NDIS Plan**, you will be contacted by a Local Area Coordinator within your area. Local Area Coordinators will meet with you to discuss supports required to assist you in your daily life and beginning building your NDIS Plan.
4. **Your Plan.** Your plan will include your goals, what and how much will be funded by the NDIS, information about who can provide these supports, and who will manage the funding of your supports.
5. **Managing your funds.** Funds can be managed by you, the NDIS, or a plan management service (or a combination). The RSB can support you with information about how you can manage your funds.
6. If you would like to engage with **RSB Services using funding within your NDIS plan**, our Pathway Support Specialists can assist by discussing your needs, organising appropriate paperwork and refer to RSB Services .
7. **Support Coordination.** You may have funds allocated to help you coordinate your plan. The RSB can assist you to self-manage your plan and engage the service providers of your choice.
8. **Improved Daily Living.** You may have funds allocated to assist with increasing your independence, safety and community participation within various daily living activities. RSB Services such as Occupational Therapy, Orientation and Mobility, Adaptive Technology, Guide Dogs Services, Community Groups or Counselling can assist you by conducting appropriate assessments, training and community engagement opportunities to assist you to live the life you would like to live.
9. **Plan Review After 12 months.** An NDIS representative will contact you to arrange a planning meeting to review your plan and determine additional supports you may require in your next NDIS plan to continue working towards your goals. RSB staff can assist with providing supporting documentation to support your funding requirements to continue working towards your goals.

If you have any questions about the NDIS, your plan, or accessing RSB services, please call our NDIS Support Service on **1300 944 306** or email **CustomerFirst@rsb.org.au**