

National Disability Insurance Scheme update



HealthShare
EnableNSW

Information for prescribers

Which EnableNSW services or programs will be covered by the NDIS?

Our programs which provide equipment (for example wheelchairs or beds), consumable products (for example continence products) and prosthetic limbs will see some change. **The following table is a summary of these changes.**

Many of our services, including the funding of respiratory consumables and equipment (such as ventilators or oxygen concentrators), remain unchanged and will continue to be available to people of all ages.

There are approximately 26,000 people currently being assisted by EnableNSW who will not be eligible for the NDIS, either due to their age or health condition, and our support for them and new people requiring assistance will continue into the future.

Program	NDIS coverage
Aids and Equipment Program (AEP) (including reorders of continence and home enteral nutrition products and repairs and maintenance)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• People 65 years of age and over (currently or at the time of applying for assistance) will not be eligible for the NDIS and remain with EnableNSW.• People under 65 years who access the AEP may be eligible for the NDIS<ul style="list-style-type: none">– People under 65 years who access the AEP <u>and</u> receive specialist disability supports from the NSW Department of Family and Community Services (FACS) will be transitioned to the NDIS during 2016, 2017 and 2018 in line with the phasing arrangements agreed between the NSW and Australian Governments.– People under 65 years who receive assistance through the AEP and <u>do not</u> receive specialist disability services through FACS may be eligible for the NDIS. They should check their eligibility and apply as soon as the NDIS is available in their area.
Prosthetic Limb Service (PLS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• People 65 years of age and over (currently or at the time of applying for assistance) will not be eligible for the NDIS and remain with EnableNSW.• People under 65 years will be eligible and should apply as soon as the NDIS is available in their area.• EnableNSW will still provide interim (first) limbs for eligible people in NSW regardless of their age.

Where and how can people check their eligibility for the NDIS?

People can check their eligibility for the NDIS by completing the online Access Checklist at www.ndis.gov.au/ndis-access-checklist or by calling the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) on 1800 800 110.

How will EnableNSW assist with my client's transition to the NDIS?

Once a person is deemed eligible for the NDIS, we can provide them with a list of equipment and services they access through EnableNSW to take to their NDIS planning meeting.

To request this information, clients or their carers can email us at enable@health.nsw.gov.au with the subject heading 'Request for Equipment Information for NDIS Planning.'



The NDIS is available in my client's area from 1 July - how long should I continue to send Equipment Request Forms (ERFs) to EnableNSW after that time?

If your client is currently using EnableNSW or has used our services in the past, please continue to send ERFs to us until they are confirmed as an NDIS Participant *and* have an NDIS Plan in place.

When your client starts planning meetings, we recommend they make sure any equipment on EnableNSW waiting lists, consumable orders and a repairs budget for their existing equipment are included in their NDIS Plan.

To request this information, clients or their carers can email us at enable@health.nsw.gov.au with the subject heading '*Request for Equipment Information for NDIS Planning.*' This will ensure funding for outstanding equipment, including funding for repairs and maintenance of that equipment, is included in their NDIS Plan.

My client has been confirmed as an NDIS Participant however their planning meeting is not for another 3 months. Should I send an ERF to EnableNSW for equipment in the interim?

We can accept applications for equipment for existing clients up until their NDIS Plans are in place. Any applications will be considered and processed within our existing guidelines and waiting times.

During the transition phase we recommend the person makes sure any equipment on waiting lists, consumable orders and a repairs budget for their existing equipment are captured in their NDIS Plan. To request this information, clients or their carers can email us at enable@health.nsw.gov.au with the subject heading '*Request for Equipment Information for NDIS Planning.*'

EnableNSW and the NDIA will be working together to ensure funding is covered for any equipment requests in progress.

We also encourage you to discuss the urgency of any equipment needs with your clients to determine the best way forward. If you're unsure, please call us on 1800 362 253 to speak with the advisor on call.

Once my client has an NDIS Plan in place, should I still use the EnableNSW form?

No, the NDIA will advise you of any required paperwork and forms for your client.

Are repairs and maintenance still completed by EnableNSW once my client has moved to the NDIS?

Once a person has an NDIS Plan in place, the NDIA is responsible for funding of any equipment repairs and maintenance and will advise about individual arrangements.

EnableNSW is a registered provider for the NDIS and is available for coordination of equipment repairs and maintenance for existing clients once their NDIS Plan is in place. If they wish to continue using EnableNSW for repairs and maintenance, this simply needs to be specified in their NDIS Plan, along with a budget to cover the repairs.

Some people do not wish to access the NDIS and prefer to request their equipment, repairs and maintenance through EnableNSW – can they continue to do this after 1 July 2018?

Once it is available statewide, the NDIS is the appropriate funding option for receiving disability support for people under 65 years. While we will continue to support existing EnableNSW clients during the transition period, we strongly encourage those who are eligible to transition to the NDIS.

EnableNSW is a registered provider to the NDIS and existing clients can still choose to use us for equipment supply and coordination of repairs and maintenance – this just needs to be specified in their NDIS Plan, along with a budget for the required services.



My client has not used EnableNSW before. Are they still eligible for EnableNSW support during the transition period?

If your client is under 65 years old and lives in an area where the NDIS is *available*, the NDIS is the most appropriate first funding option and they should contact the NDIA.

If your client is under 65 years of age and lives in an area where the NDIS is *not yet available*, they may be eligible for EnableNSW support in the interim and we encourage them to submit a [Consumer Application Form](#).

Please note that existing Family and Community Services (FACS) clients who receive specialist disability supports will automatically be eligible for the NDIS once it is available in their area.

People 65 years of age and over should continue to be referred to EnableNSW in the first instance, assuming that they do not have other funding sources which are more appropriate.

What information should my client take to their NDIS planning meeting?

We encourage them to take information about their current equipment (including any outstanding Equipment Request Forms submitted to EnableNSW), repairs, maintenance and consumables.

We can provide them with a list of equipment and services they access through EnableNSW to take to their meeting. To request this information, clients or their carers can email us at enable@health.nsw.gov.au with the subject heading '*Request for Equipment Information for NDIS Planning*.'

Does equipment need to be returned to EnableNSW if a client becomes an NDIS Participant?

Once a person becomes an NDIS Participant, if the equipment they already have continues to meet their need then it should be included in their NDIS Plan. Funding for repairs and maintenance of this equipment should also be factored into a person's NDIS Plan.

Any equipment originally provided by EnableNSW that no longer meets a person's needs, or is no longer being used, should be returned to us. This can be organised by calling 1800 362 253 or by emailing enable@health.nsw.gov.au.

Will EnableNSW continue to support clients as a registered NDIS provider?

Yes. While funding responsibility for some services will transitioned to the NDIA, EnableNSW is a registered provider to the NDIA and can continue to provide co-ordination of equipment supports approved in your client's plans (for example placing orders for new equipment, ordering consumable products or contacting suppliers to arrange repairs). This simply needs to be stated in their NDIS Plan, along with a budget for the required services.

Will EnableNSW still exist after full rollout of the NDIS?

Yes. There are approximately 26,000 people currently being assisted by EnableNSW who will not be eligible for the NDIS, either due to their age or health condition, and we will continue to provide an important service for them, and for new people requiring assistance, after NDIS rollout.

The NDIS does not cover many of the services offered by EnableNSW, and these services remain unchanged.

Who do I contact for further information?

For further information about EnableNSW, please call us on 1800 362 253 or email enable@health.nsw.gov.au.

For all NDIS enquiries please call their national hotline on 1800 800 110, visit the NDIS website at www.ndis.gov.au or the NSW Government site at www.ndis.nsw.gov.au.