



NDIS acronyms

| Acronym/weird words | Meaning |
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| NDIS | National Disability Insurance Scheme |
| NDIA | National Disability Insurance Agency — The organisation responsible for the NDIS |
| LAC | Local Area Coordinator — For participants over 9 years old the NDIS has outsourced the job of supporting participants to disability organisations. They are contracted to run workshops on accessing the NDIS, be planners in the process for submitting to the NDIS and also to do plan reassessments. Your LAC should be hooked into the local supports in the community for people with disability. Both those that are linked with the NDIS and those that are run by local councils etc. They should also be able to connect you to supports like education, health and transport. |
| SC | Support Coordinator — A support coordinator will support you in understanding and implementing supports that have been approved in your plan. They should help you find providers, services and supports that work to help you pursue your goals. Support coordinators cannot sign service agreements on behalf of participants. A support coordinator is usually the primary point of contact between the family of the participant or individual with a disability and the service providers. There are three levels of Support Coordination, each serving a different purpose and level of assistance, determined by the NDIS as part of your plan development. |

Acronym/weird words Meaning

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| PM | <p>Plan Manager — I find it helpful to think of a plan manager as a paid bookkeeper. A plan manager should be covered by NDIS funding if you elect to use one. They help you to monitor your funds and provide financial reporting. They are NOT support coordinators, and their role is not to comment on your choice of supports or direct you to specific providers. Plan Managers are only there to help you understand what can and cannot be paid for out of your various budgets and how much remains in each and to carry out the payment of invoices and claiming from NDIS. Plan managers can also train and coach participants in how to take control of their plan themselves. A plan manager requires a service agreement to be signed.</p> <p>IMPORTANTLY: an informal support, for example, a family member or friend CANNOT be paid to be a plan manager without the written approval of the NDIS FIRST.</p> |
| SW | <p>Support Worker — A support worker is a person employed to provide care to people with disabilities. Their level and types of qualifications vary considerably, from some being able to provide therapy assistance and implementation of home programs assigned by allied health workers, others providing transport and assistance outside of the home for participation in community activities, others assisting with practical household tasks such as cooking. There are a number of ways to find support workers, you can sign an agreement with an individual support worker who provides their own ABN (make sure they have appropriate insurance) or go through an agency or support worker platform such as Mable or Hire-Up.</p> |
| RCC | <p>Remote Community Connectors — community based NDIA representatives that support culturally appropriate delivery of the NDIS in remote and very remote communities.</p> |
| Access request | <p>Simply means applying to become a participant.</p> |
| Access requirements | <p>The eligibility requirements to be on the NDIS, age, residency status, disability before applying.</p> |
| ASQ | <p>Ages and Stages Questionnaire — which is a developmental screening tool that pinpoints developmental progress and identifies delays in children who are younger than 5½ years old.</p> |
| AT | <p>Assistive Technology — Any device, or system, that allows individuals to perform a task that is otherwise harder or less safe. For example, a walker, a wheelchair, AAC, a hearing aid or an adaptive spoon.</p> |
| ECI | <p>Early Childhood Intervention — Supports and services for children with a developmental delay or disability and their families.</p> |
| ECP | <p>Early Childhood Partners — funded by the NDIA to deliver an early childhood approach. These organisations are where your planner will be from when they are under six years with developmental delay, or nine years with disability.</p> |
| ESP | <p>Early Supports Plan — A time-limited capacity-building plan for children younger than six years with developmental concerns.</p> |
| Funded supports | <p>Supports that the NDIS funds based on what is reasonable and necessary for a participant to pursue their goals, in addition to the support provided by family, friends, and other community and government services. There are three budgets of support that the NDIS plan is broken up into: Core Support, Capacity Building Support, Capital Support.</p> |
| Informal supports | <p>The friends, family and community that support a person with disability for example, parents.</p> |
| Key worker | <p>The person who liaises with an early childhood intervention professional's team and other services when working with a child's family and carers to support them.</p> |
| My place portal | <p>The NDIS website area and app that you can log into and do NDIS stuff for example, submit invoices, check your budget etc.</p> |

Acronym/weird words Meaning

Core funding

Core supports funding is one of the three main categories of funding. It includes:

- Consumables (for example, nappies and other continence products, specialised eating equipment such as an adaptive knife or spoon for self feeding, low cost assistive technology).
- Assistance with Social and Community Participation. For example a support worker to help you participate in social and community activities (birthday parties or sport lessons).
- Assistance with Daily Life. For example, assistance with everyday needs. For children this might include support to feed, dress themselves or toileting.

Capacity building

In many ways this is the most flexible of your three funding areas (particularly if you're self-managed). Your capacity building fund taps directly into your goals. So all spending from your capacity building fund needs to relate towards achieving the goals set in your NDIS plan. Therapy, services, equipment and training (both for the participant and the 'informal supports') that contribute towards the goals stated in the plan can be paid for out of the capacity building budgets.

Capacity building is broken up into subcategories, some of which are more relevant to older participants. The main ones you are likely to see in your plans are:

- Improved Daily Living: CB Daily Activity — assessment, training, or therapy to help increase your skills, independence, and community participation. They might be group or individual programs delivered outside or inside the home.
- Improved Relationships: CB Relationships — Support to develop positive behaviours and interactions with others.
- Increased Social and Community Participation: CB Social Community and Civic Participation — Development and training to increase your skills so you can participate in community, social and recreational activities.
- Support Coordination: Pays for a plan manager if you decide not to be 'self managed.'

Capital supports

This is the third category of your NDIS budget. These are generally big spend items and often they are 'stated' meaning the NDIS has approved a particular item and you can't deviate from this and pick something else instead. For example, assistive technology like a walker or wheelchair or special supportive chair, home or vehicle modifications.