



Psychosocial disability and the NDIS

This resource offers a handful of key points to help you understand the NDIS in the context of psychosocial disability, and to support someone making an access request.

Visit www.tspforall.com.au to access comprehensive resources and training on this topic. Ensure you are well informed before beginning an access request!

What is psychosocial disability?

Psychosocial disability is when a person suffers substantial impairments as a result of their mental health condition, impacting their ability to carry out every day activities. Not everyone who has a mental health condition has psychosocial disability, and not everyone who has a psychosocial disability will be eligible for the NDIS. There is a [set of criteria](#) that a person must meet to join the NDIS.

What will the NDIS fund?

The NDIS is an individualised scheme, so what is funded for one person may not be funded for another. All NDIS funded supports must meet the [NDIS's 'reasonable and necessary' criteria](#). The NDIS works alongside mainstream mental health services - it doesn't duplicate them. A person can access both the disability support pension and an NDIS plan.

How to support someone with their NDIS application

With the person present, call the NDIS on 1800 800 110 to initiate a verbal access request. This is a phonecall confirming the person's age, residency and consent for you to support them. Alternatively, you can complete all sections a of the NDIS's standard [access request form](#) except for **Section F**.

Use the [Evidence of psychosocial disability form](#) to collect evidence and then [post](#) or [email](#) it to the NDIS.

- Complete Part B first - this should be done by a support worker or other appropriate health professional who knows the person well and has completed LSP-16 training.
- Have a GP or psychiatrist (or other appropriate prescribing clinician) review section B and complete section A. A good statement of permanency from the doctor or other clinical professional is important!
- You should write a [cover letter](#) to accompany the form.

TIP: Don't include conflicting, outdated, or irrelevant information (e.g. trauma history, general health information). Do describe what the person cannot do on a daily basis without support and what support is helping to maintain their current level of function.

Use the NDIS [supporting evidence form](#) to address co-occurring disabilities (if present) and describe the disabilities as separately as possible.

Learn more

www.tspforall.com.au has detailed information on the NDIS application process, supporting participants, operating as an NDIS provider and more. Resources include training modules, templates, fact sheets, case studies and more.