



Younger people in residential aged care

Supports the NDIS will fund for younger participants in residential aged care

About the NDIS

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (the Scheme) is a new way of providing community linking and individualised support for people with disability, their families and carers.

The National Disability Insurance Agency (the Agency) has been established to implement the Scheme which has been launched in a number of sites (see the [NDIS website](https://www.ndis.gov.au) at [ndis.gov.au](https://www.ndis.gov.au) for more detail).

The Agency will build relationships with mainstream service providers and the local community. This will improve their understanding about how they can assist people with disability.

Younger people living in residential aged care

A number of people under the age of 65 are currently living in, or could possibly enter, aged care facilities.

Younger people may be living in a residential aged care facility if they have been unable to access alternative housing and care due to their high-level care needs.

How will the Scheme support people being cared for in the aged care sector?

The Scheme aims to support participants to live in community-based settings or other age-appropriate settings where possible (see the [NDIS website](https://www.ndis.gov.au) for more detail).

People under 65 years of age living in residential aged care will be eligible to receive assistance from the Scheme including:

- a planning and assessment conversation and support to explore alternative age-appropriate living arrangements and to make progress towards goals;
- assistance with care-related costs charged by an aged care provider (excluding daily living expenses or accommodation charges);
- supports to access age-appropriate social, civic and community activities and sustain informal support networks with family, friends and carers.
- therapy including allied health supports (e.g. occupational therapy, speech pathology and physiotherapy) which have been shown to improve independence, social and economic participation in the community or to instruct delegated support workers to manage highly complex needs.
- specialised equipment supports related to a person's on-going functional impairment which are not part of the residential aged care package or which may be provided in the treatment of a medical condition.

How can the Scheme assist people to move into the community?

Some younger people living in residential aged care may want to be supported to live in the community.

The Scheme can fund modifications to make a participant's home accessible. The Scheme can also assist participants to live independently with supports such as personal care to help with showering or dressing, or assistance preparing meals and cleaning.

What residential aged care supports are provided?

Younger people in residential aged care often have complex support needs that bridge the aged care, disability, health, and housing and community services sectors.

Residential aged care is designed to provide accommodation, personal and nursing care for older people. However, residential aged care supports people with high and complex care needs when alternative care is not available.

If a person wishes to enter aged care they will need an assessment by an Aged Care Assessment Team (ACAT) which is required to access government-subsidised residential aged care.

Residential aged care costs

NDIS participants may be asked to pay fees to contribute to accommodation costs, living expenses and care services which the Scheme won't cover.

1. Daily fees

Daily fees help cover day-to-day living costs, such as meals, cleaning, laundry, heating and cooling and care costs such as nursing and personal care and include:

- a basic daily fee (everyone pays)
- an income-tested fee – an additional daily fee to pay if you receive income above a certain amount.

An income assessment is used to determine whether or not you will need to pay an income-tested fee – and how much you will be asked to pay will be determined through an income assessment.

2. Accommodation payments

If your assets are more than a certain amount set by the Australian Government, you might be asked to make an accommodation payment.

Accommodation payments (calculated according to your assets) go towards your aged care home accommodation and are determined by the Department of Human Services or the Department of Veterans' Affairs.

What happens if the NDIS doesn't fund the supports I need?

The NDIS will provide some supports for participants who are younger people in residential aged care. However the Scheme cannot fund a support that is the responsibility of a residential aged care facility or healthcare system to provide, even if the aged or health care system does not provide it.

The Scheme may still be able to provide assistance to participants. For example, a Local Area Coordinator can assist the participant to make contact with providers in community-based care settings and discuss their needs where appropriate.

What happens next?

Participants and their families will discuss their goals with the Agency as part of their planning conversation.

The participant's plan will include the supports the Scheme will fund for participants and those supports which are the responsibility of other parties.

More information

- Visit the NDIS website at ndis.gov.au
- Email enquiries@ndis.gov.au
- Call 1800 800 110* Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm EST.
- For people with hearing or speech loss:
 - TTY: 1800 555 677
 - Speak and Listen: 1800 555 727
 - For people who need help with English TIS: 131 450

* 1800 calls are free from fixed lines; however calls from mobiles may be charged.