

# The National Disability Insurance Scheme and people aged 65 and over

Fact sheet

Updated:

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## Key points:

- If you are aged 65 years and over, you are not eligible to access the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).
- If you are aged 65 years and over, and you currently receive disability supports, you will not be disadvantaged. You will continue to receive supports that achieve similar outcomes to those you currently receive.

This fact sheet explains what the NDIS means for people with disability aged 65 and over.

## What happens to my supports if I am aged 65 years or over when the NDIS is implemented?

The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) is the agency responsible for determining NDIS eligibility. To become an NDIS participant, you must meet residency and disability or early intervention access requirements and be under 65 years when you enter the NDIS.

You are not required to do anything at this stage and services will continue as normal.

The important thing for people with disability aged 65 years and over to know is that if you are currently receiving specialist disability supports, you will not be disadvantaged. You will continue to receive supports that achieve similar outcomes to those you currently receive.

If you are 65 years and over and do not currently receive specialist disability support, or you are diagnosed with a disability after the age of 65 years, you will receive support from the Commonwealth aged care system.

## When will the Continuity of Supports (CoS) program be in place across NSW?

Arrangements between NSW and the Commonwealth governments for Continuity of Supports for people over 65 has been agreed.

The CoS program was introduced in the Hunter New England, Nepean Blue Mountains regions and Southern NSW in December 2016. We expect the CoS program to be in place in the:

- Central Coast, Northern Sydney, Western Sydney and South Western Sydney areas from 1 May 2017
- Illawarra / Shoalhaven, Mid North Coast, Murrumbidgee areas and Western NSW from 1 December 2017

Visit [www.ndis.nsw.gov.au](http://www.ndis.nsw.gov.au) for more information about the rollout of the NDIS in NSW

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- Far West NSW, Sydney, Northern NSW and South Eastern Sydney from 1 May 2018.

## What happens if I turn 65 years after I become an NDIS participant?

If you turn 65 years after you have become an NDIS participant you will have a choice. You can either continue to receive disability supports in the NDIS or receive supports through the Commonwealth aged care system.

## What happens to my supports if I choose to continue as a participant in the NDIS after I turn 65 years?

Nothing. Your supports continue as they did before you were 65 years of age.

## Where can I get more information?

To find out more information, contact the Department of Health on email [CommonwealthCoS@health.gov.au](mailto:CommonwealthCoS@health.gov.au).

You can also speak to your service provider for more information.

Service providers can contact their local FACS Contract Manager or email the Commonwealth directly at [CommonwealthCoS@health.gov.au](mailto:CommonwealthCoS@health.gov.au).