

FAQs

NABS AND NDIS

What is NDIS?

NDIS is the National Disability Insurance Scheme. NDIS is the new way of providing support to Australians with a permanent and significant disability. This includes interpreting services for deaf and hard of hearing people who use sign language to communicate.

Why do I need to know about NDIS?

Over the next three years, the money provided by the Australian Government to NABS for interpreting will move to the NDIS.

You can still book NABS but NABS appointments will be paid for through NDIS. This will happen as NDIS becomes available in all areas of Australia.

When NDIS comes to your area, and if you are under 65 years, you will have to go to NDIS to get funding for your interpreting needs. This can include when a deaf person requires interpreting to attend appointments for their children or other family members.

You can continue to get NABS free services until you have NDIS funding. When you have NDIS funding and a package number, you need to tell NABS when you make a booking. The cost of your NABS service will be taken out of your NDIS funding.

If you are over 65, nothing will change for now. You keep using NABS. Things may change in the future as the government makes decisions about services for people over 65.

Do I have a choice about joining NDIS?

Yes, you have a choice, but...

Please remember that the government has said that “if NDIS is in your area but you do not join - then you cannot use NABS free service any more”.

What happens if I can't get NDIS?

Not all people will get NDIS. The Government has rules about who can get NDIS funding.

If you cannot get NDIS, the Government has said you can continue to get NABS free service. This may change as Government makes plans for the future of services like NABS.

How can NABS help me with NDIS?

NABS is a registered provider under the NDIS. This means people who get support from NDIS (they are called Participants) can choose to continue to use NABS. NDIS allows people to choose who they get services from.

NABS can also help you to plan for NDIS by providing information on how often you use its services for private medical appointments. This is very important information as you will need to include ALL your interpreting needs in your NDIS Plan. This includes going to doctor, specialist, dentist, physio and other appointments.

Will NABS still be free with NDIS?

For now, NABS will provide interpreters free of charge to people over 65 and those who do not get NDIS funding. It will also be free until people have their NDIS plan.

NABS funding from the government will continue until all Deaf people who can get NDIS funding have a plan in place. NABS funding will slowly move to NDIS over the next three years.

For people who get NDIS, money for interpreting will be paid from their funding packages. People do not pay. Government pays NABS from NDIS funding.

MORE INFORMATION

Where can I find more information about NDIS?

You can find out more information about the NDIS at www.ndis.gov.au

When is it coming to my area?

For start dates in each state and territory visit the NDIS website at www.ndis.gov.au

How will it affect me?

To check your eligibility for the NDIS visit the NDIS Access Checklist at www.ndis.gov.au/ndis-access-checklist

CHANGES TO NABS – from JULY 1, 2016

What is NABS new open office hours?

8am to 6pm Monday to Friday.

Closed National Public Holidays (Christmas Day, Good Friday etc).

Can I have an interpreter any time?

Yes.

NABS staff will see your booking when they are in the office 8am to 6pm.

Interpreters can be booked for any time.

What if I have doctor appointment on Saturday?

Please send in your request by Friday 12pm, so NABS staff can book your interpreter.