The Agreement

From 1 July 2014, Western Australia will participate in a two-year launch of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), using the **WA NDIS My Way model**. The My Way model will operate in two launch sites:

- Lower South West, from 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2016
- Cockburn/Kwinana, from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016

Am I eligible to participate?

Eligibility criteria for WA NDIS My Way launch sites will align with the NDIS eligibility requirements. To participate in WA NDIS My Way in the Lower South West (1 July 2014 to 30 June 2016) and Cockburn/Kwinana (1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016) you will need to meet each of the eligibility requirements outlined below, including age, residency and disability or early intervention requirements.

**Age requirements**

A person meets the age requirements if they:

- are aged less than 65 years on 1 July 2014 (for Lower South West) or 1 July 2015 (for Cockburn/Kwinana); or
- are over 65 years of age but currently in receipt of Disability Services Commission provided and funded services.

**Residency requirements**

A person meets the residency requirements if they:

- are an Australian citizen OR the holder of a permanent visa OR a special category visa holder who is a protected SCV holder; and
- permanently reside in the Lower South West\(^1\) (on 1 July 2014) or Cockburn/Kwinana\(^2\) (on 1 July 2015) regions of Western Australia.

Note: If a person moves into the Lower South West or Cockburn/Kwinana regions after the launch commences, there are limited circumstances in which participation can still occur:

- The person will need to have moved into the launch areas for a reason other than to access the NDIS (for example, employment, education, health care or family support).
- There also need to be exceptional circumstances (for example the person would suffer significant financial / personal hardship if they are unable to access the NDIS\(^3\)).

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\(^1\) The Lower South West region includes the Shires of Augusta-Margaret River, Boyup Brook, Bridgetown-Greenbushes, Busselton, Donnybrook-Balingup, Manjimup and Nannup.

\(^2\) The Cockburn/Kwinana region includes the City of Cockburn and the Town of Kwinana.
Disability requirements
A person meets the disability requirements if they have a disability which:

- is attributable to an intellectual, cognitive, neurological, sensory or physical impairment or to one or more impairments attributable to a psychiatric condition; and
- the impairment or impairments are, or are likely to be, permanent; and
- the impairment or impairments result in substantially reduced functional capacity to undertake, or psychosocial functioning in undertaking, one or more of the following activities: communication, social interaction, learning, mobility, self care, self management; and
- the impairment or impairments affect the individual’s capacity for social or economic participation; and
- the person is likely to require support under the NDIS for their lifetime.

Early intervention requirements
A person meets the early intervention requirements if they:

- have one or more identified intellectual, cognitive, neurological, sensory or physical impairments that are, or are likely to be, permanent; or
- have one or more identified impairments that are attributable to a psychiatric condition and are, or are likely to be, permanent; or
- are a child who has developmental delay; and
- the Regional Director is satisfied that provision of early intervention supports for the person is likely to benefit them by reducing their future needs for supports in relation to disability; and
- the Regional Director is satisfied that provision of early intervention supports for the person is likely to benefit them by:
  (i) mitigating or alleviating the impact of the person’s impairment upon their functional capacity to undertake communication, social interaction, learning, mobility, self care or self management; or
  (ii) preventing the deterioration of such functional capacity; or
  (iii) improving such functional capacity; or
  (iv) strengthening the sustainability of informal supports available to the person, including through building the capacity of the person’s carer.

Note: In certain circumstances, a person with a degenerative condition could meet the early intervention requirements and therefore be eligible to participate.

Further information
For more information about My Way you can:

- email [myway@dsc.wa.gov.au](mailto:myway@dsc.wa.gov.au).


3 Decisions on whether a person meets the limited / exceptional residency circumstances will be determined by the Director General, Disability Services Commission.