

# Your guide to managing your NDIS funds

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) opens up a whole new world of possibilities for people with a disability.

By changing the way that funding is delivered, the NDIS gives you more choice and control over your supports and helps you to achieve your goals in life.

As an NDIS participant, you'll receive your own personal NDIS plan based upon your individual needs and goals. Your NDIS plan will include an overview of your funds, allocated to a maximum of 15 support categories.

How you manage these funds is entirely up to you. We've set out some important information about the different options which are available to you.

## What are the options for managing your NDIS funds?

You have three options when it comes to managing your NDIS funds:

#### 1. Use a professional plan management service

Through a specialist plan management service, such as Plan Management Partners, you can get support managing your NDIS funds and more.

Your plan manager can handle all the administrative tasks that come with managing your NDIS plan, such as paying your invoices, claiming from the NDIS and keeping financial records.

Plan management can also allow you to use your NDIS funds with service providers who aren't registered with the NDIA.

Plan management can be funded by the NDIS – meaning there is no cost to you. Just ensure that plan management is included in your NDIS plan (under the category 'Improved Life Choices').

# 2. Leave your funding with the NDIA

You can get the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) to handle your NDIS funds and pay your service providers, however you are limited to using an NDIS registered list of providers to support your plan.

You'll still be hands-on throughout the process though, as you'll need to set up service agreements with your providers and manage how the service is delivered.

# 3. Manage your funds by yourself

Self-management leaves things entirely in your hands.

You'll set up service agreements with your service providers, pay all of your own invoices and then manually claim the money back from the NDIA.

You'll also be responsible for keeping track of your NDIS related receipts and invoices and regularly reporting how much you spend on services.

An overview of the three fund management options:

	Plan Managed	NDIS Managed	Self Managed
Give you access to all providers	✓	×	✓
Help you find providers	✓	×	×
Pay your bills and manage your invoices	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	×
Manage your service agreements	<b>✓</b>	×	×
Keep track of your spending	<b>✓</b>	×	×

## Which option is right for me?

Many people choose plan management because it offers the most choice and flexibility with the least amount of stress and effort.

But because everyone's situation is different, there is no "one size fits all" answer. The best option for you depends on many factors, including your aspirations, life goals, support needs and how much time and effort you want to put towards managing your funds.

#### How can Plan Management Partners support me?

Plan Management Partners are a leading expert in NDIS plan management. We've helped hundreds of Australians get the most out of their NDIS plans by taking care of the time consuming and tricky paperwork and finding them the best supports for their individual situation.

We're independent, so you have the peace of mind of knowing that we're acting in your best interests.

This fact sheet contains general information and doesn't take your personal circumstances into account. Please consider whether the information is right for you before making a decision.

We'll look after your NDIS plan, so you can look after you.

Contact us now to discuss your options and find out if plan management is right for you.

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