

Do the NDIA fund family members to provide support?



Explaining informal supports and the NDIS

Informal supports play a large part in providing support and care for people with a disability.

The informal support provided by parents, siblings, and other family members are vitally important to people with disabilities. In addition to the support provided, the close relationships that participants have with the people who provide this informal support can also be highly important.

Funding a family member to provide support to a participant can be detrimental to family relationships.

For example, the consequences of funding a family member to provide support may include unintentionally creating an environment where a participant's wishes in relation to their care arrangements or the delivery of their supports is diminished, or there is no or limited respite for the family worker taking on the role of a support worker.

The NDIS takes your informal support network into account when creating your NDIS plan. A support worker is essentially a paid professional who can fill any gaps in your informal network, helping provide essential practical and emotional support.

Generally, the NDIA will only fund family members to provide support in exceptional circumstances. For example, when:

- there is a risk of harm or neglect to the participant.
- there are religious or cultural reasons for funding a family member to provide support; or
- the participant has strong personal views, for example in relation to their privacy or dignity.
- The NDIA will consider the circumstances of each case, any wishes expressed by the participant and

Formal supports fill the gap of your informal support network. Your informal support network is reviewed when creating your NDIS plan.

For more information on what support is generally funded [click here](#)



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