Queensland Advocacy Incorporated

**Our mission is to promote, protect and defend, through advocacy, the fundamental needs and rights and lives of the most vulnerable people with disability in Queensland.**

***Systems and Legal Advocacy for vulnerable people with Disability***

**What are the Access requirements for the NDIS?**

* Do you have Australian residency?
  + an Australian citizen OR
  + hold a Permanent Visa OR
  + Hold a Protected Special Category Visa (you were in Australia on a Special Category Visa on 26 Feb 2001 or had been in Australia for at least 12 months in the 2 years immediately before 26 Feb 2001 and you returned to Australia after that day).
* Are you under 65 years old?
* Do you live in an area where the NDIS is available?
* Do you have an impairment or condition that you will have for the rest of your life?
* Do you usually need support from a person or equipment to do every day things for yourself because of an impairment or condition?
* Do you need support to?
  + Understand and be understood by other people?
  + Make and keep friends?
  + Cope with feelings and emotions?
  + Understand, remember and learn new things?
  + Catch a bus or train?
  + Get out of bed and move around your home and community?
  + Take a bath or shower, dress and eat?
  + Prepare a meal for yourself?
  + Do daily jobs, handle money and make decisions?
  + Participate in activities with other people?
  + Do the grocery shopping?
  + Clean the house and look after the gardens?

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**QAI endorses the objectives, and promotes the principles, of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.**

**Patron: His Excellency The Honorable Paul de Jersey AC**

# Early Intervention

* Do you have an impairment or condition that you will have for the rest of your life?

OR

* Are you under 6 years of age with developmental delay that results in;
  + Substantially reduced functional capacity in one or more of the areas of self-care, receptive and expressive language, cognitive development or motor development and
  + Results in the need for a combination and sequence of special interdisciplinary or generic care, treatment or other services, which are of extended duration, and are individually planned and coordinated.
* There are no supports provided by other systems such as health or education?
* Would early intervention supports be beneficial in:
  + Reducing the impact of your impairment, condition or developmental delay?
  + Improving or reducing the impact of your condition?
  + Helping your family and carers to keep supporting you?

# What supporting documents or evidence are the NDIA looking for at Access?

* Letter of diagnosis
  + Adaptive functioning assessment (e.g. ABAS-3, Vineland3).
  + Communication assessment (e.g. CELF).
  + Behavioural and emotional assessment (e.g. BASC-3).
  + Cognitive assessments (WSC, WAIS or Standford Binet).
* Functional assessments from health / allied health professionals;
  + Physical; GP, Occupational therapist, Physio Therapist, Surgeons, social worker.
  + Intellectual; psychologist, GP, Occupational therapist, social worker.
  + Psychosocial; psychiatrist, psychologist, GP, Occupational therapist, counsellor, social worker.
* Reports from Educational facilitates; Functional assessments written by teachers, Guidance counsellor reports, IQ testing, Verification documents, Individual curriculum plans, or Incident reports.
* Supporting letter: Support workers or organizations, Individual, Family, Friends, Carers.
* Self-administered tests
  + World Health Organization Disability Assessment Schedule <http://www.who.int/classifications/icf/whodasii/en/>
  + Life Skills Profile 16 <https://www.amhocn.org/publications/life-skills-profile-lsp-16>

Functional Assessment: to gain an understanding and measurement of an individual’s current knowledge and ability in activities of daily living.

* What you are unable to do or adjustments you have made to complete tasks.
* What support you require to complete tasks (reminding, physical support, equipment).
* What would assist you to live a better life in these domains?

**Mobility**

* Walking
* Navigating obstacles
* Sitting
* Standing
* Mobility aids

**Communication:**

* Talking
* Understanding others

**Social Participation:**

* Keeping friendships
* Finding friends
* Fine motor sills
* Muscle control
* Range of motion
* Muscle strength and tone
* Age appropriate conversation
* Following directions
* Family relationships
* Intimate relationships
* Grasp
* Endurance
* Appropriate motor responses
* Coordination
* Written communication
* Social appropriateness

**Self-care: the living skills necessary to maintain self**

* + Showering
  + Dressing

**Learning:**

* + Attention and Concentration
* Hygiene/ grooming
* Cooking
* Memory
* Sensorimotor
* Nutrition/ fluid intake
* Cleaning

**Self-Management: high order purposeful activities completed to achieve self-development, social contribution and livelihood**

* + Medication management
  + Sleep patterns
  + Emotional regulation
  + Safety and security (handling sharps, poisons, using electricity and gas, etc.).
  + Responsibility
  + Problem solving
  + Decision making
  + Household management
  + Financial management
  + Clothing care/ laundering
  + Shopping
  + Planning and organizational skills
  + Transport
  + Orientation and direction
  + Vocational paid work, volunteer, studies, and training

***Disclaimer: This publication is for general information only. It must not be relied on as legal advice. You must seek legal advice about your own particular circumstances.***

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