

NDIS Quality and Safeguarding Framework update

21/05/18

The National Disability Insurance Scheme Rules were tabled in Parliament on 18 May 2018. These Rules incorporate the NDIS Practice Standards, the Quality Indicators by which the Standards will be measured, and the Code of Conduct which will apply to both registered and unregistered providers.

The Rules will be considered in Parliament for 15 days, after which time they will be enacted if no objections are made. The Rules are expected to come into effect from 1 July 2018.

There is a lot of information and detail to be digested, but below is a brief overview of a couple of key aspects.

Verification vs Certification

Under the National Disability Insurance Scheme Rules, there will be two assessment methods that apply, depending on the risk profile of the supports provided: verification and certification.

Lower risk supports, such as therapeutic supports, assistance with travel/transport arrangements, and household tasks, will require verification. "Verification" means an assessment by an approved quality auditor against the applicable standard by conducting a desk audit, including reviewing the provider's relevant evidence documentation.

More complex and higher-risk supports, such as assistance with daily personal activities, behaviour support, and early childhood supports, will require certification. In addition, all providers that are bodies corporate or government providers will require certification. "Certification" means an assessment by an approved quality auditor against the applicable standard by conducting (i) the same desk audit as for verification; (ii) a physical inspection of the sites, facilities, equipment and services to be used in the delivery of the supports; and (iii) interviews with key personnel of the provider, as well as with people receiving the supports.

Core Practice Standards plus service specific Standards

The NDIS Practice Standards will be structured so that there is a "Core" module, together with 6 service-specific modules, which are:

- Module 1: High intensity daily personal activities
- Module 2: Specialist behaviour support
- Module 2A: Implementing behavior support plans
- Module 3: Early childhood supports
- Module 4: Specialised support coordination
- Module 5: Specialist disability accommodation

In addition, there will be a separate module, called "Verification", that sets out the standards for providers who must be assessed using verification.

Providers who are required to be certified will need to follow the Core module, together with all of the service-specific modules that may be applicable to the supports they deliver.

Providers who are required to be verified will need to follow the separate "Verification" module of standards.

Type of supports	Assessment method	Which module/s of the Practice Standards?
Accommodation/tenancy assistance	Verification	Module 6: Verification
Assistance animals	Verification	Module 6: Verification
Assistance in coordinating or managing life stages, transitions and supports	Certification	Core module
Assistance to access and maintain employment or higher education	Certification	Core module
Assistance with daily life tasks in a group or shared living arrangement	Certification	Core module
Assistance with daily personal activities	Certification	Core module
Assistance with travel/transport arrangements	Verification	Module 6: Verification
Assistive equipment for recreation	Verification	Module 6: Verification
Assistive products for household tasks	Verification	Module 6: Verification
Assistive products for personal care and safety	Verification	Module 6: Verification
Communication and information equipment	Verification	Module 6: Verification
Community nursing care	Verification	Module 6: Verification
Customised prosthetics	Verification	Module 6: Verification
Development of daily living and life skills	Certification	Core module
Early intervention supports for early childhood	Certification	Core module Module 3: Early childhood supports
Exercise physiology and personal training	Verification	Module 6: Verification
Group and centre-based activities	Certification	Core module
Hearing equipment	Verification	Module 6: Verification
Hearing services	Verification	Module 6: Verification
High intensity daily personal activities	Certification	Core module Module 1: High intensity daily personal activities
Home modifications	Verification	Module 6: Verification
Household tasks	Verification	Module 6: Verification
Innovative community participation	Verification	Module 6: Verification
Interpreting and translation	Verification	Module 6: Verification
Management of funding for supports in participant plans	Verification	Module 6: Verification
Participation in community, social and civic activities	Certification	Core module
Personal mobility equipment	Verification	Module 6: Verification
Specialised driver training	Verification	Module 6: Verification
Specialised hearing services	Verification	Module 6: Verification
Specialised support coordination	Certification	Core module Module 4: Specialised support coordination



Specialised supported employment	Certification	Core module
Specialist disability accommodation only	Certification	Module 5: Specialist disability accommodation
Specialist disability accommodation and one or more other classes of supports	Certification	Core module Module 5: Specialist disability accommodation
Specialist positive behaviour support	Certification	Core module Module 2: Specialist Behaviour Support
Therapeutic supports	Verification	Module 6: Verification
Vehicle modifications	Verification	Module 6: Verification
Vision equipment	Verification	Module 6: Verification