

**Access to transport is an important key to social and economic participation for people with a disability, whether it is a means to access the community, work, study, job-seeking, medical appointments or just to do errands.**

Like many other areas of life, transport arrangements are going to look very different as people transition to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).



## **There are a number of options for you to consider, such as:**

- Plan your transport use so that it can be entirely covered by the transport funds available under the NDIS.
- Build additional transport supports into your NDIS package by utilising other components such as Capacity Building funds for training.
- Purchase your own vehicle and access NDIS Capital funds to carry out vehicle modifications so that you can drive yourself or have another person transport you. Vehicle modification can be considered 'reasonable and necessary' under the NDIS, for example if you need special seating or equipment to get in and out of the vehicle.
- Contract /private transport or bus services – many people utilise these transport services offered by community groups or private transport providers. Examples include Link Community Transport and the Victorian Community Transport Association. You might choose this option if you require door-to-door transport from your home to your daytime activities, place of study or workplace.
- Multi-Purpose Taxi Program (MPTP) is a program that makes transport more accessible and affordable for people with a severe disability. The MPTP Card is issued by Commercial Passenger Vehicles Victoria (CPVV). For further information contact **Commercial Passenger Vehicles Victoria** -Telephone 1800 638 802 (free call) or contact the National Relay Service TTY/Voice 1800 555 677- Speak & Listen 1800 555 727



## What happens if I can't access public transport?

The NDIS do not fund transport supports due to the lack of availability of public transport.

The NDIS will fund transport supports for participants who cannot use public transport without substantial difficulty due to their disability. Generally, transport supports that may be funded by the NDIS include:

- Training and support to use public transport where public transport is a viable option for the participant and the person's mobility device(s) can be used
- Modification to private vehicles and driver assessment and training
- Costs associated with innovative transport options for people who cannot travel independently or use public transport
- Costs associated with the use of taxis or private transport for participants who cannot travel independently or use public transport
- Transport to and from school/educational facility (where this would not substitute for parental responsibility and no other transport options are appropriate).
- While the NDIS allows for participants to receive reasonable and necessary transport assistance, that does not replace state government's responsibility to provide accessible transport.

## What does NDIS transport assistance look like?

The NDIS has three levels of support for transport assistance that will be paid fortnightly in advance:

**Level 1** – Up to \$1,606 per year for participants who are not working, studying or attending day programs but are seeking to enhance their community access.

**Level 2** – Up to \$2,472 per year for participants who are currently working or studying part-time (up to 15 hours a week), participating in day programs and for other social, recreational or leisure activities.

**Level 3** – Up to \$3,456 per year for participants who are currently working, looking for work, or studying, at least 15 hours a week, and are unable to use public transport because of their disability.

Exceptional circumstances: participants can receive higher funding if the participant has supports (mainstream, informal or funded) in their plan that enables their participation in employment.

## Further information

For further information and assistance with your transport needs, contact:

- NDIS - 1800 800 110
- Your support coordinator
- Advocacy groups:
  - VALID – (03) 9416 4003
  - DARU – (03) 9639 5807
  - NDS – (03) 8341 4300

