



Children under 6 years **do not need** to have a diagnosis and can be supported to access NDIS through an **Early Childhood Partner**. (The early childhood partner can support in collecting evidence to justify eligibility where there is no diagnosis).

Children 6-9 years who have not accessed the NDIS before will be still be supported by Early Childhood Partners to access NDIS if they meet eligibility (NDIS eligibility needs to be met including diagnosis of a permanent disability - see <u>'Am I Eligible'</u>). Complete referral to Early Childhood Partner.

Although the access request is best completed through an Early Childhood Partner, children in this age bracket will still follow the application process as determined below (as they need to have treating health professional complete part of the form or be able to provide evidence of diagnosis and assessments).

NDIS Access Pathways for Ages 9-65 years follow process below:

STEP 1	Am I eligible? How do I apply? Check 'Am I Eligible' page to complete a NDIS Checklist to see if you might be eligible. Call 1800 800 110 and make a verbal application OR fill out an Access Request Form (which can be downloaded from the website: (https://ndis.gov.au/how-apply-ndis/what-access-request-form) Your treating health professional will need to complete Section 2 of the Access Request Form, or if you have existing reports or assessments you can send them with the completed form.
STEP 2	 Planning Once 'NDIS Access' has been approved, a participant will proceed to the 'planning' stage with either a LAC (Local area coordinator) OR an NDIA Planner. The purpose of the planning meeting is to discuss the individual's disability related support needs and goals. From this meeting, a draft plan is put together and submitted to the NDIA for a delegate to review and approve the funding to meet goals.
STEP 3	Approval Participant receives approved plan and can choose preferred service providers to help implement NDIS plan and goals.
STEP 4	Put the plan into action and utilise services funded by NDIS plan.