

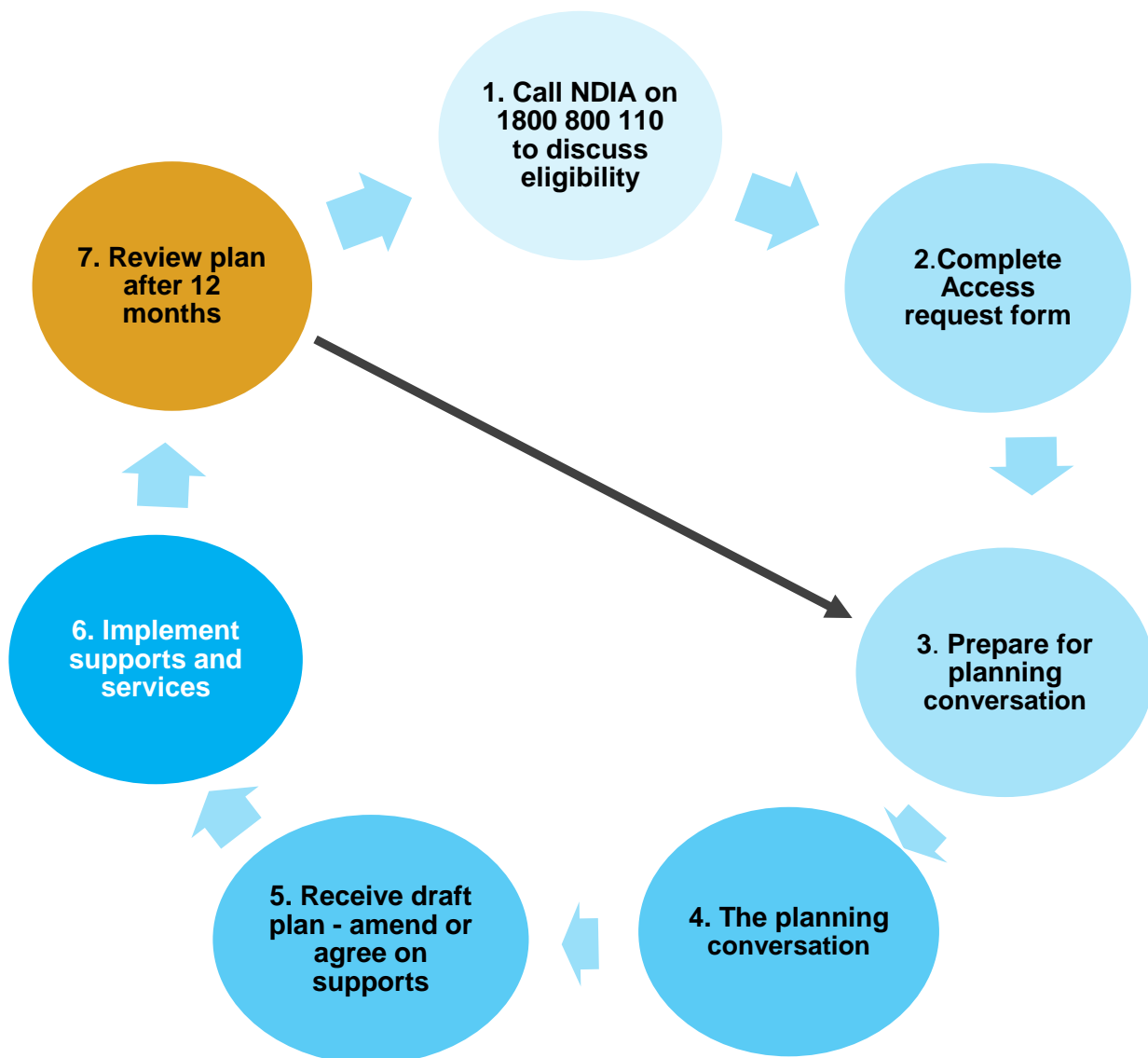
THE PROCESS FOR ACCESSING NDIS

The National Disability Insurance Scheme promotes choice, control, social and economic participation.

Participants have the freedom to choose their own

service providers, giving them control over decision about how to live their lives.

The access process is depicted in the diagram below. The seven steps are explained on page 2.



THE ACCESS PROCESS

THE SEVEN STEPS

1. **Call the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA)** on 1800 800 110 to discuss eligibility for supports and / or services or go to www.ndis.gov.au to complete the NDIS checklist.

2. **The Agency will post out an Access Request form.** Your GP or specialist can assist you to complete the Access Request form. If you need assistance at any stage, you can call your local MS organisation. When the form is completed, post it back to the Agency. The Agency will then confirm with you if you are eligible for the scheme.

3. **The Agency will post out a Planning Workbook** to prepare for your planning meeting. You will be asked to think about your needs in terms of your goals, and the services and supports you need to achieve your goals. If you would like assistance to complete the Workbook please call your local MS organisation, family and friends can also help you. **Our checklist for people affected by multiple sclerosis** is another handy tool to help you prepare for your meeting with the Planner. Your **workbook** and **checklist** will be helpful at your planning meeting.

4. **The planning meeting** can be held at your home, the local NDIA Office or another venue of your choice. At the meeting your Planner will refer to your Planning Workbook which includes ideas about your goals and other supports and services you may need as well as those that you may already have in place. You can request that a family member, friend, advocate or MS consultant also attends the meeting.

5. **You will receive your draft plan** for your approval.

6. **Your supports and services are implemented.** You will discuss assistance to make this happen at your planning meeting (step four).

7. **Your plan will be reviewed by you and your Planner on an annual basis.** This gives you an opportunity to review and reflect on the outcomes of the supports and services you received. You can request a review at an earlier time if your circumstances have changed.

HELPFUL HINTS

Goals

- An example goal is: To remain employed, care for my children, and continue to live at home as independently as possible
- Think about the difficulties experienced that reduce capacity to achieve your goals

This is determined using a set of criteria which takes into account whether:

- the supports are effective, beneficial, and based on current good practice
- the supports represent value for money
- what is reasonable to expect of family carers, other informal supports, and from community and mainstreams services

Reasonable and necessary

NDIA funded supports must be deemed what they call “reasonable and necessary”.