

School Leaver Employment Supports Booklet

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It is a good idea to start thinking about and planning for life after school before the last year. A helpful place to start is the [Let's talk about work](#) page on the NDIS website. It also has a link to a booklet that covers:

- planning for employment
- exploring employment goals
- planning for leaving school
- finding employment providers.

What are school leaver employment supports?

School leaver employment supports form the critical bridge between school life and work.

These supports:

- help school leaving aged participants explore and understand their work potential
- focus on capacity building, developing skills, independence and confidence to work
- are tailored to the individual and their unique pathway to employment
- are available during the final years of school and directly after leaving school,

While some participants may be ready to move straight into looking for work after school, many need additional supports to help them learn more about work and what it might look like for them.

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More information on the [Applying to access the NDIS](#) page is on the NDIS website.

Participant experience

The NDIA encourages participants to look for providers that are a good fit for their needs. This may be done with the help of their family, other support person or school transition teacher.

Participants can also:

- speak to their LAC or support coordinator
- look for useful information available online
- attend school leaver events and speak to providers about school leaver employment supports
- seek advice from people with school leaver employment supports experience, including recent school leavers and their parents.

How do participants select a provider?

Participants should choose their NDIS providers carefully. Meeting with or discussing service options with a number of providers before making a decision can be helpful to build their knowledge about the supports participants are most interested in receiving.

To help them decide, participants may want to ask questions about:

- types of support the provider offers
- the organisation's outcomes
- any targeted disability services provided for example, specialising in services for participants with a particular disability.

As a customer, a participant has a choice of provider, the types of support they think will best meet their needs and how they would like them delivered. A participant can also choose to be supported by more than one provider.

Participants are encouraged to work with providers who develop tailored plans designed to increase their capacity and skills.

The [Provider Comparison Worksheet](#) has suggested questions to ask providers.

What is a service agreement?

A provider should prepare a service agreement once a participant has chosen them to deliver supports.

The [service agreement](#) is a formal document that details an agreed set of expectations between the participant and provider.

More information is available on the [Making a service agreement](#) page on the NDIS website.

Providers of school leaver employment supports will help young people to aspire to employment by providing meaningful, individualised capacity building activities.

Providers should use their employer and professional networks and develop innovative business practices to help participants achieve

