



Australian Government
Department of Social Services

Information, Linkages and Capacity Building (ILC) program

A report about our review

What you need to know

Easy Read version



How to use this report



The Australian Government Department of Social Services (the department) wrote this report. When you see the word 'we', it means the department.



We wrote this report in an easy to read way.

We use pictures to explain some ideas.

Not bold
Bold

We have written some words in **bold**.

This means the letters are thicker and darker.



We explain what these words mean.

There is a list of these words on page 21.



This Easy Read report is a summary of another report. This means it only includes the most important ideas.



You can find more information on the **Community Grants Hub website**.



You can ask for help to read this report.

A friend, family member or support person may be able to help you.

What's in this report?

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What is the ILC program?

The **Information, Linkages and Capacity Building (ILC)** program is about:



- information that people with disability might need



- linkages to other systems and services.

This program is also about capacity building to help people:



- build their skills and confidence



- connect with the community.



The ILC program started in 2017.



The ILC program has 2 parts.



The first part of the ILC program includes **Local Area Coordinators.**



Local Area Coordinators help people with disability find and use supports and services.

We call them LACs.

2



The second part of the ILC program includes a **grants** program.



A grant is money from the government to pay for important projects to help others.



In this report, we talk mostly about ILC grants.

What is this report about?

NDIA



In the past, the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) ran the ILC program.



The NDIA also runs the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).



The **NDIS** is a way of supporting people with disability all around Australia.



DSS



In 2020, the department took over running the ILC grants program.

In this report we explain:



- what the ILC grants program pays for



- how we reviewed the ILC grants program



- what we learnt from the review



- what we plan to do to make sure the ILC grants program keeps working well.

What does the ILC grants program pay for?



The ILC grants program gives grants to organisations that support people with disability.



This includes people with disability who:

- take part in the NDIS
- don't take part in the NDIS.

ILC grants help make our community:



- **accessible** – everyone can use services and information



- **inclusive** – everyone can take part.



ILC grants help people with disability to live the life they want.



The ILC grants program has 4 different types of grants.

1



The first type of grant is for organisations that give people with disability information about how to find supports and services in the community.

2



The second type of grant is for organisations that teach other organisations how to:

- include people with disability in the work that they do
- make their services more accessible
- help people with disability use their services.

3

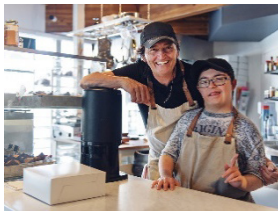


The third type of grant is for organisations that support people with disability to take part in their community.

This includes taking part:



- in everyday life



- by working and earning money.

4



The fourth type of grant is for organisations that support people with disability to:

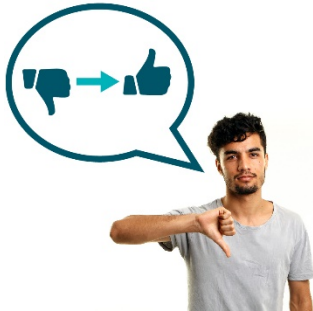
- improve their skills
- work towards their goals.

Why did we review the way grants are managed?

When you **review** something, you check to see what:



- is working well



- needs to work better.



We looked at the information about organisations that already have ILC grants.



This included looking at how well projects are working at the moment.

We wanted to work out:



- why ILC grants are important



- what needs to work better.

We talked to:



- disability organisations



- service providers.

We also talked to:



- state and territory governments

NDIA



- the NDIA.



We also wanted to learn more about how ILC grants work with other government programs that support people with disability.

What did we learn when we reviewed the ILC grants program?

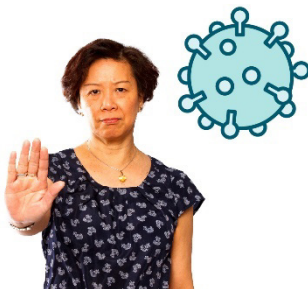


At the moment there is not a lot of information about how well the ILC grants program is working.

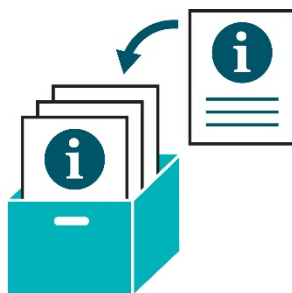
This is because:



- the ILC grants we looked at only started in 2019



- a lot of organisations had to change or stop their projects because of COVID-19.



We will keep collecting information about how well the ILC grants program is working.



We don't have a lot of information yet.

But we found some parts of the ILC grants program we should look at, such as:



- explaining what type of projects the ILC grants program is for



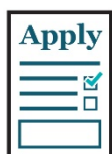
- making sure the grants can help people all across Australia



- thinking of better ways to give organisations the money for their projects



- sharing information with other organisations



- making applying for a grant easier.



People told us that the 4 types of grants are a good idea.

But they said it needs to be easier to:



- apply for a grant



- get and use the money from their grant.

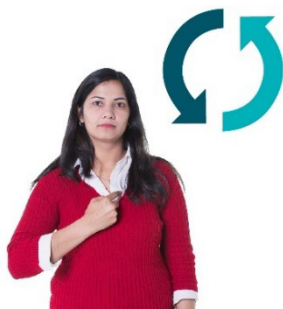


We also want to work out if there are any other services or projects that people with disability need from ILC.

What will we do next?



We will plan how the ILC grants program should work now that the NDIS is up and running all across Australia.



We will learn about how LAC roles are changing.

We will plan:



- the best way to use the grant money



- how much of the grant money should be used in each part of Australia



- how we can make it easier for organisations to apply for a grant.



This includes making sure organisations know what grants they can apply for.

We will look into how the ILC grants program can help:



- support people with disability to learn new skills

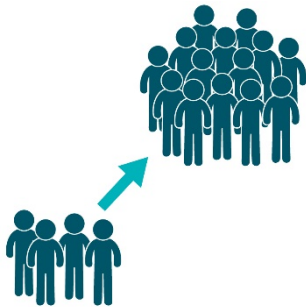


- keep people with disability safe.

We will also think about ways that organisations can:



- build on a different organisation's project



- make their own projects bigger



- do the same project again.

Word list



Accessible

When something is accessible, everyone can use it.



Grants

A grant is money from the government to pay for important projects to help others.



Inclusive

When something is inclusive, everyone can take part.

Information, Linkages and Capacity Building (ILC) program

The ILC program is about:

- information that people might need
- linkages to other systems and services.

This program is also about capacity building to help people:

- build their skills and confidence
- connect with the community.



1



Local Area Coordinator

Local Area Coordinators help people with disability find and use supports and services.

We call them LACs.

NDIA



National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA)

The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) runs the NDIS.



National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is a way of supporting people with disability all around Australia.



Review

When you review something, you check to see what:

- is working well
- needs to work better.

Contact us

You can contact us to find more information about the ILC grants program review:



1300 653 227



ILCReview@dss.gov.au



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