

Using NDIS funding to attend WDSC 2024

Do you need support to attend World Down Syndrome Congress (WDSC)?

Do you want to be a presenter or volunteer at WDSC?

You may be able to use funding in your NDIS Plan to pay staff to support you to travel and participate in WDSC. You may need to ask for some of this funding in your next plan review.

Funding for support to attend can come from your Core Supports budget if the benefits you will get from attending WDSC align with your NDIS goals. Some of the benefits you may get from attending WDSC include the opportunity to:

- Build skills through participation, volunteering, presenting and lots more.
- Build confidence through peer validation and trying new things.
- Hear from and be inspired by your peers' stories, achievements and presentations.
- Learn about your rights and responsibilities.
- Gain information on what support is available in both the community and disability services

You may also be able to use your funding for other costs of attending WDSC such as: transport, personal care, registration, assistance to participate, present or perform. Again, the benefits you get would need to align with the goals in your NDIS plan. You would also need to have capacity building funding, most likely in one of the following categories: Development of Daily Living and Life Skills, Innovative Community Participation or Community Participation Activities.

Are you attending WDSC to build your capacity as a parent or carer?

As a parent or carer of your child or young person with disability, you may be able to use funding from their NDIS plan to attend WDSC if that will support them to achieve their goals. Within the Capacity Building – Improved Daily Living category is a line item for parent and carer training.



You could have a goal in their NDIS plan specific to training. An example of a goal might be to increase my knowledge about my child or young person's disability; or to understand their behaviour and needs to support them better.

Or you could be able to demonstrate that attendance at the WDSC provides training that will help them to achieve their goals in their plan.

The NDIS Price Catalogue has a specific item for parent and carer training and it is a good idea to mention your need for training during your planning meeting.