Disability Gateway.
Connecting you to information and services.

**Disability Gateway**

**Stakeholder Kit**

Updated by the Department of Social Services, November 2021.

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# Introduction

Australians living with disability, their families and carers identified accessing information about policies, programs and support as a key barrier to their independence and community participation.

The Department of Social Services (DSS) has developed a way to improve access to this information by creating the Disability Gateway

The Disability Gateway includes a website, a dedicated phone line (1800 643 787) and social media channels, to assist people with disability, their families and carers, to find and access trusted information and services.

The Disability Gateway is for all Australians with disability, regardless of whether they are a National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) participant or not.

Please visit the Disability Gateway website here [www.disabilitygateway.gov.au](http://www.disabilitygateway.gov.au)

# COVID-19 support

The Disability Gateway provides free, fact-checked information about COVID-19 vaccinations and can connect people with disability, their families, carers and support workers to relevant contacts including the Department of Health, GPs and local vaccination clinics.

Disability Gateway phone operators are trained to help people with disability to find COVID-19 information in their area and can assist with booking a vaccination appointments, if required.

# Help us spread the message

We encourage you to share information about the Disability Gateway service with your networks.

In this kit there are key messages to help you communicate the information and services the Disability Gateway offers and to encourage people to use it and provide feedback.

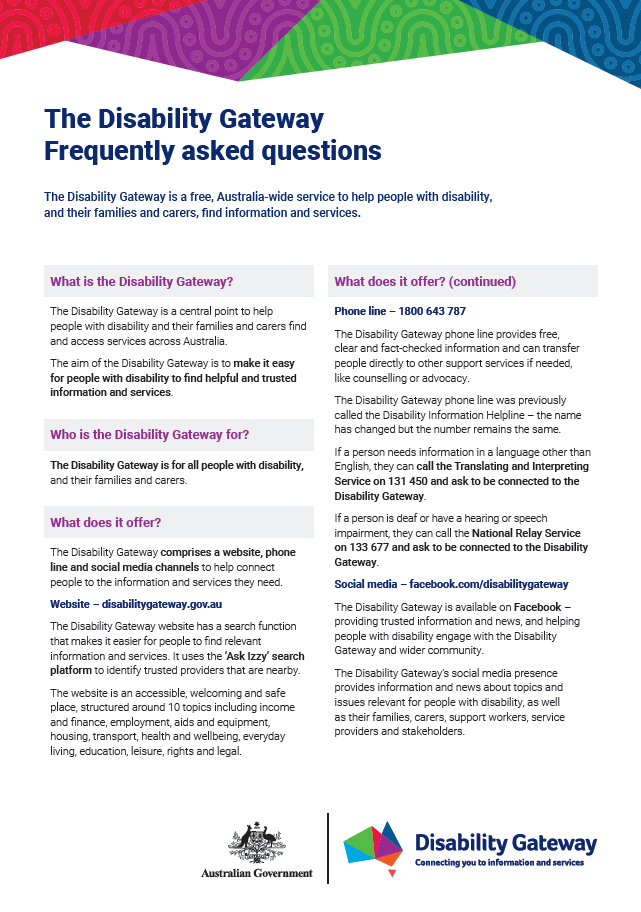
Help us ensure all people with disability, their families and carers have access to up to‑date, relevant information.

# Resources

A range of resources are available to download from our website.

Specialist resources are also available for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

[Factsheet available for download](https://www.disabilitygateway.gov.au/document/2671)

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[Poster available for download](https://www.disabilitygateway.gov.au/document/2646)

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## Animation

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| The Disability Gateway provides free, nation-wide information and services to help people living with disability, their families, friends and carers, in key areas of life including but not limited to finance, employment, health and equipment.  To access these or more services provided by the Disability Gateway visit [www.disabilitygateway.gov.au](http://www.disabilitygateway.gov.au/?fbclid=IwAR3ilL-apqA0ClMvDQfhY13UbLsYyNmbPqiZBAtVgti1_kieN8_BPN_gBss) or call **1800 643 787**. The Disability Gateway phone line is available Monday to Friday, 8am to 8pm AEDT. | [Animation available for download](https://www.disabilitygateway.gov.au/about/how-use)  A screenshot of the How to use the Disability Gateway video. |

# Social Media

## Facebook logoFacebook

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| The Disability Gateway is your first step in finding information and services for people with disability, their families and carers.  Visit: [www.disabilitygateway.gov.au](http://www.disabilitygateway.gov.au) or call the dedicated Disability Gateway phone line on **1800 643 787**. | A Disability Gateway graphic with contact details on it, including the logo, website address and phone number. |
| Do you care for, or have a friend with a disability?  The Disability Gateway can lead you to trusted information on disability support – and can help find services local to you.  Visit [www.disabilitygateway.gov.au](http://www.disabilitygateway.gov.au) or call the dedicated Disability Gateway phone line on **1800 643 787**. | A picture of two people in high visibility vests with a quote below them. The quote says 'It's all about possibilities for the future and knowing what your options are' - Francesca |
| The Disability Gateway is your first step in finding information and services for people with disability, their families and carers.  If you are looking for easy to understand, accessible information and advice about COVID-19, visit [www.disabilitygateway.gov.au](http://www.disabilitygateway.gov.au) or call **1800 643 787**.  The Disability Gateway is available Monday to Friday 8am to 8pm. It is not available on weekends or national public holidays. | A photo of a man in a wheelchair. He is travelling down a sidewalk with a bag of groceries. There is a quote beneath him. It says 'What I found fantastic is that it has disability-related information about topics that aren't disability specific - like finance, legal, travel and healthcare' - Stuart |
| Are you looking for easy to understand information about COVID-19 for a friend or family member with disability?  Visit the Disability Gateway at [www.disabilitygateway.gov.au](http://www.disabilitygateway.gov.au) or call **1800 643 787** for free, fact-checked and accessible information and advice about COVID-19.  The Disability Gateway is available Monday to Friday 8am to 8pm. It is not available on weekends or national public holidays. | A photo of a man in a sports wheelchair on an athletics track. There is a quote beneath him. It says 'The Disability Gateway is great because I can start my search for a huge range of things all from one website' - Judeland |

## twitter logo Twitter

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| The Disability Gateway can help you search for trusted disability services and information. Visit [www.disabilitygateway.gov.au](http://www.disabilitygateway.gov.au) or call the dedicated Disability Gateway phone line on **1800 643 787**. | A Disability Gateway graphic with contact details on it, including the logo, website address and phone number. |
| Looking for disability services relevant to you? Find information on local offerings at the Disability Gateway [www.disabilitygateway.gov.au](http://www.disabilitygateway.gov.au) or call the dedicated Disability Gateway phone line on **1800 643 787**. | A picture of two people in high visibility vests with a quote below them. The quote says 'It's all about possibilities for the future and knowing what your options are' - Francesca |
| The Disability Gateway is for people with disability, their families and carers.  If you need COVID-19 support and advice in another language, you can contact the Disability Gateway on **1800 643 787** and ask for an interpreter.  Visit www.disabilitygateway.gov.au for more info. | A photo of a man in a wheelchair. He is travelling down a sidewalk with a bag of groceries. There is a quote beneath him. It says 'What I found fantastic is that it has disability-related information about topics that aren't disability specific - like finance, legal, travel and healthcare' - Stuart |
| Do you care for or live with someone with disability? Do you have concerns about COVID-19?  The Disability Gateway is available for people with disability and their families, carers and support workers.  Call **1800 643 787** or visit www.disabilitygateway.gov.au for more info. | A photo of a man in a sports wheelchair on an athletics track. There is a quote beneath him. It says 'The Disability Gateway is great because I can start my search for a huge range of things all from one website' - Judeland |

## Social media graphics



A picture of two people in high visibility vests with a quote below them.
The quote says 'It's all about possibilities for the future and knowing what your options are' - Francesca













# **Newsletter / eDM**

Around 4.4 million Australians are living with disability and there are a wide range of services and supports available. However, searching for information and services can sometimes be difficult and complex.

The Australian Government’s Disability Gateway is a free, Australia-wide service dedicated to helping people living with disability, their families and carers find trusted information and connects them to services in their area.

It includes:

* a website
* phone line and
* social media channels to help connect people to the right disability information and services.

The Disability Gateway aims to improve access to information and services and make searching less stressful. It is a central starting point, providing information people can trust that is accessible, easy and safe to use.

Information on the website is structured around 10 topic areas that provide useful categories for searching for and finding services, including income and finance, employment, aids and equipment, housing, transport, health and wellbeing, everyday living, education, leisure, and rights and legal.

The Disability Gateway phone line provides free, fact-checked information and can transfer people directly to other support services if needed, such as counselling or advocacy.

For more information go to [www.disabilitygateway.gov.au](http://www.disabilitygateway.gov.au) or call **1800 643 787**. The Disability Gateway phone line is available Monday to Friday, 8am to 8pm AEDT.

## Key messages

* The Disability Gateway includes a website, a dedicated 1800-phone number and social media channels, to assist people with disability, their families and carers, to find and access trusted information and services.
* The Disability Gateway is for all Australians with disability, whether they are a National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) participant or not.
* The Disability Gateway is available at [www.disabilitygateway.gov.au](http://www.disabilitygateway.gov.au) and the dedicated Disability Gateway phone line is **1800 643 787**.

# FAQ

The Disability Gateway is a free, Australia-wide service to help people with disability, their families and carers, find information and services.

## What is the Disability Gateway?

The Disability Gateway is a central point to help people with disability, their families and carers find and access services across Australia. The aim of the Disability Gateway is to make it easy for people with disability to find helpful and trusted information and services.

## Who is the Disability Gateway for?

The Disability Gateway is for all people with disability, their families and carers.

## What does it offer?

The Disability Gateway comprises a website, phone line and social media channels to help connect people to the information and services they need.

## Website – disabilitygateway.gov.au

The Disability Gateway website has a search function that makes it easier for people to find relevant information and services. It uses the ‘Ask Izzy’ search platform to identify trusted providers that are nearby.

The website is an accessible, welcoming and safe place, structured around 10 topics including income and finance, employment, aids and equipment, housing, transport, health and wellbeing, everyday living, education, leisure, rights and legal.

## Phone line – 1800 643 787

The Disability Gateway phone line provides free, clear and fact-checked information and can transfer people directly to other support services if needed, like counselling or advocacy.

The Disability Gateway phone line was previously called the Disability Information Helpline – the name has changed but the number remains the same.

If a person needs information in a language other than English, they can call the Translating and Interpreting Service on **131 450** and ask to be connected to the Disability Gateway.

If a person is deaf or has a hearing or speech impairment, they can call the National Relay Service on **133 677** and ask to be connected to the Disability Gateway.

## Social media – facebook.com/disabilitygateway

The Disability Gateway is available on Facebook – providing trusted information and news, and helping people with disability engage with the Disability Gateway and wider community.

The Disability Gateway’s social media presence provides information and news about topics and issues relevant for people with disability, as well as their families, carers, support workers, service providers and stakeholders.

# How does the Disability Gateway provide COVID-19 support?

The Disability Gateway website has a dedicated COVID-19 page which provides access to current advice from the Australian Government along with relevant information for each State and Territory.

## Website – [disabilitygateway.gov.au/coronavirus](https://www.disabilitygateway.gov.au/coronavirus)

Current information has also been provided in a range of accessible formats including Easy Read, Auslan and Braille here: <https://www.disabilitygateway.gov.au/coronavirus/covid19-support>

The Disability Gateway can also help you to make a booking to get your COVID-19 vaccine. Call **1800 643 787**, Monday to Friday 8am to 8pm or to find out more on COVID-19 vaccines visit: <https://www.disabilitygateway.gov.au/coronavirus/covid19-vaccines>

## Specialist COVID-19 resources

## Facebook logoFacebook

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| Do you have a question about COVID-19? Do you need help because things have changed?  The Disability Gateway can give you free, clear and fact-checked information and can transfer you to other support services if needed, like counselling or advocacy.  Call **1800 643 787** or visit [www.disabilitygateway.gov.au](http://www.disabilitygateway.gov.au) for more information. | A Disability Gateway graphic with contact details on it, including the logo, website address and phone number. |
| Did you know there is a dedicated phone line to assist people with disability to make a COVID-19 vaccination appointment? It’s also available for families and carers too.  For more information or assistance, call the Disability Gateway: **1800 643 787** Monday to Friday from 8am-8pm AEST or visit [www.disabilitygateway.gov.au](http://www.disabilitygateway.gov.au). | A group of people with disability smiling. There is text beneath them that says 'Need help to get vaccinated?' 1800 643 787. |

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| Did you know that COVID-19 support is available through the Disability Gateway?  The Disability Gateway provides free, fact-checked information about COVID-19 and will connect you to relevant contacts in your area.  Visit [www.disabilitygateway.gov.au/coronavirus](http://www.disabilitygateway.gov.au/coronavirus) for more information. | A graphic with Disability Gateway details on it, including the website and phone number |
| Are you looking for disability information about COVID-19? The Disability Gateway can give you free, fact-checked and accessible information.  Call **1800 643 787** or visit www.disabilitygateway.gov.au for more information. | A group of people with disability smiling. There is text beneath them that says 'Need help to get vaccinated?' 1800 643 787. |