



Revoking Provisional Suitability: Frequently Asked Questions

Purpose

The NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission (NDIS Commission) has developed Frequently Asked Questions to support NDIS Behaviour Support Practitioners understanding of the notification to revoke *provisional suitability* on **31 July 2023**.

Background

- As a condition of registration, section 17 of the *National Disability Insurance Scheme (Restrictive Practices and Behaviour Support) Rules 2018* (the [Rules](#)), state that providers of specialist behaviour support are required to use a NDIS behaviour support practitioner as defined below.
NDIS behaviour support practitioner means a person the Commissioner considers is suitable to undertake behaviour support assessments (including functional behavioural assessments) and to develop behaviour support plans that may contain the use of restrictive practices.
- During 2021 - 2023, the NDIS Commission implemented the [Positive Behaviour Support Capability Framework \(PBS\) Capability Framework](#). Prior to this, practitioners were granted *provisional suitability* pending their assessment against the PBS Capability Framework.
- *Provisional suitability* was determined on the basis of information collected on a Notification of Behaviour Support Practitioners (s29) form submitted to the NDIS Commission. The Notification s29 form was discontinued on 1 July 2022.
- *Provisionally suitable* practitioners would have previously received a letter informing them that their status was only valid whilst engaged by a provider who is registered for specialist behaviour support (registration group 0110).
- The *provisionally suitable* status was an interim arrangement. This has been superseded by the practitioner suitability assessment process against the [PBS Capability Framework](#).
- The NDIS Commission has not considered any practitioners “provisionally” suitability since 31 July 2022.
- As 12 months has now passed, the NDIS Commission has notified behaviour support providers of the intention to revoke the status of all remaining *provisionally suitable* practitioners on **31 July 2023** if they have not submitted an application.
- Please note that as per the advice provided by the Commission, the **31 July 2023** deadline only applies to practitioners who hold nothing but a *provisionally suitable* status.
- Applications which have been submitted via our [Applications Portal](#) will be finalised prior to any further action taken in regards to revoking provisionally suitability.

Frequently Asked Questions

Why did behaviour support providers receive an email from the NDIS Commission regarding revoking of provisional suitability?

On Wednesday 28 June 2023 the NDIS Commission emailed all NDIS registered providers registered to deliver the class of supports Specialist Positive Behaviour Support (110). The purpose of the email was to notify the sector of the NDIS Commission's intention to revoke *provisional suitability* on the **31 July 2023**.

How does provisional suitability differ from suitability?

Provisional suitability was an interim process that enabled individuals to provide behaviour support services to NDIS participants whilst the [PBS Capability Framework](#) was being implemented. Now that implementation is complete, and the s29 notification form closed on 1 July 2022, the NDIS Commission will be revoking the *provisionally suitable* status of practitioners who **only** hold *provisional suitability*.

Suitability: An NDIS behaviour support practitioner is someone who is considered suitable against by the NDIS Commissioner to undertake functional behaviour assessments and develop behaviour support plans. Now that the PBS Capability Framework is implemented, all applications for suitability are assessed against the PBS Capability Framework. The NDIS Commission ceased considering practitioners 'provisionally' suitable on the 31 July 2022.

Applications for *Suitability* do not need to be resubmitted when engaging a new behaviour support provider. 'Suitability' travels with the practitioner and they can be engaged by any registered behaviour support provider.

New entry-level practitioner: Practitioners applying to be considered suitable as an NDIS behaviour support practitioner may have limited portfolio evidence. Ongoing professional development is required to ensure progression towards meeting all Core practitioner level capabilities. New entry-level behaviour support practitioners will be considered suitable provided there are supervision arrangements in place. New entry-level practitioners will be re-considered in 12 months' time to ensure they have met all Core practitioner capabilities.

Why does the NDIS Commission intend to revoke provisional suitability?

Provisionally suitable practitioners have not been assessed against the [PBS Capability Framework](#) and represent a risk to NDIS participants as the NDIS Commission cannot give assurance as to their level of skills and knowledge in behaviour support.

I am currently considered provisionally suitable but do not / will not provide behaviour support services through the NDIS post 31 July 2023. What do I need to do?

If you do not submit a practitioner suitability application, your *provisional suitability* status will be revoked on the **31 July 2023**.

If you are not providing behaviour support services currently and do not wish to submit an application then no further action is required. If you wish to be engaged by a registered behaviour support provider and deliver behaviour support in the future, you will need to submit an application and receive an outcome that confirms you are considered suitable as an NDIS behaviour support practitioner.

I am currently considered provisionally suitable and I want to continue providing behaviour support services under the NDIS. What do I need to do?

You should complete an application to be considered suitable.

What is the application process?

The application requires a self-assessment of your skills and knowledge against the [PBS Capability Framework](#). You will need to complete the self-assessment (with a completed supervisor endorsement) and submit an application form to the NDIS Commission to be considered suitable.

Before applying you should review the [PBS Capability Framework](#), the [Self-assessment Resource Guide for the PBS Capability Framework \(2020\)](#), and the [NDIS \(NDIS Behaviour Support Practitioner Application\) Guidelines 2020](#).

Our [website](#) also provides more information about what to do.

- The practitioner will need a PRODA account to access both the [Applications Portal](#) and the NDIS Commission Portal.
- Information on how to set up a PRODA account and access the Applications Portal is here: [Quick reference guide: Getting access to the NDIS Commission Applications Portal](#).
- Information about using the Applications Portal is here: [Quick reference guide: Applying to be considered suitable as an NDIS Behaviour Support Practitioner](#).

Additional information about applying is also available in our [Frequently Asked Questions](#).

We will assess whether you are suitable to undertake behaviour support assessments (including functional behaviour assessments) and to develop behaviour support plans.

The practitioner suitability assessment applies to all practitioners, regardless of whether the practitioner is developing behaviour support plans that include regulated restrictive practices.

What happens if I lodge a practitioner suitability application and the NDIS Commission does not provide me with an outcome before 31 July 2023?

Provisional suitability will remain in place while the practitioner is awaiting an outcome from their lodged practitioner suitability application. All suitable practitioners with an outcome letter are not impacted by the deadline.

Will the Commission provide me an outcome for my progression application before 31 July 2023?

If you are already suitable, you will not receive an outcome on any additional applications that you submit at this time.

The NDIS Commission will be forming a future policy position on how behaviour support practitioners interact with the NDIS Commission in relation to their progression through the [PBS Capability Framework](#). Our priority at present is completing all current applications. If you have previously been considered suitable as an NDIS behaviour support practitioner, then an NDIS specialist behaviour support provider can engage you to do behaviour support.

Feedback provided in a practitioner suitability outcome letter is for educational and professional development purposes only. The NDIS Commission does not endorse practitioner capability levels as outlined in the Positive Behaviour Support Capability Framework (PBS Capability Framework). The outcome provided from a practitioner suitability application is in accordance with section 8(2) of the [Behaviour Support Practitioner Application Guidelines](#), which is either suitable or not suitable. The levels outlined in the PBS Capability Framework provide guidance on lifting the quality of behaviour support practice under the NDIS.

Whilst the PBS Capability Framework forms the basis for determining an individual practitioner's suitability, the practitioner capability levels do not form part of the legal requirement to be considered suitable as an NDIS behaviour support practitioner. There is no provision in the NDIS Act (2013) or the NDIS (Restrictive Practices and Behaviour Support) Rules 2018 that require a practitioner to be suitable "at a certain level". Practitioners and specialist behaviour support providers can and should continue to develop their capabilities in behaviour support and can continue to progress through the levels of the PBS Capability Framework.

I have been considered suitable as a NDIS behaviour support practitioner, how do I access my outcome letter?

For help with accessing your Practitioner Suitability Outcome letter please refer to the 'How to Update the Practitioner Profile' on page 6. This can be accessed via this link: [NDIS Commission Portal Quick Reference Guides | NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission](#)

Why have I received multiple outcome letters?

All individuals who were considered provisionally suitable received an outcome letter on their status as 'provisionally suitable'. Once a practitioner suitability application has been submitted and the individual receives a 'suitable' outcome, the 'provisionally suitable' outcome becomes superseded. As a practitioner you must now have a 'suitable' outcome letter from the NDIS Commission.

Why have I received multiple 'revocation of provisional suitability' notices?

Some individuals may have submitted multiple s29 notification forms as they worked for several behaviour support providers. To ensure the NDIS Commission is communicating with all provisionally suitable practitioners, a letter was sent to each individual and their associated email addresses as specified on the s29 forms.

Further information or support – contact us

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