



New behaviour support practitioners: Applying for suitability

October 2026

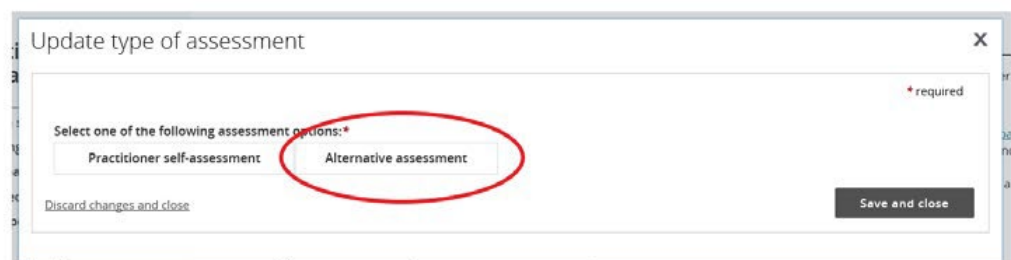
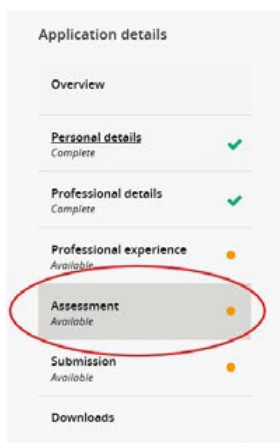
This fact sheet provides guidance for people applying for suitability as an NDIS behaviour support practitioner at the new entry-level.

Summary

People applying to be considered suitable as an NDIS behaviour support practitioner at the new entry-level may have limited portfolio evidence. This fact sheet provides guidance on how to complete the application process. Ongoing professional development and supervision is required to ensure progression towards meeting all core practitioner level capabilities. New entry-level behaviour support practitioners will have their suitability reconsidered 12 months later.

Alternative assessment pathway

When completing your application in the portal, select 'alternative assessment' in the 'Assessment' tab. When requested to enter a reason for selecting this pathway, enter "entry-level practitioner seeking suitability for the first time".



The following evidence must be attached to application in the portal:

1. a resume outlining any relevant experience, training and education
2. certified copies of any relevant qualifications (details below)
3. a professional development plan which identifies how the individual will develop their capabilities across the seven domains of the Positive Behaviour Support (PBS) Capability Framework (at the core practitioner level)
4. a supervision agreement with a proficient level behaviour support practitioner or above, who will supervise the individual's work and / or support them to develop the required capabilities
5. a completed new / entry-level practitioner declaration form (copy below)
6. optional evidence: Any other relevant evidence which demonstrates transferable skills (e.g., a classroom behaviour management plan, a safety plan, or a wellness recovery action plan).

Once submitted, the application will be assessed and the applicant advised of the outcome in writing.

Relevant qualifications

The NDIS Commission considers a relevant qualification to be a bachelor degree (Australian Qualifications Framework Level 7) or higher in a relevant field including:

- ◆ Positive Behaviour Support
- ◆ Developmental education
- ◆ Education
- ◆ Psychology
- ◆ Psychological science
- ◆ Occupational therapy
- ◆ Speech pathology
- ◆ Nursing
- ◆ Social work
- ◆ Behavioural science
- ◆ Applied Behavioural Analysis.

The NDIS Commission may also consider other qualifications where they demonstrate alignment with the knowledge, skills and capabilities outlined in the PBS Capability Framework.

While qualifications are not the sole determinants of suitability, the NDIS Commission may find an applicant not suitable where they do not hold relevant qualifications and are unable to demonstrate the requisite knowledge, skills and experience outlined in the PBS Capability Framework.

A certified copy is a copy that has been sighted and certified as a true copy of the original document. Examples of people who can certify documents include, a Justice of the Peace, police officer, judge, barrister or solicitor, registered health practitioner (registered with AHPRA), teacher, accountant, minister of religion, marriage celebrant, public servant, or Sheriff's officer.

Reconsideration of suitability

The NDIS Commission may outline additional tasks to be undertaken such as practicing under supervision and collecting a portfolio of evidence to demonstrate development at the core practitioner level.

The NDIS Commission will also specify a date (after 12 months) by when the practitioner's suitability will be reconsidered. At this time, the practitioner will need to complete the self-assessment and endorsement process and upload this information in the applications portal in order to maintain their suitability as an NDIS behaviour support practitioner.

Applicants with NDIS specialist behaviour support provider registration

Behaviour support and restrictive practice are considered complex areas of support, which require NDIS behaviour support practitioners to have specific skills, knowledge, and experience.

New entry-level applicants typically have limited behaviour support experience (less than six months) and therefore it is expected that these NDIS behaviour support practitioners would receive a higher level of supervision and support to continue to develop their capabilities as per the PBS Capability Framework.

In light of the above, the NDIS Commission may find an individual applying via the new entry-level/ alternative assessment pathway not suitable where they:

- ◆ intend to operate as a sole trader or as key personnel of a specialist behaviour support provider; and
- ◆ do not intend to employ a proficient level (or above) NDIS behaviour support practitioner (with two years' experience working as a NDIS behaviour support practitioner) to provide clinical supervision and oversight of work practices.

In addition, the NDIS Commission may impose conditions on the registration of NDIS providers who are registered to provide specialist positive behaviour support (registration group 0110), in circumstances where the key personnel of the NDIS provider is a new entry-level behaviour support practitioner who intends to operate as a sole trader.

This condition may include additional supervision requirements and/or the requirement to hire an NDIS behaviour support practitioner at the proficient level or above to provide clinical oversight of the work practices of less experienced NDIS behaviour support practitioners.

Further information and resources

The NDIS Commission's [Practitioner Suitability Assessment](https://www.ndiscommission.gov.au/behaviour-support-practitioner-suitability-assessments)^{*} page contains further details and resources. You can also contact the NDIS Commission about this by emailing ndispractitioners@ndiscommission.gov.au.

For general queries please get in touch with our Contact Centre:

- ◆ via our **online contact form**[†] on our website
- ◆ call 1800 035 544 (free call from landlines) or TTY 133 677 (Interpreters[‡] can be arranged)
- ◆ National Relay Service: ask for 1800 035 544

Our Contact Centre is open:

- ◆ weekdays, excluding public holidays
- ◆ Western Australia: 7:30am – 3:30pm
- ◆ all other states and territories: 9am – 5pm

Website: www.ndiscommission.gov.au/contact-us

Email: contactcentre@ndiscommission.gov.au



^{*} <https://www.ndiscommission.gov.au/behaviour-support-practitioner-suitability-assessments>

[†] <https://www.ndiscommission.gov.au/contact-us>

[‡] <https://www.ndiscommission.gov.au/languages/translations-and-interpreting-services>

New entry-level practitioner Declaration Form

The following declaration should be completed and attached in the alternative assessment evidence tab in the applications portal.

Applicant name

I declare:

- ☐ I am seeking suitability as an NDIS behaviour support practitioner at the new entry-level.
- ☐ I have not previously been considered suitable/provisionally suitable as an NDIS behaviour support practitioner, nor has my suitability status been revoked.
- ☐ I have attached true and certified copies of all relevant qualifications that I hold.
- ☐ I have attached a copy of my professional development plan which outlines how I will develop my capabilities at the core practitioner level across the seven domains of the Positive Behaviour Support Capability Framework.
- ☐ I have attached a copy of my supervision agreement with an NDIS behaviour support practitioner who is at the proficient level practitioner or above, and commit to participating in regular supervision.
- ☐ I will collect a portfolio of evidence to demonstrate my developing knowledge, skills and capabilities.
- ☐ I understand that practitioner suitability alone is insufficient to deliver behaviour support under the NDIS. I understand that I also need to be engaged by a registered provider who is registered for specialist behaviour support.
- ☐ I understand that if I am considered suitable, my suitability as an NDIS behaviour support practitioner will be reconsidered by the NDIS Commission after 12 months.
- ☐ I understand that additional consideration will be made by the NDIS Commission if I also hold, or intend to hold, registration as a Specialist Behaviour Support Provider.

Signature

Date