

## Disability Acronyms/Terms

### People and their roles

<b>Administrator</b>	A person appointed by VCAT to manage another individual's finances.
<b>Advocate</b>	A non-legal advocate for a disability advocacy organisation. These organisations are funded either by state government or Commonwealth, or both, and provide free advocacy for people with disability within their particular scope. See <a href="https://www.daru.org.au/organisation-type/individual-advocacy">https://www.daru.org.au/organisation-type/individual-advocacy</a>
<b>Carer</b>	Family member or friend providing personal support and assistance in an unpaid capacity
<b>Community Visitors</b>	Volunteers who attend group residential settings to check on residents and to ensure they are being cared for and supported with dignity and respect, and to identify any issues of concern. Program is overseen by OPA.
<b>Guardian</b>	A person appointed by VCAT to make decisions for another individual (in relation to specific matters)
<b>Key worker</b>	A support worker in a specialised role. They know the client better than others and have a greater degree of responsibility and trust.
<b>LAC</b>	Local Area Co-ordinator. A service engaged by the NDIA to assist participants to find appropriate services and implement their plan.
<b>OPA</b>	<b>Office of the Public Advocate</b> Default guardian when no family or friends are available to be appointed. Also has investigative powers if requested by VCAT, and responsible for community visitors.
<b>Planner</b>	The NDIA employee who creates the NDIS plan. (Often uncontactable directly)
<b>State Trustees</b>	Default administrator when no family or friends are available to be appointed
<b>Support Co-ordinator</b>	An NDIS funded role for supporting the implementation of NDIS plan. The individual can select which organisation they wish to engage with to access this service. If there is no funding in their NDIS plan for this, the participant must rely on a LAC.
<b>Support worker</b>	A person who is funded to provide personal supports, either in the home or accessing the community. Can be employed by a service provider, an agency, or directly (as employee or contractor).

## Housing & accommodation terms

<b>CRU</b>	Community Residential Unit	Old term for a group home
<b>Group home</b>	Group home	A form of residential service under the Disability Act 2006. Run by DHHS or disability services. Gradually transitioning to SDA with SIL arrangements with private providers. Accommodation and support were block funded to the provider.
<b>SDA</b>	Specialist Disability Accommodation	A form of accommodation significantly funded under the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). The resident pays a residential payment (generally percentage of pension).
<b>SIL</b>	Supported Independent Living	The personal supports component of funding for people living in SDA and NDIS funded. Can be provided by a different provider to the owner of the SDA. SIL quote is provided to the NDIA by the provider, and an amount approved in the individual plan.
<b>SRS</b>	Supported Residential Service	Shared accommodation under the <i>Supported Residential Services (Private Proprietors) Act 2010</i> . Oversight by Department of Health. Accommodation costs set by proprietor and paid by individual.
<b>STA</b>	Short Term Accommodation	Formerly called respite. A residential setting funded under NDIS for a short term stay for the person with disability (eg weekend, one week etc)

## Other terms

<b>ABA</b>	<b>Accounts by Administrator</b> –required to be submitted to VCAT by administrators on an annual basis
<b>ADE</b>	<b>Australian Disability Enterprise (also Supported Employment)</b> formerly sheltered workshops. A segregated form of employment where people with disability work for reduced wages (can be as low as \$2.00 per hour)
<b>BSP</b>	<b>Behaviour Support Plan</b> A plan written by a qualified clinician in relation to a person exhibiting behaviours of concern. The goal is to understand the purpose of the behaviours and to better support the individual. Eg, if the purpose is to escape sensory overload, the BSP might include some instructions to support workers about identifying when the individual is nearing sensory overload, and how to support them to a less overwhelming place.
<b>Day Program</b>	A group activity program for adults funded by the NDIS.

<b>Open employment</b>	Employment in the open market. Employees may be paid either award wages, or under the Supported Wage Scheme (a discounting from award rates)
<b>PRP</b>	<b>Proposed Represented Person</b> - person about whom a guardianship or administration application has been made
<b>RP</b>	<b>Represented Person</b> – the person about whom a guardianship or administration order has been made
<b>STO</b>	<b>Supervised Treatment Order</b> – a civil order under the <i>Disability Act 2006 (Vic)</i>