

# Pathways to Employment

School Leaver Employment Supports (SLES)

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# School Leaver Employment Supports (SLES)



Welcome to the School Leaver Employment Supports Participant presentation.

SLES is for school leavers who have the **ability and desire** to work in **open employment** but may need some more **support** before they are ready to start looking for jobs and working.



Employment supports are to be tailored to meet the needs of the individual participant and assist in meeting an individual's employment goal!

# What is SLES and how does it connect with the NDIS?



The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS, Scheme) funds **reasonable and necessary supports** for participants to achieve their goals and aspirations through an individualised plan.

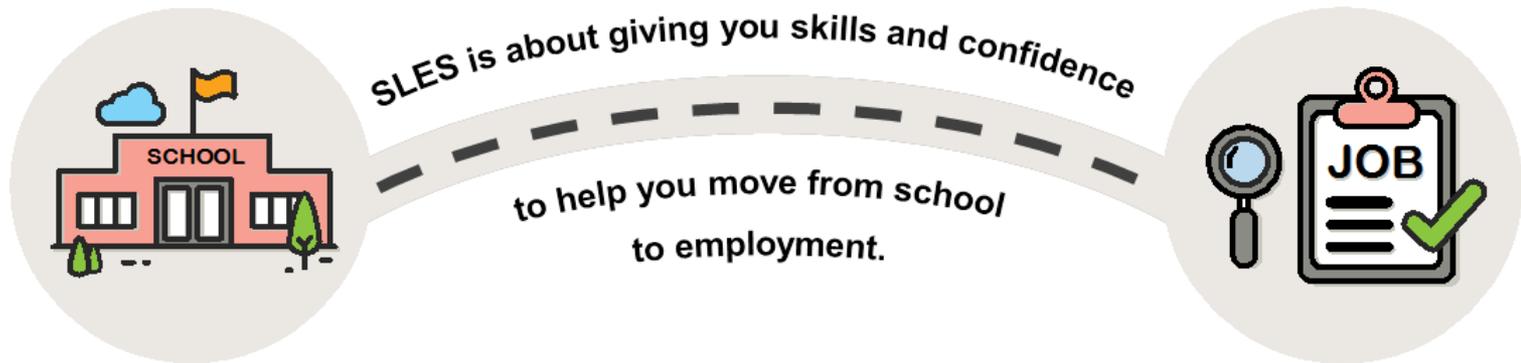
There are various initiatives under the NDIS. **SLES** is one example of a **reasonable and necessary support**.



SLES is focused on improving open employment opportunities for school leavers. To access SLES, applicants must also be NDIS eligible.

# Why is SLES important?

SLES is focused on improving employment opportunities for school leavers who are unable or unlikely to be able to access Disability Employment Services. (DES)



# Employment: an ordinary life

“For me an ordinary life is being able to access employment and be able to get around the workplace independently.”

- *Sharyn Craven*

“People with disability don’t want anything special. They just want to get out and do the same kind of stuff as everybody else. They want to get a job”.

- *Kirsten Deane*





# What is the aim of SLES?

SLES has been introduced as an early intervention approach for school leavers. It's designed to **support their transition from school to employment**. SLES provides employment pathway options for students who may typically have had access only to disability day programs or an ADE.

**SLES aims to build capacity to engage with a Disability Employment Services (DES) to :**

- improve **employment outcomes**
- build pre-employment **“hard and soft” skills**
- increase **confidence** and **career aspirations** for employment
- partner with education to **support the pathway from school to employment**
- engage providers who **understand the needs** of employers and are **willing to innovate**
- **help inform consumers** and **exercise choice and control** when it comes to services.

# What support does SLES provide?



SLES offers **individualised support** for up to two years after school to help participants get **ready for work** and **plan a pathway to open employment**. SLES supports will prepare participants to successfully engage with a DES and be tailored to meet their individual employment goal.

This may include:



Money handling



Time management



Discovery activities



Work experience in open employment



Learning how to take instruction at work



Travel training

# Success and outcomes

Success will look different for every person. Together, SLES and Disability employment Services (DES) can help you achieve YOUR individual employment goals!

**When you are ready, your SLES provider will work with you to choose a Disability Employment Service Provider (DES) who will help you to find a job.**

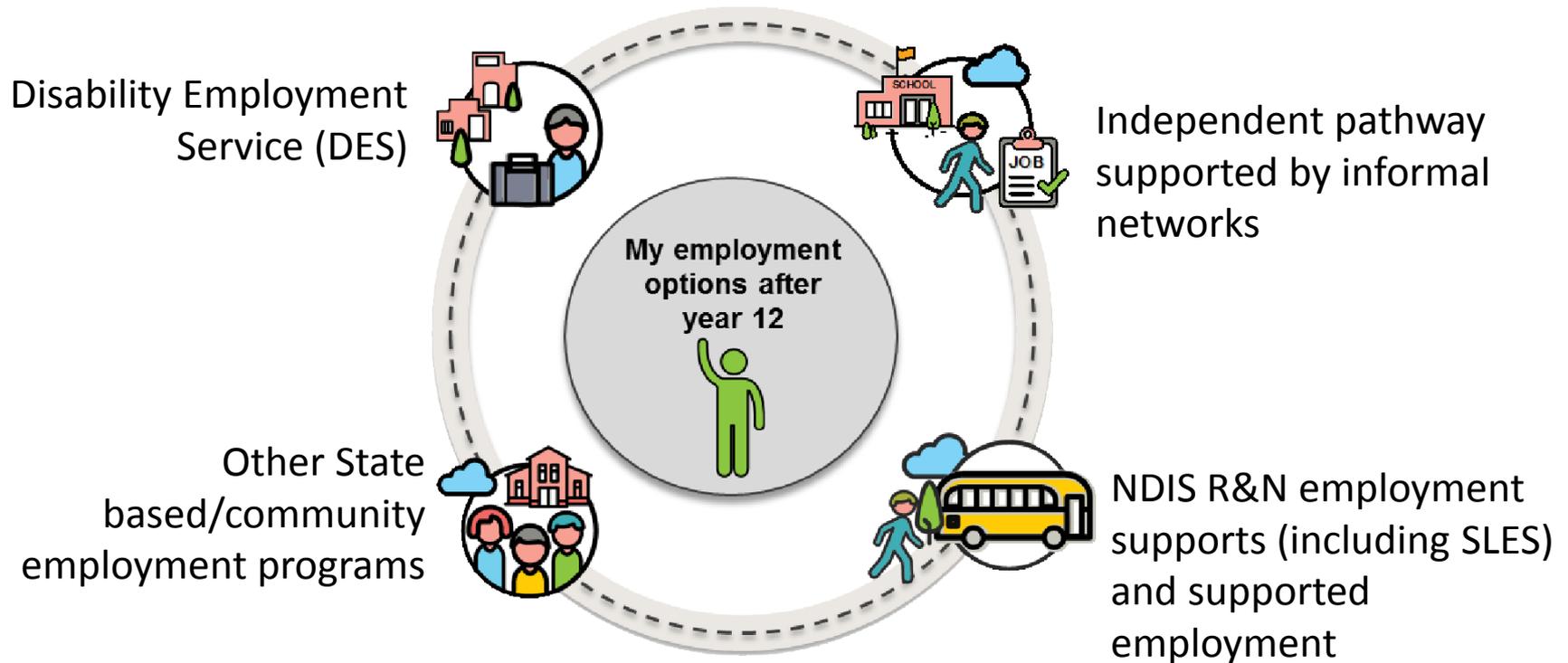


# The Participant Pathway

What are the options for assistance to work?



# The employment landscape: what are the options?



# DES and NDIA R&N supports.



## Supported Employment, (including Australian Disability Enterprise, ADE)

Supported employment, including ADE's are a **R&N support** for participants who require intensive support to sustain employment (typically on site support) ADE's were also originally designed to build skills to transition to open employment but the transition rate is low. The NDIA funds supported employment in a participants plan.

## School Leavers Employment Supports (SLES)

The participant has already been assessed as ineligible, or is unlikely, to be able to access DES **SLES offers participants a pathway to open employment. It can therefore be a disruption to the typical "day program" pathway.** SLES is funded in a participants plan

## Disability Employment Services (DES)

The participant has 8+ hours per week work capacity in open employment now or within 2 years of DES intervention.

**Primary mainstream service for people with disability seeking open employment.**

The NDIA includes this information in the "community and mainstream" part of a participants plan.

Supported Employment

Building capacity to become work ready in open employment

# The participant pathway



If you are not a participant and require specialist disability support you can **seek access to the scheme to see if you meet the eligibility criteria.**



**You may be eligible for Disability Employment Services (DES)** and not require NDIS employment supports.



If you are a participant, organise a time **to talk to your LAC** about your post-school employment options and the services available to you.



Your LAC will ask you some questions to understand your goals and help you identify the ways to help you achieve them.



Even if you think you will need a lot of support to think about employment, your LAC can **discuss the first steps.**



Your planner will put write down in your plan what you might need to achieve your employment goal. This might be NDIS SLES funding or finding a DES provider in your area to help you.



# What do I need to bring to my planning meeting?



- Before your planning meeting have a think about what your goals are.
- Consider employment as a goal!
- Bring any relevant school information like your career or transition plan, reports or assessments.
- Bring along any reports from work experience or volunteer work you might have done.
- If you are already working with a Disability Employment Service (DES), let your planner or LCA know this as well.

**It is great to share this with your planner.**

**This will really help your planner understand you and how to best support you achieve your goals!**

# The Participant and the Provider

Providers assist you to work towards your employment goals by providing SLES for up to two years. The nature of the supports offered are individualised and vary for each participant.

# Choosing the right Provider for you!

When considering which provider is right for you, it is really important to **speak with providers about your goals and support needs**.

- Think about **the kind of support you need** and what kind of supports **providers can offer** you to meet your needs.
- When you find the right provider for you, create a **Service Agreement (SA)** together, detailing the individualised supports and the steps you need to take to achieve your goals.

# Some questions to ask when choosing your provider

- ① How many of your participants have been **getting jobs**?
- ② Will you provide **one on one** support and **group** support?
- ③ What **kind of supports** do you offer?
- ④ How will you assist me to achieve my **goals**?
- ⑤ What **connections with potential employers** do you have?
- ⑥ Will there be opportunities for **work experience** in an **area I am interested in**?
- ⑦ Will you be **flexible** in the **days and times** you deliver my supports?

# SLES Success

Let's take a look at how SLES is helping school leavers with disability achieve their employment goals.





## Max's story

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FM-yTBaFYZc>

# Contact Information



Insert relevant REC contact information here

