

What is the difference between DES and SLES?

The **key difference** between DES and SLES is the participant's current readiness for open employment and the time it might take to prepare participants to build independent living and vocational skills. A SLES participant may need up to 2 years to develop the aspiration, confidence and demonstration of skills sufficient to meet DES criteria.

SLES

School Leaver Employment Support (SLES) is an early intervention approach for Year 12 school leavers with significant disability to support their transition from school to employment.

These supports are designed to build the participants capacity to meet the access criteria and transition to a DES.

SLES supports are only available to participants who have been assessed as ineligible, or are unlikely to meet, access requirements to DES.

DES

The **Disability Employment Services (DES)** supports persons with disability to get ready to look for a job, find a job and keep a job.

The DES also have a program that is available to students in their last year of school called the **DES ESL (Eligible School Leaver)** program.

This program is to assist students with disability to transition from school to post-school open employment.

For a job seeker to access a DES, they must have a future work capacity, with intervention, of at least 8 hours per week.

SLES

NDIS Plan identifies support needs to build independence.

SLES builds a pathway to economic participation through, for example:

- Unpaid work experience to overcome barriers and build confidence
- Developing a working lifestyle – life skills to support transition to work.

SLES Outcome: Overcome low expectations (participant, carer, family and facilitate transition to a DES.

DES

DES Job Plan identifies support needed to find and keep a job.

DES continues the pathway to economic participation through, for example:

- The Participants Job Plan
- Activities and assistance to address barriers to employment
- Job search; job-site training; placement
- Post placement support in a paid job
- Ongoing support to maintain a paid job (if required)

DES Employment Outcome: Paid employment in a sustainable job .

Ongoing employment supports funded by DSS.

If you would like more information about the NDIS in your area, please see the NDIS website www.ndis.gov.au

