



# 2025 Review of the Disability Standards for Education

## Effective implementation of the Standards

The Australian Government is reviewing the Disability Standards for Education 2005 (the Standards). The law says the Standards must be reviewed every 5 years.

One of the areas we are looking at is **effective implementation of the Standards**. This means how well the Standards are used and followed.

## About the Standards

The Standards help to make sure students with disability can access and participate in education and training on the same basis as students without disability. They outline what education providers must do to comply with the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* (the Act).

All education providers must meet the Standards. This includes preschools and kindergartens and public and private schools. It also includes training, vocational and higher education providers.

## Knowing about the Standards, your rights and obligations

We need to make sure all people working in education are aware of the Standards. They need to know about and understand the responsibilities of education providers for making sure all students with disability can access and participate in education.

We also need to make sure that students with disability, their families and carers know about the Standards and understand their rights.

The 2020 review of the Standards found that many educators were unaware of their obligations under the Standards. Since then, we have developed resources to help education providers know about the Standards and apply them.

We have also developed resources to help students with disability, their families and carers understand their rights. This includes information for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students with disability, their families and carers.

But students with disability, their families and carers still report they can be excluded from taking part in education. For example, some students with disability:

- are denied access to their preferred school or education courses based on their disability
- are not getting the reasonable adjustments they need to participate on the same basis as students without disability

- experience barriers to participating and completing qualifications in university and vocational education and training.

**Through the 2025 review, we want to know what more could be done to improve awareness and understanding of the Standards. We also want to know if there are any gaps in the resources that have been developed.**

### **We want to hear from students, families and carers about:**

- How much you know about the Standards
- Whether you think your education provider understands the Standards
- Whether you know about and have used resources that can help you understand your rights under the Standards
- What else would help you, or the student you support, to access and participate in education.

### **We want to hear from educators and organisations about:**

- How much you know about the obligations and responsibilities of education providers under the Standards
- How well the organisation you work for understands and meet its obligations under the Standards
- Whether you know about resources available to help you understand and comply with the Standards
- Challenges you or your organisation experience in understanding and applying the Standards
- What other support would help you or your organisation to meet your responsibilities.



## **How to have your say**

Visit the [Disability Standards for Education consultation page](#) for more information and to find out how to share your ideas.

There are lots of different ways to have your say.

- **Complete an online survey or send us a submission**
- **Contribute to the Ideas Wall**
- **Take part in an online workshop.** There are workshops for students, and for parents, carers, educators and other stakeholders.

You can also contact the Department of Education at [DisabilityStandardsConsultation@education.gov.au](mailto:DisabilityStandardsConsultation@education.gov.au)

If you want to get involved in the review or need help to prepare for or access an event, contact The Social Deck at [engage@thesocialdeck.com](mailto:engage@thesocialdeck.com) or phone **0458 228 142**.