

DISABILITY ROYAL COMMISSION - FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

1. What is the Disability Royal Commission?

The *Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability (Disability Royal Commission)* was established on 5 April 2019 by the Federal Government of Australia.

It will look at what should be done to stop people with a disability experiencing violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation.

An interim report will be provided to the Australian Government in October 2020, and a final report in April 2022.

2. What is a submission?

A submission is any information provided to the Disability Royal Commission. It may be about:

- Incidents of violence, neglect, abuse or exploitation of people with disability
- Complaints processes and outcomes
- Lack of access to support or services
- Quality of disability support services
- Examples of best practice and innovation

Information on how to make a submission, including what support is available can be found on the [submissions page of Disability Royal Commission website](#). This website is being updated regularly with new information.

3. Who can make a submission?

Anybody can make a submission.

The Disability Royal Commission wants to hear from all Australians about their experiences of violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation of people with disability.

This might be something you have experienced personally as a disabled person or something you have witnessed. The Disability Royal Commission wants to hear stories about experiences from any place or service, not just what has happened with a disability service provider.

Information on how to make a submission, including what support is available can be found on the [submissions page of Disability Royal Commission website](#). This website is being updated regularly with new information.

4. When do submissions open?

Public submissions to the Disability Royal Commission opened in August 2019, but you can engage with the Disability Royal Commission through Community Forums, Public Hearings and the option to tell your story in a private session. Information about how you can engage with the Disability Royal Commission is available on the [Engagement page](#) of the Disability Royal Commission.

There is no closing date for submissions at this stage.

5. What information needs to be in a submission?

The Royal Commission particularly wants to hear about:

- Incidents of violence, neglect, abuse or exploitation of people with disability
- Complaints processes and outcomes
- Lack of access to support or services
- Quality of disability support services
- Examples of best practice and innovation

More information on how to make a submission, including what support is available can be found on the [submissions page of Disability Royal Commission website](#). This website is being updated regularly with new information.

6. Can I make an anonymous submission?

To find out more about an anonymous submission please contact the Disability Royal Commission.

You can contact the DRC via email - DRCenquiries@royalcommission.gov.au - or via telephone on **1800 517 199** (9am to 5pm AEDT, Monday to Friday).

7. What supports are available from the Disability Royal Commission?

The Disability Royal Commission wants everyone to be able to engage with the Commission and share their stories and is offering advocacy support and counselling. Information about what services and supports are available can be found on the [Disability Royal Commission website](#).

8. What other support options are there?

If you or someone you know, is experiencing any form of violence, abuse, neglect or exploitation; or you are concerned for your safety, contact your local police station or dial **000 in an emergency**.

Other contacts that are available include:

- [Lifeline](#) 13 11 14
- [Mens Line](#) 1300 789 978
- [Kids Helpline](#) 1800 551 800
- [1800 RESPECT](#) 1800 737 732
- [National Disability Abuse and Neglect Hotline](#) 1800 880 052
- Aboriginal Family Domestic Violence Hotline 1800 019 123
- [Beyond Blue](#) 1300 224 636
- [Relationships Australia](#) 1300 364 277