

ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY

Assistive technology is equipment or a product system such as devices, controls, or appliances, whether acquired commercially, modified, or customized, that is used to increase, maintain, or improve functional capabilities of participants and be necessary to ensure participants health, welfare and safety. The use of assistive technology enables participants who reside in their own homes to increase their abilities to perform activities of daily living in their home, or to perceive, control, or communicate with the environment they live in. Thereby decreasing their need for assistance from others as a result of limitations due to disability.

All devices and adaptations must be provided in accordance with applicable State or local building codes and/or applicable standards of manufacturing, design, and installation.

Assistive technology includes the equipment or product system as well as:

- a. Services consisting of purchasing, leasing, or otherwise providing for the acquisition of assistive technology devices for participants.
- b. Services consisting of selecting, designing, fitting, customizing, adapting, applying, maintaining, repairing, or replacing assistive technology devices.
- c. Coordination and use of necessary therapies, interventions, or services with assistive technology devices, such as therapies, interventions, or services associated with other services in the service plan.
- d. Training or technical assistance for the participant, or, where appropriate, the family members, guardians, advocates, or authorized representatives of the participant.
- e. Training or technical assistance for professionals or other individuals who provide services to, employ, or are otherwise substantially involved in the major life functions of participants.

Assistive Technology may be self-directed.

Scope and Limitation

- Assistive Technology has a participant annual budget cap of \$2,500.
- Assistive Technology is available to participants ages 18 and older.
- The Division may require an on-site assessment of the environmental concern including an evaluation of functional necessity with appropriate Medicaid enrolled professional providers. The Division may use a third party to assess the proposed modification and need for the modification to ensure cost effectiveness and quality of product.
- The amount of prior authorized services is based on the participant's need as documented in the service plan, and within the participant's approved annual budget.

- Assistive Technology is reimbursed per item directly to vendor or provider of services.
- This service will not overlap with, supplant, or duplicate other services provided through the waiver or Medicaid State plan services, or Nebraska DHHS Economic Support program services.
- This service shall exclude any services available through public education programs funded under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). This includes services not otherwise available through public education programs in the participant's local school district, including after school supervision and daytime services when school is not in session (i.e., summer breaks and/or scheduled school holidays, in-service days, etc.). Services cannot be provided during the school hours set by the local school district for the participant. Regular school hours and days apply for a child who receives home schooling.
- Providers shall not exceed their charges to the general public when billing the waiver. A provider who offers a discount to certain individuals (for example, students, senior citizens, etc.) shall apply the same discount to the participants who would otherwise qualify for the discount.
- For items over \$500 insurance or an extended warranty is required.
- Damaged, stolen or lost items not covered by insurance or warranty may be replaced once every two years.