

Assistive Technology

The service definition and limits outlined below do not include all details and requirements. For the service standards, limitations, provider types and qualifications, and reimbursement information, refer to the appropriate Medicaid HCBS DD Waiver.

Waiver Availability

- A. Comprehensive Developmental Disabilities (CDD) Waiver
- B. Developmental Disabilities Adult Day (DDAD) Waiver
- C. Family Support Waiver (FSW)

Service Definition

Assistive Technology is a device, equipment, or appliance used to increase a participant's ability to complete activities of daily living or control their environment in their private or family home. Use of assistive technology may decrease a participant's need for staff assistance.

Conditions of Provision

- A. A participant chooses each service based on their needs.
 - 1. Services should increase independence and community integration; and
 - 2. The chosen waiver services and who provides them are documented in the participant's Individual Support Plan (ISP).
- B. Assistive Technology includes:
 - 1. Purchase or lease of the device, equipment, or appliance;
 - 2. Designing, customizing, installing, maintaining, repairing, and replacing assistive technology items;
 - 3. Coordination and use of necessary therapies, interventions, or other services in the ISP with assistive technology devices;
 - 4. Training for a participant and other members of the household; and
 - 5. Training for a provider who supports the participant in their home.
- C. Examples of Assistive Technology include but are not limited to:
 - 1. Communication devices;
 - 2. Special beds; or
 - 3. Freestanding Hoyer lifts.
- D. Assistive Technology has the following limitations:
 - 1. All assistive technology must be provided in accordance with applicable state or local building codes or standards of manufacturing, design, and installation.
 - 2. An item over \$500 must include insurance or an extended warranty.
 - 3. An uninsured item that is damaged, stolen, or lost may be replaced once every two years.

4. DDD may require an on-site assessment of the environmental concern by an appropriate Medicaid-enrolled professional provider. The assessment is provided under the Environmental Modification Assessment.
5. Assistive Technology cannot overlap with, replace, or duplicate other similar services provided through Medicaid. A participant should find out if Medicaid would pay for assistive technology before requesting this service.

Provider Requirements

The information outlined below does not include all provider requirements. It is intended to be general information about providers of this specific DD service.

- A. All providers of waiver services must:
 1. Be a Medicaid provider;
 2. Comply with all applicable Titles of the Nebraska Administrative Code and Nebraska State Statutes;
 3. Adhere to standards as described in the Division of Medicaid and Long-Term Care Service Provider Agreement;
 4. Complete DHHS trainings upon request; and
 5. Use universal precautions.
- B. Assistive Technology can be offered by a vendor.
 1. A vendor is a company or agency enrolled as a Medicaid provider, but not certified as a DD provider.
- C. Assistive Technology can be self-directed.
- D. A relative of the participant, but not a guardian or other legally responsible person of the participant may provide Assistive Technology when they meet other requirements. Since this service is only available from vendors, the relative would need to be an employee of a vendor.

Rates

- A. Assistive Technology must be purchased within a participant's annual individual budget amount.
- B. Assistive Technology is reimbursed per item.
- C. Assistive Technology has an annual budget cap of \$2,500.
 1. A participant may request funding over the annual budget cap due to a critical health or safety need.
 2. DDD approval is determined based on available funding.
- D. A vendor cannot charge more than they would to the general public. A vendor who offers a discount to a certain group of people, such as students or senior citizens, must offer the same discount to a participant in that group.
- E. The cost of transportation is not included in the rate for Assistive Technology.