

## Environmental Modification Assessment

*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

Comprehensive Developmental Disabilities (CDD) Waiver  
Developmental Disabilities Adult Day (DDAD) Waiver  
Family Support Waiver (FSW)

### Service Definition

An Environmental Modification Assessment is an evaluation to identify modifications or devices needed for the health and safety of a participant, to help the participant access the community, and to increase the participant's independence. This service may be required before using Assistive Technology, Home Modification, and Vehicle Modification.

### 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. Environmental Modification Assessment includes:
  - 1. Assessing if a modification or device is necessary to meet the participant's needs;
  - 2. Deciding what assistive technology, home modification, or vehicle modification is best for the participant; and
  - 3. Reporting when the modification or device is cost-effective.
- C. Environmental Modification Assessment is not a habilitative service.
- D. Environmental Modification Assessment has the following limitations:
  - 1. Environmental Modification Assessment cannot overlap with, replace, or duplicate other similar services provided through Medicaid.
  - 2. A participant should find out if Medicaid would pay for an environmental modification assessment 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. Environmental Modification Assessment can be offered by a DD agency provider, independent provider, or a vendor.
1. A DD agency provider is a company enrolled as a Medicaid provider and certified by DHHS to provide DD services and is responsible for:
    - a. Hiring and supervising employees who work with the participant;
    - b. Employing staff based on their qualifications, experience, and demonstrated abilities;
    - c. Providing training to ensure staff are qualified to provide the necessary level of care;
    - d. Agreeing to make training plans available to DHHS;
    - e. Ensure adequate availability and quality of service; and
    - f. Other administrative functions.
  2. A DD independent provider is a person or vendor enrolled as a Medicaid provider and employed by a participant.
    - a. The participant is responsible for hiring and supervising their provider.
  3. A vendor is a company or agency enrolled as a Medicaid provider, but not certified as a DD provider.
- C. Environmental Modification Assessment can be self-directed.
- D. A relative of the participant, but not a guardian or other legally responsible person of the participant may provide Environmental Modification Assessment when they meet other requirements.
- E. A provider cannot charge more than they would to the general public. A provider 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.

## Rates

- A. Environmental Modification Assessment must be purchased within a participant's annual individual budget amount.
- B. Environmental Modification Assessment is reimbursed per occurrence.
- C. Environmental Modification Assessment has an annual cap of \$1,000.