

Home Modification

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

Home Modifications are changes to a participant's private home to make it easier and safer to get around.

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. Home Modifications include:
 - 1. Physical adaptation of a participant's private home necessary to increase the participant's ability to complete activities of daily living, function with greater independence, or access their home; and
 - 2. Modifications within the current square footage of the participant's private home.
- C. Home Modification is not a habilitative service.
- D. Examples of Home Modifications include but are not limited to:
 - 1. Ramps;
 - 2. Bathroom alterations, such as an accessible bathtub or shower;
 - 3. Widening doorways; or
 - 4. New or upgraded electrical or plumbing systems.
- E. Home Modifications have the following limitations:
 - 1. Modifications cannot include adaptations or improvements to the home of which are of general utility and are not of direct medical or remedial benefit to the participant. For example:
 - a. Replacing damaged carpet throughout the house;
 - b. Making multiple bathrooms accessible; or

- c. Accessibility to an upper or lower level of the house when all needs can be met on the main floor.
2. Home Modifications cannot adapt provider owned or leased, operated, or controlled settings including Shared Living or Host Homes.
3. Modifications cannot add to the total square footage of a home, unless necessary to improve entrance to the home or adapt a bathroom to accommodate a wheelchair.
4. Proof of renter's insurance or homeowner's insurance may be requested.
5. DDD may require an on-site assessment by an appropriate Medicaid-enrolled professional provider. The assessment is provided under the Environmental Modification Assessment.
6. Home Modifications cannot overlap with, replace, or duplicate other similar services provided through Medicaid. A participant should find out if Medicaid would pay for the home modification 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. Home Modifications can be offered by a DD agency provider, an 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. Home Modifications can be self-directed.

- D. Home Modification may be provided by a relative of the participant, but not a legally responsible person or guardian of the participant.

Rates

- A. Home Modifications must be purchased within a participant's annual individual budget amount.
- B. Home Modification is reimbursed per occurrence.
- C. 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.
- D. Home Modifications have a budget cap of \$10,000 per five-year period.
 - 1. A participant may request funding over the budget cap due to a critical health or safety need.
 - 2. DDD approval is determined based on available funding.
- E. The cost of transportation is not included.