Medically Dependent Children Program (MDCP)

Tool for Adaptive Aids

What are adaptive aids?

Adaptive aids are:

- necessary to treat, rehabilitate, prevent or compensate for conditions resulting in disability or loss of function; and
- devices that enable you to perform the activities of daily living or control the environment in which
 you live.

You must first request the item from private insurance then Medicaid. If private insurance or Medicaid denies the request for the item, you must provide a copy of the denial letter(s). DADS will review your requests after Medicaid determined you did not have a medical need for the item.

When you receive the denial letter(s), consult with your case manager and provide a copy of the denial letter to the case manager.

Are there any exceptions that do not require a denial from Medicaid?

You are not required to obtain denial letters from Medicaid for van lifts or vehicle modifications.

Are there any personal costs related to adaptive aids?

If you request items that are not allowed by MDCP or that are more than the limit for MDCP, you may need to contribute to the cost of the item.

What are the limits for adaptive aids?

DADS will not pay for items costing less than **\$100**. The maximum adaptive aid limit per service plan year is **\$4,000**, and is included in your current total individual plan of care (IPC) budget. Requests that do not meet the service criteria or exceed this limit are considered personal costs.

Which adaptive aids are covered?

DADS will review all requests for items to see if the items meet the adaptive aids criteria. In general, MDCP allows:

- van lifts/vehicle modifications,
- jump seats;
- tumble forms;
- feeder seats:
- medically appropriate strollers;
- barrier-free lifts;
- environmental control units;
- alarm systems;
- support rails; and
- related services or costs for adaptive aids purchased through MDCP such as:
 - electrical work related to use;
 - o installation costs; and
 - o repairs.

What are my responsibilities in obtaining adaptive aids?

You will need written specifications for the items you are requesting and three comparable bids. **Note:** Only MDCP adaptive aids providers can get the item for you through MDCP.

Where do I go to obtain specifications?

You are responsible for obtaining written specifications for the items you request. The written specifications must be prepared by your:

- practitioner;
- physical therapist;
- · occupational therapist;
- speech pathologist; or
- MDCP adaptive aids provider.

What is included in the specifications?

The written specifications must include:

- your name and address;
- · the name and description of the adaptive aid requested;
- how you will use the requested item and why it is necessary for your treatment/rehabilitation;
- the printed name and signature of the person preparing the written specifications, along with the date the form was signed; and
- your signature with the date.

Now that I have the written specification, what's next?

You must provide the specification to three bidders. You may choose any business that sells adaptive aids to give you a bid or you may select bidders from the list of MDCP adaptive aids providers. You have the option of giving bidders Form 2435, Adaptive Aids Bid, to complete or the bidders can use their own bid forms.

You can ask bidders to send the bids to you or the bidders may send the bids to your case manager.

If you are not able to obtain three bids, you must contact your case manager and explain why you could not obtain three bids. You must be prepared to provide specific information about your efforts to secure three bids.

Now that I have the three bids, what's next?

You must give a copy of the written specifications to your case manager along with the three bids. If you asked the bidders to send the bids to your case manager, you must ensure that your case manager received them.

Once my case manager receives all of the information, what will DADS do?

DADS reviews all documentation obtained for the adaptive aid. If the item is approved, DADS will:

- authorize the amount of the lowest bid;
- determine the amount you are responsible for paying if the item is more than \$4,000;
- determine the amount you are responsible for paying if not all of the items you requested may be purchased with MDCP funds; and
- ask you to select an MDCP adaptive aids provider to deliver the approved adaptive aid.

If DADS determines the item is not an approved adaptive aid, you will be notified of the denial and you may request an appeal.