

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



What equipment is covered?

In general, medically necessary equipment which improves mobility and self-care activities (including functional communication) when limited by the child's CCS eligible medical condition. Equipment must be the least costly item available.

What equipment is NOT covered?

- Equipment that is predominantly for school use
- Equipment for the sole purpose of caregiver convenience
- Equipment that is not medically necessary or not prescribed by a CCS paneled physician
- Equipment that duplicates another device (serves essentially the same purpose)
- Equipment that involves permanent installation or alteration to a building/structure/vehicle

What is medically necessary equipment?

Assistive devices/equipment/items that are designed to assist a child with mobility or self-care activities, including functional communication.

How long do I need to wait for a replacement piece of equipment?

All equipment must be adjustable to accommodate growth. For specific purchase intervals, please ask your therapist.

How can I qualify for CCS to purchase equipment?

You must be financially eligible for the CCS Treatment Program. If you have questions, call the CCS Administrative Office at (530) 895-6546.

GENERAL INFORMATION



It is your responsibility to notify CCS when there is a change in your child's insurance. If utilizing private insurance, it is your responsibility to know your insurance coverage and DME provider options. All private insurance must be billed prior to accessing CCS/Medi-Cal benefits. A denial letter from your insurance carrier may be necessary prior to CCS payment for equipment. It is your responsibility to provide CCS with any required paperwork.

The CCS Program and the treating therapists are able to perform equipment evaluations, solicit prescriptions and issue authorizations for equipment which follow the CCS/Medi-Cal guidelines. Families interested in purchasing non-benefit items and equipment must pursue alternate resources outside of the CCS system.

All DME must be medically necessary, physician prescribed, and meet the CCS guidelines and recommendations for DME equipment. For more information about State CCS Policy on DME, please see the CCS Numbered Letter 09-0706 at: www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/ccs/Documents/ccsnl090703.pdf



DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

PROCESS, CARE AND
MODIFICATIONS



Medical Therapy Program (MTP)
California Children's Services (CCS)
(530) 552-3835

DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT (DME) PROCESS

The process to obtain DME is a complex one. That is why it is valuable to work with your therapist every step of the way. Below is the process that must be followed for DME:

- STEP 1: Evaluation**
An evaluation takes place with the DME provider and CCS treating therapist so appropriate equipment can be identified and a prescription may be requested from the physician.
- STEP 2: Cost Estimate**
Upon signed prescription, the DME provider submits a cost estimate and request for authorization to the CCS therapist.
- STEP 3: Therapist Review**
The CCS therapist reviews and approves or denies the request. The DME request is forwarded to CCS administration for review.
- STEP 4: Insurance Verification**
CCS administration verifies funding and financial eligibility for DME equipment.
- STEP 5: Authorization**
Upon final review and approval by a Supervisor, an authorization is issued and a copy is mailed to the family.
- STEP 6: Equipment Ordered**
The DME provider receives the authorization and the equipment is ordered.
- STEP 7: Delivery**
The equipment is delivered with the therapist, parent/ caregiver, and DME provider present.

CARE & MAINTENANCE

In order for your child to obtain maximum benefit from DME, regular care and maintenance is necessary to ensure proper functioning. It is your responsibility to provide the following maintenance for your child's DME:

- Regular cleaning
- Oiling of moving parts (as recommended)
- Regular monitoring and tightening of screws, bolts, brakes, seat belts, etc.
- Keeping all removable parts attached to DME (straps, footrests, arm rests, belts, head rests, support pads, abductor, etc.)

EQUIPMENT EVALUATIONS

Most equipment evaluations and appointments will occur at the Medical Therapy Unit (MTU) site, thus you will be responsible for transporting the equipment to the appointment. A parent/caregiver and the child must be present for all DME appointments. All bathroom equipment evaluations/appointments require a home visit.

REPAIRS & MODIFICATIONS

It is your responsibility to contact your therapist when repairs or modifications are needed:

- A **REPAIR** is defined as fixing an existing part that is broken or worn out. This does not require a therapist to be present for the appointment unless the equipment must be replaced. For repairs, please contact the DME provider and notify the therapist of repairs needed. The appointment may then be scheduled directly with the DME provider.
- A **MODIFICATION** is defined as modifying, changing, or adding an existing part for growth or to accommodate a change. These appointments must be scheduled with a therapist and the DME provider. Please contact the MTU to schedule an appointment.
- All new equipment appointments must be scheduled with a therapist and DME provider. Please contact the MTU to schedule an appointment.

Due to DME and CCS/Medi-Cal guidelines, prescriptions for equipment need to specify each new component. The prescription needs to be signed by the physician who follows your child for therapy needs. It is essential that you keep scheduled appointments, once a year for monitor therapy and every six months for active therapy, so there is not a delay in providing equipment. CCS is unable to authorize any DME without a current prescription and medical report.