

Aids & Appliances (Social Rehabilitation)

If you qualify for Social Rehabilitation, we may help with costs of some aids or appliances.

What we can fund

Aids and appliances are items medically prescribed to help restore your independence. Examples are:

- shower chair prescribed for injury to lower body
- electric can opener prescribed for wrist injury.

Aids and appliances don't include:

- cochlear implants, or other artificial implants (unless as part of surgery we approved)
- general household items (such as beds or leisure equipment).

When we can fund it

Factors we consider

To decide if we should fund an item for your Social Rehabilitation, we'll look at:

- **prescriber**—whether suitably qualified
- **rehabilitation goals**—that the item will help with
- **normal practice**—as to prescribing it for rehabilitation of the condition
- **need, fitness & suitability**—for resolving or treating the condition
- **other suitable options**—such as training or treatment
- **cost-effectiveness**—in relation to other options
- **other agencies**—what they've done or recommended.

Situations that don't qualify

We usually won't fund an item if you:

- can get it through ACC or public health services (including on loan)
- have a suitable one already
- had a suitable one, since being injured or ill, but got rid of it.

What follow-up happens

Once an item's delivered, the occupational therapist may need to check it, and make sure:

- it's safe and fits your needs
- it's properly set up
- you and your support people know how to use and look after it.

We may reassess your needs in the future. As your life changes, your needs may be better met by other options such as residential care.

When we'll replace or repair

Wear & tear

If the item no longer fits your needs, because of age or condition, we'll replace it.

Loss, neglect & theft

We won't usually replace or repair an item after loss, theft, neglect or misuse.

Travel

We don't cover loss or damage during overseas travel. If taking the item outside the country you live in, make sure it's covered by travel insurance.