



DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ADMINISTRATION
Olympia, Washington

TITLE:	ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY	POLICY 4.26
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Authority:	Title 71A RCW	Developmental Disabilities
	Chapter 388-106 WAC	Long-Term Care Services
	Chapter 388-825 WAC	Developmental Disabilities Administration Service Rules
	Chapter 388-845 WAC	DDA Home and Community-Based Services Waiver

PURPOSE

This policy establishes service delivery guidelines and service limits for assistive technology.

SCOPE

This policy applies to DDA field staff and DDA-contracted assistive technology and purchasing goods and services providers.

DEFINITIONS

CFC-funded assistive technology means assistive equipment, adaptive items, and devices funded by the Community First Choice (CFC) Medicaid State Plan option granted under 1915(k) of the Social Security Act, which are used to increase a client's independence or substitute for human assistance related to activities of daily living, instrumental activities of daily living, or health-related tasks (nurse delegated). CFC-funded assistive technology also includes training of participants and caregivers on the maintenance of AT equipment purchased.

Preadmission Screening and Resident Review or **PASRR** is a process required by federal rule for people referred to a Medicaid-certified nursing facility.

Roads to Community Living or **RCL** is a demonstration project funded by the federal Money-Follows-the-Person grant. RCL provides services and supports to people transitioning to a community-based setting after residing in a facility (e.g., hospital skilled nursing facility, or intermediate care facility) for more than 60 days.

Waiver-funded assistive technology means items, equipment, or product systems funded by one of DDA's 1915(c) home and community-based services waiver programs under the Social Security Act, which are used to increase, maintain, or improve a client's functional capabilities, increase safety, or increase social engagement in the community. Waiver-funded assistive technology also includes supports to directly assist the client to select, acquire, and use the technology.

POLICY

- A. Assistive technology is available under different programs operated by DDA.
1. A client may receive CFC-funded assistive technology if criteria are met under [Chapter 388-106 WAC](#).
 - a. [WAC 388-106-0270](#) describes types of covered items, repairs, and supports.
 - b. [WAC 388-106-0273](#) describes additional personal emergency response services that are covered.
 - c. [WAC 388-106-0274](#) describes service limits.
 2. A client may receive waiver-funded or RCL-funded assistive technology if criteria are met under [Chapter 388-845 WAC](#). (RCL-funded assistive technology follows waiver rules).
 - a. [WAC 388-845-0415](#) describes types of covered items, repairs, and supports.
 - b. [WAC 388-845-0420](#) describes qualified providers.
 - c. [WAC 388-845-0425](#) describes service limits.
 3. Regardless of the funding source, the CRM must document the need for assistive technology in the client's DDA assessment or PASRR plan.
- B. DDA does not approve assistive technology requested for the benefit of anyone other than the client.

- C. DDA requires a written recommendation for the request of assistive technology, from a professional who is currently working with the client. Professionals include medical specialists, other specialists, case resource managers, special education professionals, and others with relevant expertise in conditions being treated through technology.
- D. The written recommendation may come in the form of an email, SER note, a letter, treatment plan, relevant medical plan, or any professional document indicating the client's need for the requested AT. The CRM must save a copy of the written recommendation, if applicable, in the client's record.
- E. The CRM must discuss with the client the anticipated consequences, risks, and benefits of using assistive technology, including the impacts a device may have on the client's privacy, due to features such as:
1. Live video feed and video recording capabilities;
 2. Tracking capabilities; and
 3. Data collection and storage of private information.
- Note: Managing these features is the responsibility of the client or other designated person in the PCSP. The client must consent to receipt of the item.
- F. The CRM must provide a list of contracted providers of purchasing goods and services (PG&S) and assistive technology (AT) and explain to the client that some providers charge significantly more than others. The CRM must confirm the provider has a current contract in the Agency Contracts Database (ACD), after the client chooses a provider.
- G. If a client enrolled on CFC and an HCBS waiver requests multiple items covered by both programs, CFC funds for CFC-covered items invoiced at \$550 or less must be used first, then waiver funds may be used. Separate invoices are required for each funding source. The CRM must have the client review the order to ensure the order is correct, including a review of the following:
1. Size of the item;
 2. Color, if applicable;
 3. Specifications and measurements;
 4. Client's shipping address; and
 5. Confirmation of client acknowledgment that if the order is not correct, DDA does not pay for exchanges (e.g., shipping or other associated costs).

- H. If a CRM receives an invoice that is above market value (MSRP), the CRM must remind the client that there are other providers who charge at or below the MSRP, available for them to use. If the client declines another provider and wishes to purchase the more costly item anyway, the CRM:
1. May approve the purchase if it meets criteria in chapter 388-106 WAC, chapter 388-845 WAC, or both as applicable; and
 2. Must document the client's choice in a service episode record.

EXCEPTION

Any exception to this policy must have the prior written approval of the Deputy Assistant Secretary.

SUPERSESSION

DDA Policy 4.26, *Assistive Technology*
Issued April 1, 2023

Approved:


Deputy Assistant Secretary
Developmental Disabilities Administration

Date: January 1, 2025