

## Environmental Accessibility Adaptations

### Improving the home's condition helps people maintain their independence, health, and wellbeing.

Environmental Accessibility Adaptations (EAAs), also called home modifications, make it easier for people to carry out daily activities. The service is covered under CalAIM and is available in a home that is owned, rented, leased, or occupied by the member or their caregiver. Home modifications reduce the risk of accident and death. They delay institutionalization, cut health care costs, and support caregivers providing assistance.

Examples include ramps, grab bars, doorway widening, stair lifts, specialized electric and plumbing systems, and wheelchair-accessible bathrooms and showers.

#### Eligibility and restrictions

Members are eligible when they are at risk of institutionalization in a nursing facility.

Members must receive direct medical or remedial benefit from the home modifications and cannot be part of a duplicate EAA program.

The program excludes aesthetic or general utility improvements and must follow building codes.

Unless more time is needed to obtain homeowner consent or the individual receiving the service requests a longer timeframe, EAAs must be assessed and authorized within 90 days of the request.

#### Required documentation

Required documentation includes:

- An order from the member's current primary care physician or other health care professional requesting equipment or services.
- Physical or occupational therapy evaluation and report containing an evaluation of the current equipment's inadequacy, an evaluation of the requested equipment or service's necessity, and a description of the

#### Go to the online COVID-19 alerts page for info about COVID-19 vaccines!

At [cahealthwellness.com/providers](https://www.cahealthwellness.com/providers) > **California Health & Wellness Alerts: COVID-19 > Updates on Coronavirus**, you will find information about COVID-19 vaccines. This includes COVID-19 vaccine coverage details, how to enroll to administer the COVID-19 vaccine, and COVID-19 vaccine reporting and coding requirements. Also, access key tips you can use to help talk with and answer questions from your patients about the COVID-19 vaccine, especially those who are hesitant to receive it.

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#### THIS UPDATE APPLIES TO:

- Physicians
- Independent Practice Associations
- Hospitals
- Ancillary Providers
- Community Supports (CS) Providers
- Enhanced Care Management (ECM) Providers

#### Online Access

[www.CAHealthWellness.com](https://www.CAHealthWellness.com)

- Secure Access
- Provider Billing manuals
- Provider forms
- Quick reference guides FAQs
- Secure messaging
- Prior Auth Code Checker Tool
- Clinical guidelines
- California Health & Wellness news
- Member eligibility
- PCP verification
- PCP panel lists
- Submit, inquire, or correct claims
- Submit authorizations or check authorization status

#### Call Us at 877-685-0305

Monday to Friday  
8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (PT)

#### Fax Numbers

**Prior Authorizations:** 866-724-5057

**Concurrent Review:** 855-556-7910

**Admissions:** 855-556-7907

**Appeals:** 855-460-1009

**Case Management:** 855-556-7909

#### Pharmacy

**Medi-Cal Rx** – Self-administered drugs and supplies obtained under the pharmacy benefit

- Prior auth fax: 800-869-4325
- Help Desk: 800-977-2273

**AcariaHealth** – Specialty Pharmacy

- Prior auth fax: 855-217-0926
- Phone: 855-535-1815

**CHWP Pharmacy Dept** – Provider-administered drugs requiring prior auth

- Prior auth fax: 877-259-6961
- Phone: 877-658-0305

**Medication Prior Authorization Form is available at**

[www.CAHealthWellness.com](https://www.CAHealthWellness.com).

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inadequacy of currently or previously used equipment.

- If possible, a minimum of two bids from appropriate providers of the requested service which itemize the services, cost, labor, and applicable warranties.
- Proof of a home visit determining the suitability of the requested equipment or service.

Before permanent adaptations or installations, the owner and member are provided written documentation stating that the modifications are permanent and that the state is not responsible for maintenance, repair or removal of any modification.

### **Where to refer members for housing tenancy and sustaining services**

Below are resources to connect Medi-Cal members to housing services and other supportive services such as financial assistance, food pantries, medical care and other no-cost or reduced-cost help:

1. Use findhelp: Search for community supports (CS) programs and/or no-cost or low-cost, direct services to support members with social determinants of health (SDOH) needs. The platform makes it easy to refer members to CS providers and close the loop on referrals.

Follow the steps below to begin a search.

1. Go to <https://communitysupportsecm.findhelp.com/>.
  2. Enter a ZIP Code and click *Search*.
  3. Choose a topic from the top, then select a subtopic. Services vary based on the ZIP Code.
  4. Select the CS provider or service that best meets the member's needs.
2. Use the provider directory: If you identify a member who qualifies for CS, use the provider directory to identify a CS provider to refer the member to, and contact the CS provider based on the directory contact information to provide the member's information. The provider directory can be found on the CalAIM Resource Page, <https://www.cahealthwellness.com/providers/CalAIM>.

### **Program details**

- Total lifetime maximum: \$7,500 unless the member's place of residence changes or the member's condition has changed significantly.
- Coding: Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) code S5165 U1.
- Allowable providers: Providers must possess experience and expertise specific to these services.
- State services to avoid: Nursing facility services, inpatient and outpatient hospital services, emergency department services and emergency transport services.

### **Additional information**

Providers are encouraged to access CHWP's provider portal online at [www.CAHealthWellness.com](http://www.CAHealthWellness.com) for real-time information, including eligibility verification, claims status, prior authorization status, plan summaries, and more.

If you have questions regarding the information contained in this update, contact CHWP at 877-658-0305.