

Vehicle Modification Supports Services Policy

Stakeholder Input Summary

Vehicle Modification Support Services is one of the DDA-operated Waiver Program support services. Vehicle Modifications are changes made to a vehicle that is the person’s primary transportation method. Vehicle Modifications include an assessment of the vehicle and the cost of an adaption to the vehicle. The adaptation to the vehicle must ensure it will meet the needs of the person within their community, help the person integrate fully into their community, and ensure the person’s health and safety needs are met.

The Developmental Disability Administration (DDA) issued its proposed policy for Vehicle Modifications on May 5, 2023, requesting input from participants, families, Coordination of Community Service agencies, community providers, and advocacy organizations. The Stakeholder input period ended on May 19, 2023. In total, 3 unduplicated stakeholders submitted input. Below is a summary of the specific recommendations from the public and the DDA’s responses.

	Comment	DDA Response
1.	Comment: Recommend increasing the amount of funds available for Vehicle Modifications to match the cost of living increase.	This recommendation and the cost impact will be considered for a future amendment.
2.	Comment: Please clarify what services Vehicle Modifications will cover and the process to obtain vehicle assessment and modification.	<p>Vehicle Modifications cover the cost of a vehicle assessment, the vehicle prescription, non-warranty vehicle modification repairs, the installation of the vehicle adaption, and training on the use of the modification.</p> <p>Vehicle Modifications assessments are provided by a Division of Rehabilitation Services (DORS) approved vendor or a DDA certified vendor.</p>

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3.	<p>Comment: Please clarify if pre-modified or older vehicles are eligible for vehicle modification funding.</p>	<p>Vehicle modifications are authorized to vehicles meeting safety standards once modified. A pre-modified or older vehicle that meets safety standards can be modified.</p> <p>Before having a modification made to a vehicle a person must have a vehicle modification assessment and driving assessment completed within the last year by a Vehicle Modifications Provider; and a current valid prescription for the vehicle modifications which is specific to the year/make/model of the vehicle.</p>
4.	<p>Comment: Are there temporary support services available that could cover the person’s transportation need while the vehicle is being modified?</p>	<p>Transportation Services are available through the DDA-Waivers. A person enrolled in a DDA Medicaid Waiver Program may request Transportation Services to promote access to their community, based on their need for this service, as identified within their PCP.</p> <p>For more information please see the following resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● DDA Guide to Services - May 2023 ● DDA Easy-to-Understand Guide to Services - May 2023 ● Transportation Services Policy

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5.	Comment: Under Special Service Requirements, please remove the requirement for a vehicle modifier to complete DDA orientation and training.	At this time, the DDA has not issued any specific orientation and training requirements other than how to bill for services.
6.	Comment: Please provide clarification regarding the difference between Vehicle Modifications provider and the work done by an auto professional to modify the vehicle.	Under the DDA programs, Vehicle Modification providers are certified to provide waiver services. Automobile professionals that apply and meet waiver provider qualifications may be certified to provide DDA Vehicle Modification services.
7.	Comment: Suggest allowing other professionals to assess the need for vehicle modifications related to a person's challenging behavior, such as psychological assessments that may identify the need for partitions, special seat belts, tracking and monitoring devices, etc.	<p>Funding for this service is based on the person's assessed need, identified with their PCP. All needs, challenges, and concerns should be shared with the team and Vehicle Modification provider.</p> <p>Please note: Any rights restriction must be included in an approved Behavior Support Plan and the person's PCP. Physical and mechanical restraints are not allowable.</p>