

Equipment

What equipment will the LSA pay for?

The Lifetime Support Authority (LSA) will pay for 'necessary and reasonable' equipment to help you perform tasks you can no longer do as a result of your motor accident injury. This may include equipment that:

- gives you independence or more independence
- gives you more opportunities for jobs or getting about
- improves your mobility
- helps you communicate better
- eases pain and discomfort
- keeps you healthy
- helps you get back to study or leisure activities
- helps keep you, your family and carers safe.

How can I get the equipment I need?

All equipment that you require must be 'prescribed' by an appropriately qualified health professional or team of professionals. This may be your Service Planner or another health professional. For example, a medical specialist may recommend you be assessed for a wheelchair; however an occupational therapist will detail the specifications of the wheelchair.

They will make this decision on the basis of an assessment of your needs. You will be asked for your opinion as to whether you agree that the equipment will be helpful for you.

If you think you need equipment please discuss with your Service Planner.

Who owns the equipment?

All equipment will be owned by the LSA or Domiciliary Equipment Service (DES) (the LSA's nominated equipment supplier). You will be able to use any equipment that has been prescribed to you for as long as you need it, but you will have to give it back to the LSA or DES if you don't need it any more.

What about repairs to the equipment?

The LSA will pay for maintenance and repairs to equipment that gets damaged due to ordinary wear and tear, as well as routine maintenance and adjustments where your needs change.

Can I get my existing equipment modified?

The LSA will pay for the necessary and reasonable cost of upgrading or modifying existing household or leisure equipment that you used before the motor vehicle accident to enable you to access that equipment again.

Continence equipment and supplies

The LSA will pay for continence equipment and supplies that you need as a result of the motor vehicle accident.

Beds and mattresses

The LSA will fund a bed or mattress if you need a new one with particular features because of the motor vehicle accident. You may have to contribute to the cost of the bed or mattress depending on the age and condition of your existing bed.

Equipment

Information, communication and assistive technology

The LSA will pay for information, communication and assistive technology in certain circumstances where it is necessary and reasonable and related to your injury.

Environmental control equipment

The LSA will pay for the necessary and reasonable cost of environmental control equipment, including temperature controls or other equipment that involves modifications to your home.

Pressure care equipment

If you have a pressure ulcer or have been assessed as being at significant risk of developing a pressure ulcer as a result of the motor vehicle accident, the LSA will pay for pressure care equipment.

Positioning and seated mobility equipment

The LSA will pay for wheelchairs and other mobility aids if required. It will also pay for positioning and seated mobility equipment, such as shower chairs or seat raisers if needed.

Orthoses, footwear and walking aids

The LSA will pay for orthoses, specialist footwear and walking aids if needed.

Respiratory equipment

The LSA will pay for respiratory equipment such as invasive ventilation (tracheostomy), non-invasive ventilation and associated electro-medical equipment and supplies.

Equipment for exercise and fitness

If you have been prescribed fitness equipment by an appropriately qualified health practitioner, then the LSA will pay for it. The LSA will need to be given reasons why the equipment is needed in terms of your motor vehicle injury and what other options have been considered.

The LSA will not pay for equipment that you are able to use elsewhere such as at a gym, or that you use only in one place, such as in a physiotherapist's room.

Equipment for recreation or leisure purposes

The LSA will pay for the necessary and reasonable equipment or modifications to equipment you already have so that you can get back to a recreational activity that:

- you did before the motor vehicle accident
- you want to do as a substitute for something you did before the motor vehicle accident
- is developmentally appropriate and you would like to do now

What if my needs and circumstances change?

Your needs and circumstances will be reviewed regularly to ensure you are receiving the services you need. If your goals or needs change, speak to your Service Planner.

For more information contact the Lifetime Support Authority.