

# Providing Albertans with assistance for medical equipment and supplies.

#### **PROGRAM MANDATE:**

The Alberta Aids to Daily Living (AADL) program helps Albertans with a long-term disability, chronic illness or terminal illness maintain their independence in their home through the provision of medical equipment and supplies to meet their basic medically assessed needs.

## Do I have to contribute to the cost of the AADL benefit?

Yes. AADL is a cost-share program. You pay 25 per cent of the cost of program benefits, up to a maximum of \$500 per family per benefit year (July 1 to June 30).

For some benefits, you may choose an upgraded item. You pay the additional cost of this item. These additional costs are not included toward the \$500 cost-share maximum.

## I can't afford to cost-share. Is there some assistance?

Low-income Albertans may be exempt from cost-share.

If you are over 65, or a dependant of someone over 65, apply for cost-share exemption from AADL directly. If you are approved, you will be sent an AADL cost-share exemption card (previously known as the full benefit assistance card).



If you are under 65, apply for Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan Premium Subsidy. If you are approved, contact AADL and you will be sent an AADL cost share exemption card (previously known as the full benefit assistance card). Cost-share exemption forms are available from your authorizer, vendor or AADL.

Contact AADL directly if you receive assistance from:

- Alberta Widows' Pension.
- Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped.
- Alberta Works Health Benefits.

You can appeal your cost-share status if it will create a financial hardship. Please contact AADL for information on the cost-share appeal process. AADL is a program of Alberta Seniors and Community Supports.

### For more information, contact your regional health authority or:

Alberta Aids to Daily Living 2nd Floor, South Tower 10030 - 107 Street Edmonton, Alberta T5J 3E4

Phone: (780) 427-0731 in Edmonton Toll free: 310-0000, then (780) 427-0731

when prompted

Fax: (780) 422-0968

Deaf/hearing impaired callers within Alberta using a TTY can reach the provincial government by dialing 427-9999 in Edmonton or 1-800-232-7215 throughout Alberta.

Visit our website at: www.seniors.gov.ab.ca/AADL



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#### Am I eligible?

You may be eligible if you:

- are a resident of the province of Alberta,
- have a valid and active Alberta Personal Health Card, and
- require assistance because of a long-term disability, chronic illness, or terminal illness. Long-term and chronic are defined as being six months or more.

In addition, each benefit has specific eligibility criteria that must be met.

#### Who is not eligible?

You may not be eligible for AADL benefits if you are eligible to receive comparable benefits through another source, including:

- Veterans Affairs (if you are a veteran and need aid because of a condition acquired during active duty);
- Workers' Compensation Board;
- Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB)
   Directorate, First Nations and Inuit
   Branch, Health Canada. Individuals
   who have treaty status on or off
   a reserve receive assistance from
   NIHB with their medical equipment
   and supplies;
- a private insurance plan.

AADL provides medical equipment and supplies to meet basic medically assessed needs.

#### How do I apply?

You must first be assessed by a health care professional to determine your basic medical needs and eligibility for the program.

If you require oxygen, orthotics, prosthetics, or hearing aids, your assessment will be done by a health care professional employed at approved AADL specialty vendors. Contact AADL or your regional health authority for more information on obtaining these benefits.

or

For other benefits, you may contact your regional health authority for an assessment by an approved AADL authorizer. AADL authorizers are health care professionals who are trained and approved to authorize AADL benefits. The authorizer is typically a registered nurse, physical therapist, or occupational therapist. These authorizers are generally employed in a community health care facility, hospital, continuing care centre, or home care program.

You must be assessed and authorized for AADL benefits BEFORE you receive them.

AADL will NOT refund clients who purchase their own medical equipment and supplies.

#### Where do I get my equipment?

You must go to an approved AADL vendor to get your medical equipment or supplies. Approved AADL vendors include select home health care stores, pharmacies, home oxygen suppliers, hearing aid vendors, etc. Although you may choose from a complete list of AADL vendors, your authorizer will provide you with a list of three vendors to help you select one. If you would like a complete vendor list, contact your authorizer or AADL.

Large equipment, such as wheelchairs and hospital beds, is purchased by AADL and delivered to your residence.

AADL limits the number, frequency and price of benefits you can receive.

AADL annually produces a list of approved products or benefits. Contact AADL or your authorizer for information on specific benefits and products available.

## What benefits does AADL provide?

- Back supports
- Bathing and toileting equipment
- Catheter supplies
- Compression garments
- Custom made footwear
- Custom ocular prosthesis
- Dressing supplies
- Electro-larynx and laryngectomy supplies
- Hearing aids
- Hospital beds and accessories
- Incontinence supplies
- Injection supplies1
- Patient lifters
- Mastectomy prosthesis
- Ostomy supplies
- Oxygen
- Orthotic braces (not foot orthotics)
- Prosthetic devices
- Respiratory equipment
- Specialized seating devices
- Walkers and walking aids
- Wheelchair cushions and accessories
- Wheelchairs, manual and power

AADL does not provide coverage for foot orthotics, eyeglasses, prescription drugs, or dental care/dentures.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Not provided for insulin injections