

Medical Aids Subsidy Scheme

Information Flyer

How can MASS assist you?

The Medical Aids Subsidy Scheme (MASS) provides access to subsidy funding for the provision of a range of aids and equipment to eligible Queensland residents with permanent and stabilised conditions or disabilities.

The range of MASS aids and equipment is selected to assist people to live at home and to avoid premature or inappropriate hospitalisation or residential care.

Aids and equipment are subsidy funded either on permanent loan basis, private ownership or through the purchase of consumables.

MASS subsidises the purchase of aids and equipment and, in some cases, you may need to contribute to the purchase cost or purchase additional aids and modifications.

Are you eligible? *

You may be eligible for MASS assistance if:

- You are a permanent resident of Queensland; and you have a permanent or stabilised condition or disability and;
- You hold one of the following eligibility cards in your own name:
 - Centrelink Pensioner Concession Card
 - Centrelink Health Care Card
 - Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA)
 - Pensioner Concession Card (conditions apply)
 - Queensland Government Seniors Card

*MASS administers some specialty programs and schemes which may vary in eligibility requirements, please refer to guidelines.

How do you apply?

You will need to arrange a clinical assessment by a health professional (clinician) approved by MASS. The health care provider authorised to prescribe particular types of aids and equipment may vary depending on the type of aids that are required.

MASS-eApply (online applications) is the preferred method of application submission. For more information visit: health.qld.gov.au/mass/mass-online-applications

Communication aids

Communication aids are assistive technology that help people who cannot speak by replacing speech or helping with speech that is not easy for others to understand.

MASS offers a subsidy for:

- artificial larynges
- speech generating devices
- communication software
- voice amplification devices.



Continence aids

Continence aids are used to manage the symptoms of poor bladder and bowel control. Eligible prescribers for continence aids are:

- continence specialist registered nurse
- geriatrician
- occupational therapist
- paediatrician
- physiotherapist
- registered nurse
- urogynaecologist
- urologist.



Subsidies are available for an initial and ongoing supply of:

- catheter valves
- disposable pads, nappies, pull-on style pads and all-in-one pads
- indwelling and disposable catheters
- leg and night drainage bags
- reusable bed pads, chair pads and pants
- sheaths (latex and non-latex)
- stretch pants (only supplied with non-adhesive shaped pads).

MASS will supply a subsidised amount of continence aids every 6 months, or every 12 months for indwelling catheters, and bed and chair pads.

Daily Living and Mobility Aids

Daily living and mobility aids help people to perform tasks they may find difficult, by promoting independence and safety through the use of suitable equipment.

Subsidies are available for daily living and mobility aids including:

- bathing and toileting aids
- hoists and slings
- manual and power wheelchairs
- pressure redistribution cushion, mattress or overlay
- sleep positioning system
- tilt in space manual wheelchairs
- wheeled walking aids.



MASS will pay for repairs and maintenance to its permanent loan aids, associated with reasonable wear and tear when used within the home environment and reasonable community access.

Your physiotherapist, occupational therapist or rehabilitation engineer will be able to assist you with the trial of suitable equipment and the completion of your application to MASS.

Home Oxygen

Subsidies are available for eligible adults and children towards a range of home oxygen packages including concentrator machines and cylinders. Home oxygen may be prescribed for adults and children with:

- cardiac conditions
- hypoxaemia
- life-threatening asthma or croup
- neurological conditions
- other medical conditions.



MASS does not subsidise oxygen when:

- oxygen is required solely for the purpose of nebulising
- portable oxygen is needed for adult community access

- oxygen is required for dyspnoea without hypoxaemia
- the person requiring oxygen is currently a smoker.

A respiratory specialist will be able to determine your eligibility for home oxygen through MASS.

Medical Grade Footwear



MASS provides subsidised assistance towards prefabricated, customised and custom-made medical grade footwear that are designed to help with specific foot conditions.

Orthoses

An orthosis is a medical device, such as a splint or brace to improve movement, or prevent deformity. MASS offers funding for lower limb or spinal orthoses.

A MASS registered orthotist will be able to determine your eligibility for orthoses through MASS.



Queensland Artificial Limb Service

Queensland Artificial Limb Service (QALS) provides funding assistance to eligible persons for a variety of standard definitive prosthetic services, for basic day to day activities, as well as regular maintenance checks, repairs of a wear and tear nature and consumables such as stump socks, limb stockings, and gel liners - annual limits apply.



Information on QALS eligibility*, applying for prosthetic funding, registered prosthetic service providers and annual limits is available on the QALS website:

health.qld.gov.au/qals

*Differs from MASS eligibility.



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Spectacle Supply Scheme (SSS)



The SSS provides a pair of basic prescription spectacles for reading and distance, or bifocals/trifocals once every two years to eligible clients.

To apply for spectacles you need to visit an optometrist participating in the SSS. A list of participating optometrists and approved frames is available on the MASS website: health.qld.gov.au/mass/prescribe/spectacles

SSS provides a complete set of spectacles for both adults and children, including basic frames, lenses and lens treatments (if clinically justified).

If eligible you are generally responsible for all costs associated with the purchase of any extras including tinting, photochromatic lenses, UV protection and hard coating.