

Medical Aids Subsidy Scheme (MASS)

Application Guidelines for Voice Amplification Devices



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An electronic version of this document is available at health.qld.gov.au/mass

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Aim of MASS

The aim of MASS is to provide endorsed aids and equipment (assistive products) to eligible Queensland residents with a permanent and stabilised condition or disability. Assistive products are selected to enable people to live in their home environment and avoid premature or inappropriate residential care or hospitalisation. To meet this aim, the assistive products subsidised by MASS must be required for use within the home environment. MASS acknowledges that assistive devices may be used for some community access, although the MASS subsidy is not provided for this purpose as it is outside the scope of the scheme.

If a suitable device is held in MASS stock, MASS will allocate this item and arrange delivery to the requested address.

Voice Amplification Devices

Voice Amplification Devices Subsidised	Maximum MASS subsidy	May be subsidised when
Voice Amplification Device, including amplifier, microphone and accessories (waistband, carry case etc)	\$475	Voice volume is insufficient for successful communication and client can achieve appropriate voice volume with device

Co-Payment

Where a voice amplification device exceeds the maximum subsidy funding, a co-payment arrangement may be entered into with MASS. For further details, refer to the Subsidy Funding section of the [MASS General Guidelines](#).

Ownership, Repairs and Maintenance

Voice Amplification Devices are offered to clients based on private ownership, with repairs and maintenance deemed the responsibility of the client. For further details, refer to following sections of the [MASS General Guidelines](#):

- Permanent Loan Aids (Exceptions to Permanent Loan Arrangements)
- Permanent Loans – Repair and Maintenance

How to Apply

The applicant should consult with an eligible prescriber to assist with assessment and selection of appropriate device and any required accessories. The prescriber will complete [MASS-eApply Communication Aids Application](#) or the [MASS 21 Voice Amplification Device \(VAD\) application form](#) and any extra documentation required; then submit the completed application to MASS – please refer to the list of application forms and documents required below.

Trial and follow up requirements

In addition to the information in the [MASS General Guidelines](#) (section, Prescriber Role), the following guidelines are provided specifically for the funding of voice amplification devices:

- Prescribers should adequately trial a voice amplification device in the home environment, or it must be demonstrated that the device will be used functionally in the home.
- Prescribers must consider the current and future needs of the client.
- A post delivery check to ensure all items are delivered as quoted.
- A post delivery follow up visit is to be provided by the prescriber, or this is referred on to another health professional, to ensure the client and carer are familiar with operation and effective use of the equipment, and aware of maintenance and repair responsibilities.

Allocation of aids

- Prescribers and applicants will be notified of the outcome of the application.
- If approved, and the conditions for co-payment are met (e.g. statutory declaration is signed and returned to MASS) an order will be placed with the supplier/manufacturer for supply directly to the prescribing speech pathologist, OR
- If a suitable aid is held in MASS stock, it will be delivered directly to the prescribing speech pathologist.

Eligible Prescribers

Applicants wishing to apply must consult a:

- Speech Pathologist

MASS-eApply Online Application

MASS-eApply is the preferred method of application for all Speech Generating Device requests to MASS. Online applications are designed to work across multiple platforms: computer/laptop, iPad, Android tablet or smartphone and across all MASS service areas. As part of the eApply process, applicant's eligibility will be confirmed electronically.

- Further Information: health.qld.gov.au/mass/eapply
- To register: forms.health.qld.gov.au/#/vault
- To login: forms.health.qld.gov.au/#/login
- For enquiries and technical assistance contact: MASS-eApply@health.qld.gov.au

Application forms and documents for non MASS-eApply Applications

Application Type	Documents
Voice Amplification Device	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• MASS 21 Communication Aids Application Form• MASS 21 Voice Amplification Device (VAD) Application Form• Signed MASS 84 Proxy Access to Centrelink Information Form or photocopy of both sides of the applicant's concession card• Quote for device and any accessories