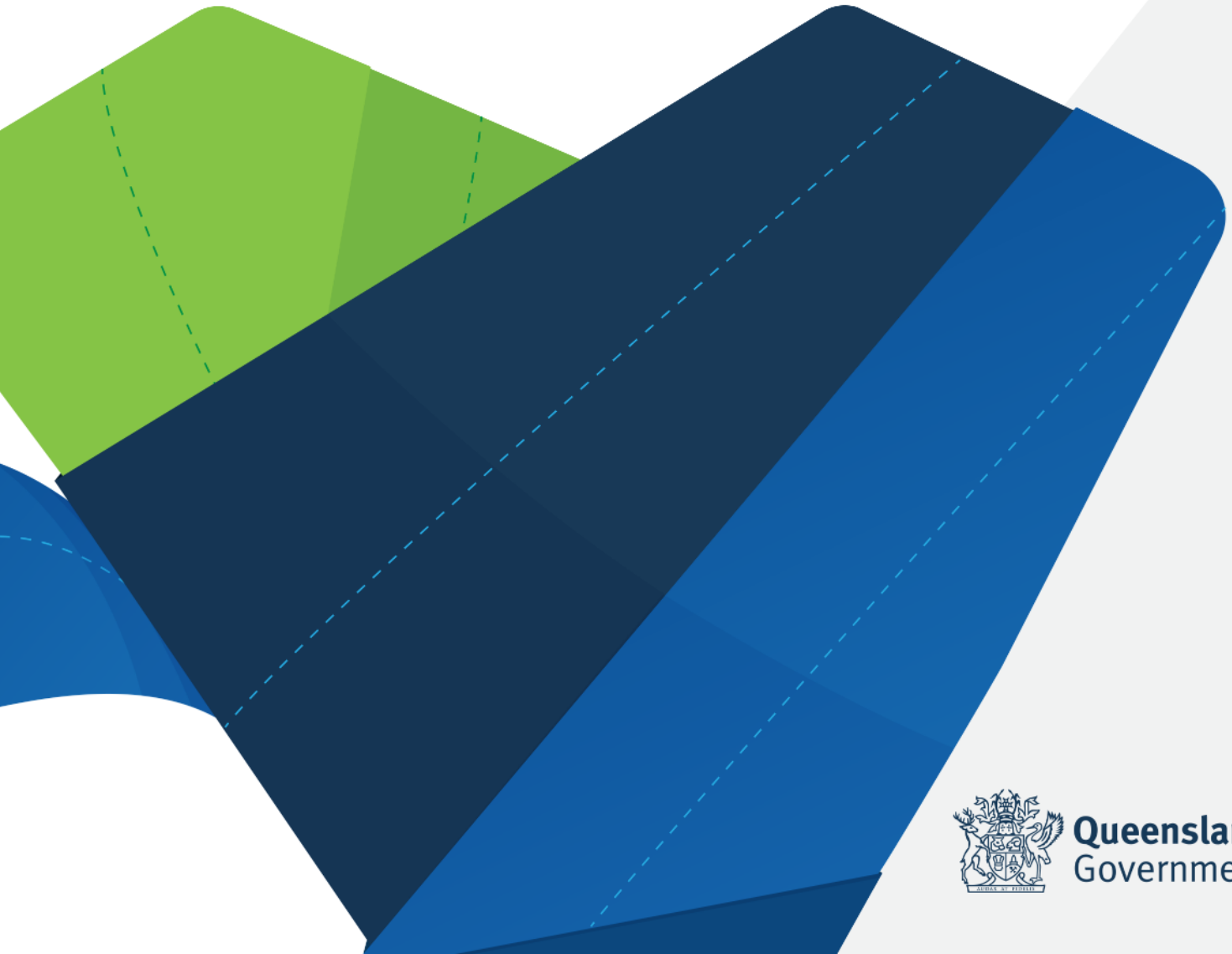
Medical Aids Subsidy Scheme (MASS)

Application Guidelines for Artificial Larynges



Queensland Government

Medical Aids Subsidy Scheme (MASS) - Application Guidelines for Artificial Larynges

Published by the State of Queensland (Queensland Health), September 2021

For more information contact:

Medical Aids Subsidy Scheme, Metro South Health, Queensland Health, PO Box 281, Cannon Hill QLD 4170, email mass184@health.qld.gov.au, phone (07) 3136 3636.

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

Artificial Larynges

Artificial Larynges subsidised	Maximum MASS subsidy	May be subsidised when
Artificial Larynx	$1,325	Applicant can successfully use an artificial larynx as their primary means of communication.
Refurbished Artificial Larynx	Issued from stock	Applicant can successfully use the artificial larynx secondary to other methods of communication, for example, a trachea-oesophageal puncture and voice prosthesis. It is intended for situations where other methods are not functional e.g. on the phone or to gain emergency assistance.

Accessories for Artificial Larynx	Maximum MASS subsidy	May be subsidised when
Carry bag	Fully funded	To protect the device.
Battery charger and rechargeable batteries (with initial package)	Fully funded	For operation of device.
Oral adaptor (with initial package)	Fully funded	To provide alternative contact point when client unable to make effective contact between the device and external soft tissue of the cheek or neck.

*Note: MASS will not be responsible for ongoing consumables i.e. batteries/oral adaptors.

Permanent Loan, Repairs and Maintenance, Ownership

Artificial larynges are provided on permanent loan, with repairs and maintenance funded by MASS. For further details, refer to the following sections of the MASS General Guidelines:

- Permanent Loans
- Permanent Loans – Repair and Maintenance
- Changers to ownership of an aid – this section includes information and the implications where equipment is either transferred from MASS to the client, or MASS takes over the ownership of equipment (e.g. similar equipment provided by interstate agencies)

In addition, MASS will provide replacement rechargeable batteries for older model Servox Digitals. Commercially available replacement rechargeable batteries for other devices will not be funded.

How to Apply

Consult with an eligible prescriber to assist with assessment of appropriate device. The prescriber will complete an Artificial Larynx Application form and any extra documentation required; then submit the complete 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 artificial larynx devices:

- Prescribers should adequately trial an artificial larynx 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; provide information to assist the client pre-plan for occasions when they might be without their communication aid; and ensure they are aware of maintenance and repair processes.

Allocation of aids

- Prescribers and applicants will be notified of the outcome of the application.
- If approved, an order will be placed with the supplier/manufacturer for supply directly to the prescribing speech pathologist, OR
- If an artificial larynx is requested as a secondary means of communication, and 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.

Application Forms and Documents required

Artificial Larynx (and any accessories):

- Communication Aids Application Form
- Artificial Larynx Application Form Appendix
- Signed Proxy Access to Centrelink Information Form or photocopy of both sides of the applicant's concession card.