

FAMILY SERVICES AND HOUSING CIRCULAR

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Alternate Program(s): N/A

To: Community Social Service Supervisors/Program Managers
Subject: **Communication Devices Program – Rental Fees for EIA Participants (Assistive Technology Products & Services, Deer Lodge Centre, WRHA)**
Reference: EIA Administrative Manual - 22.4.1 Medical Supplies and Equipment

Type: Policy Replaces # _____
 Procedure
 Rate
 Information Only

Effective Date June 1, 2009

This circular outlines the procedure for the EIA Program to pay the rental cost of speech-generating devices from the Provincial Communication Devices (CD) Program, Assistive Technology Products and Services, Deer Lodge Centre, WRHA. This program is available province wide.

1. COMMUNICATIONS DEVICES PROGRAM – OVERVIEW

As of June 1, 2009, the CD Program offers speech language assessment and rental of devices to adult Manitobans with a severe communication disorder (e.g., severe dysarthria, apraxia, aphasia). The program will benefit Manitobans recently prescribed a device or who previously had accessed devices under the Children’s Special Services Program, educational system or other programs. Attachment 1 has further information on the CD Program.

The CD Program will determine eligibility based on information from a Speech-Language Pathologist. The CD Program supplies devices as follows:

- 1 month free trial during assessment period
- Rental of prescribed equipment at \$20/mth (inc. adapters, manuals, switches, etc.)
- Free delivery of equipment throughout Manitoba.

The CD Program will contact the individual, arrange for the Speech Language Pathologist assessment and prescription, if appropriate.

Transportation Allowance:

EIA will provide a transportation allowance for health reasons for appointments related to the Speech-Language Pathologist assessment, testing and follow-up.

Rental Fee - Payment:

The Speech-Language Pathologist who finalized the prescription will complete Part 1 of the Assistive Technology “Equipment Rental Form” AT-008, then fax the Case Coordinator/

Counsellor to authorize payment. EIA will provide the rental fee for all participants that meet the CD Program eligibility requirements.

EIA will confirm payment of the monthly rental fee by completing Part 2, then fax the CD Program to supply the equipment. The CD Program will invoice Central Accounts, Finance and Administrative Services, Family Services and Housing, 400 – 326 Broadway, Winnipeg.

Case Management:

Case Coordinators/Counsellors are to document authorization of the rental cost on a case note. Staff will enter the new continuous need code, the start date and review date as needed.

Equipment Rental Discontinued:

Should EIA staff determine that the participant no longer requires a device due to a change in circumstances, staff are to send a cancel letter with rental end date to Central Accounts and to the CD Program. Similarly, if the CD Program discontinues the rental, the program will advise EIA and Central Accounts of the end date.