

# Improving lives THROUGH supports and services THAT FOSTER Self-determination.

# Environmental Accessibility Adaptions

## Waiver Updates

#### Waiver Year/ISP Year

Historically, the funding for EAA followed the State fiscal year *for all waivers*, which runs from July 1 to June 30. Effective October 1, 2022, EAA services will follow the ISP year, eliminating the need to monitor both ISP and waiver year for utilization of service. This will now only require job completion within the ISP year.

## Waiver Updates



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- We currently have a \$7500 limit with exception process up to \$10,000. Beginning January 1, 2023, we will have the ability to use \$20,000 over a two year period for EAA services.
- \*\* We are currently developing the methodology for implementation, so additional information will be coming soon.



- Ocan waiver funding be used to pay for an OT/PT evaluation for an individual under the age of 21?
  - An individual under 21 years of age can use waiver funding for the OT/ PT evaluation for the sole purpose of obtaining the necessary EAA.
  - # If using EAA funds, must use contracted provider.
  - Other funding sources can be used

## FAQ

#### What if individual/family/provider suggest changes to original OT/PT evaluation?

Any modifications must be reflected in OT/PT evaluation. Contracted providers must follow modification listed in OT/PT evaluation.

### FAQ

- Should the cost of the OT/PT evaluation be included in the EAA limit?
  - ♠ Yes. The cost of the OT/PT evaluation must be included in the EAA limit.
  - Example using current limit of \$7500 if OT/PT costs \$300, there is a remaining \$7200 to be used for the modification



# What if the family chooses the provider with the higher bid? Do we always have to use the lowest bid?

- The UR Committee will review all bids and approve the lowest and best price if the price is reasonable based on experience of similar jobs and does not exceed the annual maximum allowed for the service.
- A If the family preference is to choose the provider with the higher bid, this information should be included.

# DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

### FAQ

## What if only one bid can be obtained?

Only one bid can be submitted with an EAA request; however, documentation in the ISP should describe attempts to contact other providers (including company name, contact information, dates contacted) and results of those attempts to show a good-faith effort was made to obtain a second bid.



# © Can EAA funds be used to offset the costs of new construction or add square footage to home?

A EAA funding is intended for modification of existing homes or vehicles. The waiver cannot be used to cover costs associated with new home construction or adding square footage to home.

## FAQ

### Are residential modifications required to be ADA compliant?

ADA does not apply to individually owned or leased housing in the private sector not used as a public accommodation, including single family homes, condominiums, or apartments.



### Can individual/family request materials or style to match home?

- The waiver *typically* pays only for "builder grade" materials.
- © Cost above the builder grade materials may be met by the person or family, including additional cost necessary to meet requirements of a home owner association or historic district.
- The purpose of waiver funded EAA is to improve access, independence and/or safety in the residence, not the appearance of the home.



#### **UDAT**

- Provide consultation for all EAA requests over \$5000.00, or by request
- Technical assistance to providers, SC's, OT/PT evaluations



### Consultation and TA

- OGuidance and recommendations in:
  - Planning
  - Compliance
  - Processes
  - Bids
  - Evaluations
  - Completion
  - Much more!



#### **UDAT**

- Contact: <u>TechnologyFirstAndUniversalDesign@dmh.mo.gov</u>
- Webinar:
  <a href="https://dmh.mo.gov/devdisabilities/webinar/previous/2021">https://dmh.mo.gov/devdisabilities/webinar/previous/2021</a>
- Tools: <a href="https://dmh.mo.gov/dev-disabilities/case-mgmt-providers">https://dmh.mo.gov/dev-disabilities/case-mgmt-providers</a>