

FACT SHEET

About Environmental Modifications



Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services
Bureau of Disabilities Services

What are Environmental Modifications?

Environmental modifications are physical adaptations to the home to help ensure the health, welfare and safety of the individual receiving waivers services, or to help the individual be more independent in their home. Environmental modifications are not intended to replace developmentally appropriate parental supervision.

Environmental modifications are now available through both the Family Supports and Community Integration and Habilitation waivers. There is a lifetime cap of \$15,000 per waiver for environmental modifications, and \$500 per year for service and repair of any previous modifications funded through the individual's waiver. The need for the modification must be documented in the Person-Centered Individualized Support Plan.

For individuals on the Family Supports waiver, the \$15,000 lifetime cap and the \$500 available per year for service and repair can be accessed outside of their annual budget cap.

Families and individuals should be mindful that the cap is for the lifetime of the individual. With that in mind, when determining what environmental modifications are needed, individuals and families should take into consideration the current needs of the individual as well as possible future needs. Some examples of environmental modifications include:

- Modification of existing bathroom
- Widening of doorways
- Electric/plumbing systems necessary to accommodate medical equipment and supplies
- Ramps
- Grab bars
- Anti-scald devices

The Division of Disability and Rehabilitation Services, Bureau of Disabilities Services recognizes the challenges individuals and families face and value a person's right to live, love, work, play and pursue their dreams in their community.

Indiana Family & Social Services Administration
402 W. WASHINGTON ST., ROOM W453
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46204-2739
www.fssa.IN.gov | www.in.gov/fssa/ddrs/

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