



Mobility Related Device Purchase DME-010

Iowa Medicaid Program	Prior Authorization, Claims Pre-pay	Effective Date	07/10/2006
Revision Number	7	Last Reviewed	01/16/2026
Reviewed By	Medicaid Medical Director	Next Review	01/15/2027
Approved By	Medicaid Clinical Advisory Committee	Approved Date	11/22/2017

Criteria

Mobility-related device purchase may be approved if ONE_of the following is documented:

1. For members 22 years of age and older, Medicare’s criteria for mobility devices is followed. The Medicare website is updated on a regular basis and should be reviewed; OR
2. If the member is 3 through 21 years of age, an individualized education program (IEP) from the member’s school must be requested, if applicable.
 - a. Federal regulations require that schools address the special needs for supplementary aids and services to enable member with disabilities to participate with their non-disabled peers to the maximum extent possible in the academic environment as well as in extracurricular services and activities.
 - b. The child’s IEP must identify the special services, adaptive technology, and equipment necessary to meet those needs. Medicaid may be used as a resource for funding special services and equipment.
 - c. Medicaid, therefore, considers a child’s academic environment in determining the need for medical items, but not to the exclusion of the above general requirements.

Duplicate Devices:

Canes, crutches, walkers, manual wheelchairs, and power wheelchairs are all mobility devices in that all serve the same function of enabling a person to be mobile. Duplicate forms of mobility devices are not covered. For example, manual wheelchairs are a duplicate item for persons who can ambulate with a cane, crutches, or walker. A power

wheelchair is a duplicate item for someone who can use a manual wheelchair;

Repair and Replacement:

“Repair and maintenance” include the replacement of whole components, parts, or systems, such as seating systems that are worn out or broken and cannot otherwise be repaired, if the cost does not exceed two-thirds the cost of a new item. The age of the item and history of repairs are considered in determining whether to repair or replace an item.

wheelchair or power operated vehicle might be approved on a rental basis due to the member’s prognosis or diagnosis based on individual review.

Coding

The following list of codes is provided for reference purposes only and may not be all inclusive. The inclusion of a code does not imply any right to reimbursement or guarantee claim payment, nor does the exclusion of a code imply that its association to the HCPCS/CPT code is inappropriate.

HCPCS	Description
K0005	Ultralightweight wheelchair.
K0008	Custom manual wheelchair/base.
E1161	Manual adult size wheelchair, includes tilt in space.
E1230	Power operated vehicle (3- or 4-wheel nonhighway) specify brand name and model #.
E1232	Wheelchair, pediatric size, tilt-in-space, folding, adjustable, with seating system.
E1233	Wheelchair, pediatric size, tilt-in-space, rigid, adjustable, without seating system.
E1234	Wheelchair, pediatric size, tilt-in-space, folding, adjustable, without seating system.
E1235	Wheelchair, pediatric size, rigid, adjustable, with seating system.
E1236	Wheelchair, pediatric size, folding, adjustable, with seating system.
E1237	Wheelchair, pediatric size, rigid, adjustable, without seating system.
E1238	Wheelchair, pediatric size, folding, adjustable, without seating system.
K0813-K0886	Power mobility devices.

Compliance

1. Should conflict exist between this policy and applicable statute, the applicable statute shall supersede.

2. Federal and State law, as well as contract language, including definitions and specific contract provisions or exclusions, take precedence over medical policy and must be considered first in determining eligibility for coverage.
3. Medical technology is constantly evolving, and Iowa Medicaid reserves the right to review and update medical policy on an annual and as-needed basis.

Medical necessity guidelines have been developed for determining coverage for member benefits and are published to provide a better understanding of the basis upon which coverage decisions are made. They include concise clinical coverage criteria based on current literature review, consultation with practicing physicians in the service area who are medical experts in the particular field, FDA and other government agency policies, and standards adopted by national accreditation organizations. Criteria are revised and updated annually, or more frequently if new evidence becomes available that suggests needed revisions.

References

Medicare’s Criteria for Manual Wheelchairs [LCD - Manual Wheelchair Bases \(L33788\)](#)
[LCD - Power Mobility Devices \(L33789\)](#)

Durable Medical Equipment Provider Manual: Iowa Health and Human Services. Page 5. Last updated April 25, 2025. Accessed November 12, 2025
 Development of utilization management criteria may also involve research into other state Medicaid programs, other payer policies, consultation with experts and review by the Medicaid Clinical Advisory Committee (CAC). These sources may not be referenced individually unless they are specifically published and are otherwise applicable to the criteria at issue.

Criteria Change History

Change Date	Changed By	Description of Change	Version
[mm/dd/yyyy]			[#]

Signature			
Change Date	Changed By	Description of Change	Version
01/16/2026	CAC	Annual review. References updated. Repair and replacement updates and formatting changes made within Criteria section.	7

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Change Date	Changed By	Description of Change	Version
01/17/2025	CAC	Annual review. Coding section updated.	6

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Change Date	Changed By	Description of Change	Version
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Criteria Change History

01/19/2024	CAC	Annual review.	5
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Change Date	Changed By	Description of Change	Version
01/20/2023	CAC	Annual review.	4
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Change Date	Changed By	Description of Change	Version
01/21/2022	CAC	Annual review.	3
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William (Bill) Jagiello, DO			
Change Date	Changed By	Description of Change	Version
10/16/2020	CAC	Annual review.	2
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Change Date	Changed By	Description of Change	Version
10/17/2014	Medical Director	Grammar and formatting changes.	1
Signature			

CAC = Medicaid Clinical Advisory Committee