

## Wheelchair costs

Sometimes a workplace injury/condition results in challenges with your mobility. We are here to help you and can provide a wheelchair to you at no cost when your doctor recommends it. Some of the conditions that might lead to wheelchair use include:

- Quadriplegia
- Paraplegia
- Lower limb amputations
- Multiple leg/ankle/heel fractures
- Pelvic fractures
- Stroke
- Heart condition
- Brain injuries
- Combination of conditions which severely limit your ability to walk

If you wish to claim for a wheelchair, please provide your case manager with a medical recommendation or prescription from your physician.

### We want you to have a wheelchair that meets your needs

To best determine your wheelchair needs, an authorized occupational or physical therapist will do an assessment with you. Based on your medical and physical needs, we will take the recommendations provided to us and use them to help us determine the following:

- Approval of a wheelchair trial.
- Consideration of home and vehicle adaptations.
- Wheelchair type and options (e.g. manual, electric).

Optional accessories such as cushions or trays can be discussed with your case manager.

Depending on your situation, you can be provided with up to two wheelchairs, one for indoor use and one for outdoor use. If you use an electric wheelchair, the secondary one will be manual.

### Maintenance and repairs of your wheelchair

To help you maintain your wheelchair, we will repair or modify anything needed as a result of normal wear and tear. We are also here to help if a change has occurred that affects your ability to use your current wheelchair (e.g., weight gain or loss). Examples of regular maintenance might include:

- Replacement of tires
- Re-upholstery
- Batteries

All repairs must be pre-authorized by our Medical Aid unit and need a cost breakdown from the wheelchair vendor. Please note that any issues regarding your wheelchair frame can be discussed with the manufacturer directly. As most frames have a lifetime warranty, we typically do not authorize these types of repairs.

Helping our community and environment is important to us.. If your wheelchair is being replaced, we'd love to see if it can be recycled. To have your old or unused wheelchair picked up, please contact our Medical Aid unit.

### Contact Us

If you have any questions about your wheelchair (e.g., and modifying or replacing it), please contact our Medical Aid unit at:

Medical Aid Unit – Wheelchair Purchasing  
Workers' Compensation Board - Alberta  
P.O. Box 2415  
Edmonton, Alberta T5J 2S5

**Telephone:** 780-498-4296

**Fax:** 780-498-7852

If you are dissatisfied with your wheelchair, please discuss your concerns with the vendor that it was purchased from and your case manager. If necessary, we can arrange another assessment with an occupational or physical therapist for you. To ensure you have the wheelchair that is right for you, it is extremely important to test the chair before every purchase (even the same model), as wheelchair designs change yearly.

