

What happens if you can get funding?

Your EMS Assessor will start the process to get your equipment or modifications underway.

What happens if funding is not available?

Your EMS Assessor will work with you to look at other possible support options.

What happens if your needs change?

If your needs change, you can ask for another assessment and complete another *Impact on Life* questionnaire.

If you would like further information go to www.health.govt.nz and search for **EMS prioritisation tool**.

The Ministry of Health's
Disability Support Services

Freephone: 0800 373 664

Email: disability@moh.govt.nz

Information for People about Ministry of Health Funding for Equipment and Modifications

Equipment and Modification Services

Equipment and Modification Services are one of many services funded by the Ministry of Health. These services help disabled and older people, including their families, whānau or support people, to live as independently and safely as possible.

Prioritising services

The Ministry of Health has a set amount of money to pay for all the equipment and modifications to houses or vehicles that could assist disabled and older people.

A Prioritisation Tool is used to help make it as fair as possible when deciding who gets funding for equipment or modifications. This Prioritisation Tool works out which disabled people have the greatest need for, and will benefit the most from, some equipment or modifications.

What do you need to do?

You, or a member of your family or whānau or a support person, will need to fill in a questionnaire called *Impact on Life*.

The *Impact on Life* questionnaire asks how much your disability affects the way you live your life right now. You may also need to think about how your disability affects members of your family or whānau. There are five questions, and you need to pick an answer for each question that best describes your situation. There are no right or wrong answers.

Some of the questions may not seem to have anything to do with any equipment or modifications that you are thinking about, but remember, the questionnaire is about how your disability affects your life, not the actual equipment or modifications.

An EMS Assessor will give you the *Impact on Life* questionnaire to fill in. The EMS Assessor is the person who will be working with you to assess your needs related to your disability. This person is usually an occupational therapist, physiotherapist or speech language therapist.

What will your EMS Assessor do?

Your EMS Assessor will answer some other questions about:

- what could happen if you were not provided with some equipment or modifications
- how the equipment or modifications will be of benefit to you and for how long.

What happens next?

Your EMS Assessor will put the answers from your *Impact on Life* questionnaire and the answers from their sections of the Prioritisation Tool into a special computer programme. This programme works out whether funding is available for the equipment or modifications you are considering.

Your EMS Assessor will let you know what the outcome is.