



NICA BENEFIT HANDBOOK ADDENDUMS



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Reflecting 1/1/23 Update to Equipment Warranties & Protective Accessories

The purpose of this addendum is to add clarification that as of 1/1/23, NICA will reimburse for repairs for equipment items NICA has purchased and/or reimbursed for the participant. In addition, NICA will replace equipment items NICA has purchased and/or reimbursed for the participant if the cost of repair exceeds the cost of replacement. Florida statute states that NICA's reimbursements are limited to reasonable charges prevailing in the participant's community for similar items. In order to document this requirement is met, we require 3 quotes for any equipment item exceeding \$1000.

EQUIPMENT

NICA will purchase or reimburse actual expenses for medically necessary equipment that is requested for a participant's care. Because the equipment needed by NICA participants varies widely, a list of equipment that has been covered to date can be found in Appendix A.

To order or reimburse for equipment that is less than \$3,000, NICA will require a written statement from the parent or legal guardian of the participant as to why the equipment is medically necessary (if not clearly related to the injury), 3 quotes (the item being purchased, and two comparative quotes) will be needed for items exceeding \$1000, and an insurance denial if the item is potentially covered by the participant's insurance plan.

To order or reimburse for equipment that is more than \$3,000 NICA will require a letter of medical necessity OR a prescription, 3 quotes (the item being purchased, and two comparative quotes), and an insurance denial if the item is potentially covered by the participant's insurance plan. In some cases, (such as a stander or a wheelchair) NICA will also need the order specifications if buying directly from a vendor.

There are specific pieces of equipment where NICA has a relationship with a vendor for a specialized type or brand of equipment and would like to order the equipment requested from these vendors directly. You can find a list of this equipment in Appendix A with a "*" beside the equipment name. In these cases, the documentation needed in the categories above would still apply.

Beginning 1/1/23, for those pieces of equipment that NICA purchases or reimburses for the participant, repairs, extended warranties, and protective accessories can also be reimbursed.

*NICA Nurse Case Managers can be contacted if there is an uncertainty about whether the equipment item requested may or may not need an insurance denial.

Reflecting Clarification to Nursing Care

The purpose of this addendum is to add the clarification that if a parent/guardian is required to be present with the participant at therapy appointments, they can claim that time on their timesheets. This clarification will be reflected in the text below.

Nursing Care Provided in Home by Parent or Legal Guardian:

When professional nursing or attendant care is required, NICA may reimburse a parent or legal guardian for medically necessary and reasonable residential custodial care as documented on the PNCF. This includes any time the parent is required to be with the participant for medical appointments, therapy appointments, etc. This would be as an alternative or in addition to paying for professional nursing care or other professional attendants. It should be noted that NICA can only reimburse one caregiver at a time.