

## Payment Policies for Healthcare Services

Provided to Injured Workers and Crime Victims

# Chapter 18: Modifications to Home and Vehicle

Effective July 1, 2023



**Link:** Look for possible [updates and corrections](#) to these payment policies on L&I's website.



### Table of Contents

### Page

Definitions .....	18-2
Payment policy: Home modifications .....	18-3
Payment policy: Vehicle modifications .....	18-6
Links to related topics .....	18-9



## Definitions

**The following terms are utilized in this chapter and are defined as follows:**

**By Report (BR):** A code listed in the fee schedule as BR doesn't have an established fee because the service is too unusual, variable, or new. When billing for the code, the provider must provide a report that defines or describes the services or procedures. The insurer will determine an appropriate fee based on the report.



**Link:** For the legal definition of By Report, see [WAC 296-20-01002](#).

**Residence (home) modification:** A residence or home modification is a permanent change to an existing residence or a repair of a modification previously approved and paid for by the department or self-insured employer, or a modification made when constructing a new residence.



**Links:** For more information, see [WAC 296-14-6200](#). For Job Modifications and Pre-Job Modifications, see [Chapter 30: Vocational Services](#).



## Payment policy: Home modifications

### Prior authorization

To request prior authorization for a **consultation**, contact:

- The claim manager for State Fund claims.
- The employer or their claims representative for self-insured claims.

For **construction and design work**, pre-authorization:

- Must be done by the Assistant Director (AD) for Insurance Services for State Fund claims.
- Can't be denied without the AD's approval for self-insured claims.

### Who must perform these services to qualify for payment

The **home modification** consultant must:

- Be a licensed nurse, occupational therapist, or physical therapist, *and*
- Have training or experience in both rehabilitation of catastrophic injuries and modifying homes.

## Services that can be billed

### Home modifications fee schedule

For this HCPCS or local billing code...	The provider that can bill is a:	And the insurer pays for:	With a maximum fee of:
<p><b>8914H</b> Home modification <b>construction and design.</b></p>	<p>Contractor, Architect, Construction material supplier, <i>and</i> Worker.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Construction materials,</li> <li>• Labor &amp; tax,</li> <li>• Permits and inspections, and</li> <li>• Architect plans.</li> </ul> <p>If the worker pays for inspections, predesign, or planning services, the worker may be reimbursed if the modification request is approved.</p>	<p>Each bill pays <b>By Report</b> (as billed) up to the maximum amount authorized for the home modification.</p>
<p><b>8916H</b> Home modification <b>consultation.</b></p>	<p>Home modification consultant.</p>	<p><b>Time spent</b> doing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Onsite home evaluation,</li> <li>• Consultation, or</li> <li>• Required reports.</li> </ul>	<p><b>By Report</b></p>

For this HCPCS or local billing code...	The provider that can bill is a:	And the insurer pays for:	With a maximum fee of:
<p><b>8917H</b> Home modification <b>mileage, lodging, bridge and ferry tolls, airfare, and car rental.</b></p>	<p>Home modification consultant.</p>	<p><b>Mileage</b></p> <p><b>Lodging</b> for 1 person when the onsite visit requires:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 or more consecutive days, <i>and</i></li> <li>• Is greater than 125 miles one-way.</li> </ul> <p><b>Airfare</b> (economy) for 1 person when travel is greater than 180 miles one-way.</p> <p><b>Car rental</b> (economy) when air travel is involved.</p>	<p><b>State Rate</b></p>
<p><b>0391R</b> <b>Travel.</b></p>	<p>Home modification consultant.</p>	<p><b>Travel time or wait time</b></p>	<p><b>\$5.67</b> per unit (1 unit = 6 minutes)</p>

### Requirements for billing

To get reimbursed, you must submit a copy of receipts for:

- Materials,
- Lodging,
- Airfare, *and*
- Car rental.

### Payment limits

The insurer will pay for **home modification** construction and design for only 1 residence for each catastrophically injured worker. The maximum amount payable is the current Washington State average annual wage.



## Payment policy: Vehicle modifications

### Prior authorization

Vehicle modifications require prior authorization based on approval by the Assistant Director of L&I's Insurance Services Program.



**Link:** More information about vehicle modifications is available in [RCW 51.36.020\(8\)](#).

### Who must perform these services to qualify for payment

#### Consultations

The vehicle modification consultant must:

- Be a licensed occupational or physical therapist, or licensed medical professional, *and*
- Have training or experience in both rehabilitation and vehicle modification.

### Services that can be billed

If the HCPCS and local billing code is...	Then the provider who can bill is:	And the insurer pays for:	And the maximum fee is:
<b>8915H</b> Vehicle modification	Vehicle modification supplier	<b>Vehicle modification</b>	Maximum payable for all work is ½ the <b>current Washington State average wage</b> .  The amount paid may be increased by no more than \$4,000.00 by written order of the Supervisor of Industrial Insurance (see Link below table).

If the <b>HCP</b> CS and local billing code is...	Then the provider who can bill is:	And the insurer pays for:	And the maximum fee is:
<p><b>8917H</b> Vehicle modification mileage, lodging, bridge and ferry tolls, airfare, and car rental</p>	<p>Vehicle modification consultants</p>	<p><b>Mileage</b> <b>Lodging</b> for 1 person when the onsite visit requires:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 or more consecutive days, and</li> <li>• Is greater than 125 miles one-way.</li> </ul> <p><b>Airfare</b> (economy) for 1 person when travel is greater than 180 miles one-way. <b>Car rental</b> (economy) when air travel is involved.</p>	<p><b>State Rate</b></p>
<p><b>8918H</b> Vehicle modification consultation or driving evaluation</p>	<p>Vehicle modification consultants</p>	<p><b>Time spent</b> doing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Onsite – vehicle and/or driving evaluation,</li> <li>• Consultation, or</li> <li>• Required reports.</li> </ul>	<p><b>By Report</b></p>
<p><b>0391R</b> Travel</p>	<p>Vehicle modification consultants</p>	<p><b>Travel time or wait time</b></p>	<p><b>\$5.67</b> per unit (1 unit = 6 minutes)</p>

## Requirements for billing

To get reimbursed, you must submit copies of receipts for:

- Lodging,
- Airfare, *and*
- Car rental.

## Payment limits

For local billing code **8915H**, the maximum payable for all vehicle modification is 50% of the current Washington State average wage. The amount paid may be increased by no more than **\$4,000.00** by written order of the Supervisor of Industrial Insurance.



**Link:** For more information about vehicle modification payment increases, see [RCW 51.36.020\(8\)\(b\)](#).





## Links to related topics

If you're looking for more information about...	Then see...
<b>Administrative rules</b> for home modifications	Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 296-14-6200 through WAC 296-14-6238 available in <a href="#">WAC 296-14</a>
<b>Becoming an L&amp;I provider</b>	<a href="#">Become A Provider on L&amp;I's website</a>
<b>Billing</b> instructions and forms	<a href="#">Chapter 2: Information for All Providers</a>
<b>Contractors' questions and answers</b> about home modifications for workers with catastrophic injuries	<a href="#">F252-061-000</a>
<b>Fact sheet</b> on home modifications for workers with catastrophic injuries	<a href="#">F252-060-000</a>
<b>Fee schedules</b> for all healthcare and vocational services	<a href="#">Fee schedules on L&amp;I's website</a>
<b>Home Modification Acknowledgement of Responsibilities</b> form	<a href="#">F247-003-000</a>
<b>Laws</b> for definitions	<a href="#">Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 50.04.355</a>
<b>Laws</b> for modification to residences or motor vehicles	<a href="#">RCW 51.36.020(7)</a> and <a href="#">(8)</a>
<b>Laws</b> for residence modification services	<a href="#">RCW 51.36.022</a>
<b>Laws</b> for right to and amount	<a href="#">RCW 51.32.095(4)</a> <a href="#">RCW 51.32.250</a>

### Need more help?

Call L&I's Provider Hotline at **1-800-848-0811** or email [PHL@lni.wa.gov](mailto:PHL@lni.wa.gov)