
Check eligibility of Beneficiary prior to Occupational Therapy Assessment

Prior to completing the form, please note the following:

- The Beneficiary's entitlement card indicates **eligibility for assessment**, not automatic entitlement to the service.
 - **Alternative, simpler options** must be explored before major modifications are considered.
 - The Occupational Therapist should advise the Beneficiary that recommendations will be considered for approval, but it cannot be assumed that financial approval will be given in all cases.
 - A request for major modifications should be accompanied by **an assessment and report by an Occupational Therapist**.
 - Major modifications will not be approved when clinical needs can be met by current facilities or accesses, non-structural modifications, adopting different behavioural techniques or through the provision of other rehabilitation appliances e.g. grab rail installation, use of alternate walking aid.
 - Major home modifications are carried out only when the residence is structurally sound. RAP does not fund the repair of existing structures.
 - The residence to be modified should have been purchased before any knowledge of the disability and the Beneficiary (or their carer) should not have been able to reasonably judge that access was likely to become an issue.
 - Any access modification should enable direct access to/from the property.
 - DVA will only pay for basic modifications. For example, ramps are fitted with appropriate railings to meet building regulations, not to match existing railings.
 - If the Beneficiary rents his/her accommodation the Department delegate will consider the length of time the Beneficiary has lived in the residence and any potential for ongoing tenancy.
 - The owner's permission should also be sought prior to modifications commencing.
 - The provision of major home access modifications is based on clinical and functional criteria and not on leisure or recreational or home security needs.
 - DVA will not accept financial responsibility where modifications to provide access are considered unreasonable e.g. steep pathways, rugged steps, bush blocks etc.
 - DVA does not fund access modifications on a public access route e.g. stairlift are not installed on communal staircases, ramps are not built on Council land.
 - DVA does not provide home modifications to government-owned homes or to Aged Care Facilities.
 - DVA does not make good of the area should the modification be removed.
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