Information for Provision of Home Modifications

DHS Equipment Program can provide modifications to homes to help people stay living in the community for longer. These modifications can range from small to big changes. Small changes (minor modifications) can include putting grab rails or small ramps into your home. Bigger changes (major modifications) to your home may include removing internal walls, making a bathroom accessible or installing a concrete ramp.

To find out more information about Home Modifications, go to our website ([www.equipmentprogram.sa.gov.au](http://www.equipmentprogram.sa.gov.au))

The following outlines information about how the Equipment Program will provide home modifications. You need to read this information and agree to it before we will start any home modifications.

Agreement for Home Modifications

DHS Equipment Program will only schedule work to commence, once you and the homeowner have signed the relevant agreement form for the home modifications, and the works have been approved.

Consultancy for Major Modifications

The Equipment Program will use a building consultant to oversee major modifications that involve structural changes. The consultant will:

* meet with you and the assessor to specify the modifications required and to document a ‘scope of works’, listing what modifications will be done. This document needs to be signed by you (or your guardian), the homeowner and the assessor;
* arrange quote(s) for the agreed works;
* organise the tradespeople for your job;
* ensure the outcome meets the requirements listed in the scope of works.

Quality and Safety

The Equipment Program will:

* ensure all people who come to your home will hold a current screening assessment;
* only use tradespeople chosen by us who have the right qualifications for the job;
* ensure the home modification is completed to a high standard and that the materials used are good quality and safe for use;

Note that statutory warranties apply to all work as per the Building Work Contractors Act 1995.

Compliance with the National Construction Code and Guidance from relevant Australian Standards

All modifications will comply with the relevant National Construction Code where possible and the “Minister’s Specifications”. These specifications relate to specific building issues for South Australia. For more information, refer to [www.sa.gov.au](http://www.sa.gov.au) via the Land and Property Development Page.

Relevant Australian Standards for access will be followed where possible.

Commencement Date and Access to the Property

The Equipment Program will need access to your home while we are undertaking the home modification.

Contact the Equipment Program if you need to change the start date. There may be a delay if you change the start date or request changes to the agreed scope of works.

Unforeseen Work

If the contractor uncovers issues such as asbestos or termite damage to the property after the modification has commenced, the work will need to stop until these are addressed. The Equipment Program will endeavour to identify these potential issues during the scoping visits, but sometimes these cannot be foreseen.

Property Damage during Works Undertaken

While undertaking the job, the Equipment Program will only be responsible for any building or property damage if it is due to a negligent act or omission on the part of tradespeople arranged by the Equipment Program. In this case, the Equipment Program will take reasonable steps to arrange for the repairs of this damage at no cost to the home owner.

Additional Works or Equipment Items

If you have additional requirements beyond the approved scope of works, please contact the Equipment Program to discuss your needs.

If you receive an equipment item as part of the home modification (e.g. ceiling hoist, bidet), the Equipment Program may repair and maintain the equipment item when needed.

After the Home Modifications are Completed

Any home modifications become the property of the home owner. Once the statutory warranty expires, responsibility for further repairs are at the discretion of the Equipment Program.

If repairs are required, contact the Equipment Program via [DHSEquipmentProgram@sa.gov.au](mailto:DHSEquipmentProgram@sa.gov.au) or 1300 130 302 to discuss your options.

If there is a change to how the home modification is used, please consider requesting a review from your clinician. If the modification is no longer needed, funding of the removal of the home modifications is at the discretion of the Equipment Program.