

201 South Grand Avenue East  
Springfield, Illinois 62763-0002

Telephone: 1-877-782-5565  
TTY: (800) 526-5812

## Informational Notice

Date: September 11, 2013

To: Enrolled Durable Medical Equipment and Supplies (DME) Providers; Pharmacies; Long Term Care Facilities; and Supportive Living Facilities

Re: Prior Approval Policy Change for All Wheelchair and Power-Operated Vehicle (POV) Repairs Effective with Dates of Service on and after July 22, 2013

---

This notice informs durable medical equipment (DME) providers of a change in state law affecting prior approval requirements for wheelchair repairs.

In the [May 7, 2013 informational notice, Prior Approval Required for All Wheelchair and Power-Operated Vehicle \(POV\) Repairs Effective June 1, 2013 \(pdf\)](#), the department outlined prior approval policy mandated by [Public Act 097-0689 \(pdf\)](#). This Act, referred to as the Save Medicaid Access and Resources Together (SMART) Act, required prior approval for **all** wheelchair repairs. Recent legislation, *Public Act 098-0104*, modified the SMART Act policy to only require prior approval for wheelchair repairs when charges exceed \$400.00.

Policy mandating prior approval for **all** wheelchair repairs was effective with dates of service beginning June 1, 2013. *Public Act 098-0104* amending that policy was signed into law on July 22, 2013.

- For dates of service June 1 through July 21, 2013, providers are still required to obtain prior approval and bill accordingly.
- For dates of service beginning July 22, 2013, prior approval is only required when the charges for the wheelchair repair exceed \$400.00.

Per *Public Act 098-0104*, DME providers may not break wheelchair repairs into separate claims for purposes of staying under the \$400.00 threshold. HFS will be monitoring DME billed claims for compliance on this issue.

Any questions regarding this notice may be directed to a DME billing consultant in the Bureau of Comprehensive Health Services at 1-877-782-5565, option 3, then option 2.

Theresa A. Eagleson, Administrator  
Division of Medical Programs