

**SECTION**  
**SERVICES**

**Subject**  
Service Dog

REFERENCES ARM 37.90.449

**DEFINITION**

A service animal is trained to do work or perform particular tasks, which benefit a member with a disability or a member who is aged. Examples of these tasks may include guiding members with impaired vision, alerting members with impaired hearing to intruders or sounds, pulling a wheelchair or fetching dropped items or other tasks specific to the member. This service animal is intended to increase autonomy, to decrease functional limitations, to access the home or public environment, to provide for safety, and to reduce the risk of institutionalization.

**COVERED SERVICES**

This service may include:

- Supplies if specifically related to the performance of the service animal to meet the specific needs of the member. If not provided by the training organization, these supplies may include leashes, harness, backpack and mobility cart; and
- Care for the service animal if specifically related to the health and maintenance of that animal. These services may include veterinarian care, transportation for veterinarian care, license, and/or registration. Grooming may also be included only if member or their caregiver are unable to provide this service.

**LIMITATIONS**

Service animal supplies do not include:

- Food to maintain the animal.
- Any supplies for the following:
  - Pets, companion animals, social therapy animals;
  - Guard, police, rescue, sled, tracking, or any other animal not specifically designated as a service animal; and
  - Wild, exotic or any other animals not specifically supplies by a training program on the approved provider list

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**PRIOR AUTHORIZATION**

All Service Dogs must be prior authorized by the CPO. Complete a Prior Authorization Form DPHHS SDMI-149. See SDMI HCBS 403 for more information. When submitting form DPHHS SDMI-149 to CPO have the following documentation available in CaseWave:

- Doctor prescription;
- Occupational Therapist evaluation that includes which services medically necessary; and
- Bid from service provider that includes break down of cost, estimated training timeline, estimated date of delivery and payment installment amounts with installment timeline.