

What Happens Next

When actioning your service request, **Enable New Zealand** may contact you directly if you need to complete an Income and Cash Asset Test.

Once your request has been processed, Enable will contact your Occupational Therapist to discuss next steps with you.

Visits and plans

There may be a site visit to take measurements and photographs so that your accurate plans can be drawn. If it is a simple modification a contractor will be in contact to organise a time.

If plans are required, the consultant will draw up plans and provide a copy to your Occupational Therapist and Enable. Once the plans are approved your Occupational Therapist will be in touch with you.

At this time the property owner will be asked to provide consent for the building modifications to be carried out.

If building consent is needed, we will organise this on the property owners behalf.

About us

Enable New Zealand has been supporting New Zealanders with disability equipment and services since 1974.

We work with a nationwide network of over 500 suppliers and subcontractors to deliver value for our community.

Our team support over 8,400 clinical professionals around New Zealand.

Each year, we deliver complex services to thousands of people, enabling those in our disability community to live good lives.

Contact us

0800 362 253

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Housing modifications funded through DSS

**Disability
Support Services**

enable.co.nz

Income and Cash Asset Test

To apply for housing modification funding, you may need to undertake an Income and Cash Asset Test.

This test looks at your income, cash assets, and expenses. From this, Disability Support Services (DSS) will be able to work out how much funding you may be eligible for and whether you may need to contribute to the cost of modifications.

You will need an income cash asset test if:

- you are aged 16 or older and, the modifications to your home will cost more than \$8,076 (including GST).
- the \$8,076 (including GST) includes all housing modifications that DSS has funded for you since you turned 16.

Enable New Zealand will send the Income and Cash Asset Test forms to you if you are required to complete the test.

You must complete the forms and send to the Specialised Processing Services at Work and Income New Zealand.

Please Note:

This process may be confronting. Please reach out to your Occupational Therapist for support throughout this process.

Can I upgrade materials?

If you would like materials to be upgraded then the difference will be at your cost and you must discuss this directly with your contractor and the occupational therapist.

Can I use my own builder or a different design?

Yes, if you are the property owner. However, this will mean you take full responsibility for the housing modifications and Enable NZ will treat this as a cost contribution. If this applies to you please reach out for more information.

Will it affect my insurance?

Some insurance companies will require notification when work is carried out on the home.

We suggest you contact your insurance company as soon as possible.

Existing issues

DSS funding does not cover pre-existing issues. These are the homeowner's responsibility. For example:

- Non-consented buildings
- Low water pressure
- Rot or decay in building materials
- Asbestos removal and disposal
- Household smoke detector

Length of process

There are a number of circumstances that can affect how long a housing modification takes.

For example:

- Enable NZ requires more information.
- Cost of the service request is over \$35,000 (excluding GST and including previous funding received for housing modifications).
- Income and cash asset testing.
- Waiting for plans and working drawings.
- Construction issues discovered during the process.
- Waiting for building consents.
- Availability of the contractor.

Please Note:

You may not have access to the room/s that is being modified; please consider other alternatives while the modification is taking place.

What happens on completion

Enable NZ will arrange the final inspection and complete the required documentation.

A copy of the building consent and code of compliance certificate will be sent to the property owner.

We will ensure instructions for the care, use and operation of equipment is provided to you.