

## Home Modification Reimbursement

You may be eligible for the reimbursement of costs incurred for home modification. Home Modification is limited to modifications to meet a child's special needs upon which eligibility for adoption assistance was approved, Reimbursement is limited once every five years, per child. Home modifications include, but not limited to the following alterations:

- Wheelchair ramps;
- Handrail and grab bars;
- Accessible shower;
- Elevated bathtubs and toilets;
- Widened doorways;
- Shatterproof windows;
- Blinking lights and tactile alarms as alternate warning systems;
- Lowered kitchen work surfaces;
- Modified cabinets and sinks that provide wheelchair space;
- Handles and hoses for showerheads;
- Door hinge replacements;
- Lifting devices;
- Special communication devices that enable caregivers not immediately present to monitor and respond to a child;
- Air conditioning required due to a child's medical condition;
- Special covers such as plexiglas for appliances, windows, fireplaces, and radiators required to protect a child; and
- Door opening devices; and
- Fence

You must obtain prior authorization from the Permanency Support staff at DHS. The following documentation is **required** before prior authorization can be granted:

- A letter from you with the following information:
  - Name of child for whom property modification is requested
  - Name of adoptive parent(s)
  - Adoptive parents' address, phone number and email address
  - Description of the property modification

- A short description about your child's special needs, and why the modification is necessary
- A letter from a medical professional stating how the property modification will meet your child's special needs
- A denial letter from the social service agency your county of residence stating that you have been denied services for the home modification, and the reason for the denial
- Two detailed bids for the property modification.

The Permanency Support staff at DHS **will not** grant prior authorization, and property modification reimbursement will be denied, without the above information.