

**How is this program funded?**

Alpha One as the provider agency receives funds through Maine's Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. These funds are allocated as part of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as Amended. These funds are referred to as Title VII, Part B - Independent Living Services Program.

**How much funding is available to me?**

For each eligible applicant, funding is based on the price of the adaptive equipment or services to meet your current need. There is a maximum lifetime amount of \$5000 available per person.

**If I am able, can I contribute to some of the costs?**

Yes, you are encouraged to contribute towards the costs of your adaptive equipment product or service to the extent of your ability to pay. Having a financial interest in your adaptive equipment product or service increases its value to you.

**If I apply for this program, what are my responsibilities?**

- To accurately represent my disability and my disability needs.
- To participate to the best of my ability in:
  - Determining my needs for services and/or products.
  - Selecting and purchasing services and/or products.
  - Learning how to use my products and/or participate in an independent living service.
- To initiate and maintain regular contact with Alpha One staff and to keep scheduled appointments.

**What is the procedure when I apply?**

When we receive your application, we will contact you to set up an appointment at your convenience, to discuss your eligibility and your independent living needs. We will determine your Priority Status and if applicable will add your name to the Waiting List under Order of Selection rules. When your name comes to the top of the waiting list, we will contact you again to work with you to identify and purchase your products or services.

**What does Order of Selection mean?**

The regulations for this program specify that if there is a waiting list for services, then each eligible applicant is assigned a Priority Status based on the urgency of need for a product or service. Highest priority is given to adults who would be required to move to a more restrictive setting immediately, and will lose their current level of independence, unless they receive Independent Living Services Program assistance. For more specific information you can contact your local Alpha One office and request a copy of the Independent Living Services Program Manual. Order of Selection is outlined in Section 4.4 of the Manual.

**Do I have other options to meet my needs?**

There may indeed be other options to locate and fund your service or product need and we do require you to seek these resources. This is a funding of last resort, and other funding sources should always be explored first before applying for this grant. Our Independent Living Staff and Peer Advocates are your best contact to assist you in locating other options.

**If this program purchases an adaptive equipment product that I need, does it belong to me?**

The equipment has been purchased so that you can use it in your everyday life to be more independent. It is yours to keep so long as it is being used for the purpose for which it was purchased. This program retains the right to reclaim equipment purchased. Please contact us if the equipment is no longer needed. We may be able to locate someone else who can benefit from it.

**If I have questions about this program, who do I ask?**

Our Independent Living Staff is available to answer your questions about the program. If you would like a copy of the of the Independent Living Services Program Manual, contact your local Alpha One office. The Client Assistance Program is also available to answer your questions at:

Client Assistance Program – Disability Rights Maine  
160 Capitol Street, Suite 4  
Augusta, ME 04330

800-452-1948 (V/TTY)

**If I am not satisfied with the services or decisions made by Alpha One, what can I do?**

You should first try to resolve this with the Independent Living Staff person you are working with. If you are still not satisfied, you may request a review by the Program Administrator at 1-800-640-7200 (V/TTY). If you would like the assistance of an outside party at any time you may contact the Client Assistance Program (see contact information above).

You may also request Mediation (Section 3.3 of the Manual) or a Due Process Hearing (Section 3.4 of the Manual) through the Department of Labor. You must request this in writing within 30 calendar days of an Alpha One action. The request needs to describe the complaint. Complaints can be sent to:

Director of DVR  
State House Station 150  
Augusta, ME 04330

**What happens when I have met my needs with these funds?**

Once you have reached your Independent Living goals outlined in your Consumer Plan, you need to notify your Alpha One Independent Living Specialist. We will give you an additional 6 months just to make sure everything is working out and we will stay in touch with you. At the end of that period we will contact you to close your file. Over the next 5 years, if you have additional needs related to your original goal(s), we may be able to help you - up to the limit of your lifetime cap. For example, we could assist you with maintenance or repair of adaptive equipment or home modifications.

**Can I reapply if I have a new need?**

Yes, if you haven't reached your lifetime cap, contact Alpha One for an application.