

### Adult Power Wheelchairs

Recently, AADL has received a number of power wheelchair applications for adults who fall outside the eligibility criteria for funding for a power mobility device.

AADL provides power wheelchairs as a benefit to adult clients for whom power mobility is the only intervention that will enable independent participation in both home- and community-based activities. The following **eligibility criteria** must be met to be considered for funding for a power wheelchair:

- ◆ Must be a full-time user, able to tolerate sitting for at least six consecutive hours a day. Full time is defined as requiring the device for at least 80% of day time hours (at least 8 hours).
- ◆ Must require power mobility as the only device they can use to independently mobilize within their home and community.
  - ◆ Required to access all rooms in their residence.
- ◆ Must have a home environment and transportation option that is fully wheelchair accessible and heated storage when not in use.
- ◆ Must have trialed a power wheelchair for a minimum of 24 hours.
  - ◆ Trial must include all rooms in the home and the frequently accessed community environments.
  - ◆ Must include situations to determine safe and independent operation.

Clients who do not meet the above criteria are not eligible for AADL funding for power mobility.

Examples include:

- ◆ Part-time or palliative users
- ◆ Support(s) in place to push the client in a manual wheelchair:
  - ◆ Assisted Living or Long term care aids/assistants for transport to meals, recreation activities.
- ◆ Ability to use other mobility devices such as a walker or manual wheelchair.
- ◆ Ability to self-propel a manual wheelchair for distances within the home.
- ◆ Limited participation in activities – less than daily.

AADL no longer requires all power wheelchair applications to be reviewed by a committee. Applications are reviewed and prior approved by the AADL Manager of Mobility and Large Equipment based on criteria.

