

# Returning, Renting, and Buying Equipment

It is important to return your equipment on time, so it is available for others to use.

## Returning equipment

- **Basic:** Return to original supplier
- **Advanced:** Supplier will pick up
- Equipment with a Canadian Red Cross sticker must be returned to a Canadian Red Cross location
- **Early returns:** Contact the supplier any time before the due date

## Buying or renting after MEPP

If you need equipment after your 3-month MEPP rental is over, it is your responsibility to rent or buy it.

- The Canadian Red Cross does not rent or sell equipment, but other MEPP suppliers can.
- You may receive an estimate for buying or renting equipment when your equipment is delivered. This is to help you understand costs. You can choose any supplier, not just a MEPP supplier.

There are funding programs that may help cover the cost of renting and buying equipment. Visit [islandhealth.ca/equipment-funding](http://islandhealth.ca/equipment-funding) for a list of organizations.

## Further Information

**MEPP:** [islandhealth.ca/MEPP](http://islandhealth.ca/MEPP)

**Medical Equipment for Home Use:** [islandhealth.ca/medical-equipment](http://islandhealth.ca/medical-equipment)

**Finding an Equipment Supplier:** [islandhealth.ca/home-equipment-suppliers](http://islandhealth.ca/home-equipment-suppliers)

**Equipment Funding Programs:** [islandhealth.ca/equipment-funding](http://islandhealth.ca/equipment-funding)



Scan the QR code to visit the Island Health medical equipment website.

## Additional Information

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Created: January 2026

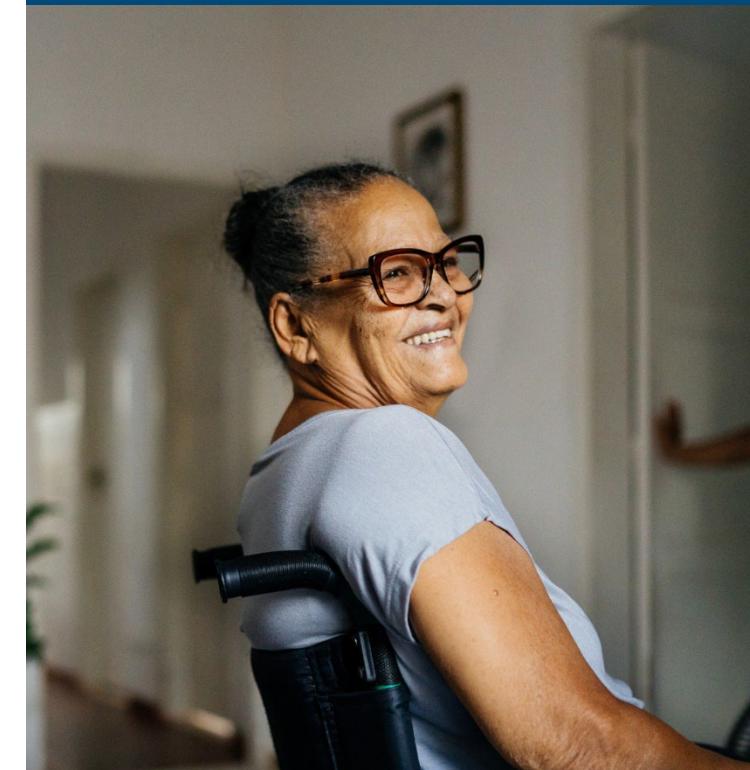
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Island Health

# Medical Equipment Provision Program (MEPP)

Short-term equipment rentals for people with limited resources



# What is the Island Health Medical Equipment Provision Program (MEPP)?

MEPP helps people who cannot access medical equipment by covering the cost of short-term rentals.

Equipment includes mobility and home safety items such as walkers, wheelchairs, toilet seats, and hospital beds. Items offered are based on availability. They may not always be a perfect fit but will keep you safe during the short-term rental.

## Key points

- Maximum rental period is 3 months.
- Equipment must be returned in good condition and on time.
- Equipment is supplied by trusted suppliers, including Canadian Red Cross.
- If you need equipment after the MEPP rental is over, it is your responsibility to rent or buy it.

## BC Palliative Care Benefits Program

- You can access MEPP equipment for up to 12 months if your BC Palliative Care Benefits Program registration is active.
- Your doctor or nurse practitioner must renew your registration if equipment is needed for longer.

## Who Qualifies?

To qualify for MEPP you must:

- Live in BC and have Medical Services Plan (MSP) coverage
- Need equipment urgently to stay safe at home
- Be unable to pay for equipment using your own income or savings
- Have no other funding immediately available (e.g., extended health, Veterans Affairs, Ministry programs)
- Live in a private home, independent living facility, assisted living, family care home, or group home

**Note:** Residents of long-term care do not qualify for MEPP.

**Waiting for other funding?** MEPP may cover your equipment rental for up to 3 months while you wait.

## Important

Please return your equipment on time as other people are waiting to use it.

For information about renting or buying equipment after your MEPP rental ends, visit: [islandhealth.ca/home-equipment-suppliers](http://islandhealth.ca/home-equipment-suppliers)

## How to Access MEPP

- An Island Health healthcare professional will work with you to understand what equipment you need.
- They will explain who will provide your equipment, how long you can use it, and what to do when it's time to return it.
- You need to confirm your eligibility and agree to return the equipment by the due date.

## Getting Equipment Home

**Basic equipment** (small items like walkers, toilet seats, and shower chairs)

- You need to pick up and return at supplier locations
- Sometimes provided in hospital if needed immediately

**Advanced equipment** (larger items like hospital beds and patient lifts)

- Delivered and set up by a technician
- You need to prepare your home ahead of time; technician cannot move furniture
- Supplier picks up equipment at end of rental