

Hearing service fees and fee codes

Effective Jan. 1, 2024

The WCB will fund these hearing services for claims accepted for traumatic and occupational noise-induced hearing:

- [Fee code 200 – full audiological assessment](#)
- [Fee code 202 and 222 – hearing instruments](#)
- [Fee code 220 – approved accessories](#)
- [Fee code 205 – repair fees](#)
- [Fee code 206 – batteries](#)
- [Fee code 213 – fitting and dispensing](#)
- [Fee code 214 – per ear service](#)
- [Fee code 215 – ear moulds: behind the ear models and custom moulds](#)
- [Fee code 218 – shipping fee](#)
- [Fee code 221 – consumable parts](#)

The associated fees and business rules for the above fee codes follow.

The WCB funds hearing instruments but does not fund accessories. Do not issue accessories or request authorization to issue them, including:

- drying system
- sleeve moulds
- easy phone auto t-coil
- battery tester
- all manufacturer streamers
- sound-transmitting units for TVs
- ear wax removal system
- wax receptor

The WCB reserves audit privileges and post-payment reconciliation where inappropriate billing has occurred.

For clarification, contact the health-care services manager at 306.787.1803. The manager may consult the executive of the Saskatchewan Hearing Instrument Practitioners about the intent of the negotiation that led to the fee schedule below.

Service	Fee code	Effective date					
		Jan. 1					
		2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028

Full audiological assessment	200	\$130.03	\$136.53	\$139.26	\$142.05	\$144.89	\$147.79
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- Business rules:
 - Assessment conducted by a WCB-accredited audiologist or hearing instrument practitioner.
 - Comprehensive evaluation including history of hearing problems.
 - Otoscopic evaluation.
 - Pure-tone air conduction testing and masking when indicated to include these frequencies: 250, 500, 1,000, 2,000, 3,000, 4,000, 6,000 and 8,000 Hz.
 - Pure-tone bone conduction testing to include the above-noted frequencies and masking when indicated. The WCB requires all frequencies, including 3,000 Hz, for determining a worker's degree of permanent impairment.
 - Speech audiometry including speech reception threshold testing, determination of uncomfortable levels, most comfortable levels and speech discrimination testing level.
 - Assessment of the function of the middle ear system or impedance audiometry.
 - Referral for additional testing may be required depending on the results of the impedance testing.

The person conducting the test must provide, sign and date a detailed written report of the audiological results and amplification recommendations.

A health-care provider may repeat the test every three years, unless the worker develops sudden tinnitus or sudden unilateral hearing loss after an illness and uses bilateral hearing aids.

Service	Fee code	Description	Effective date					
			Jan. 1					
			2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Hearing instrument	202	Manufacturer's cost not to exceed:	\$990	\$1,039.50	\$1,060.29	\$1,081.50	\$1,103.13	\$1,125.19
			plus 10 per cent handling fees					
	222	Loss and damage not to exceed:	\$330	\$346.50	\$353.43	\$360.50	\$367.71	\$375.06
			plus 50 per cent of handling fees					

- Business rules:
 - Submit the request for funding form to the WCB for new or replacement hearing instruments.
 - Fee code 202 to include a three-year standardized warranty.
 - The WCB pays fee code 222 when the hearing instrument must be replaced due to loss or damage while the loss and damage coverage period is in effect. The manufacturer offers this coverage and the duration can vary between brands.
 - Includes the hearing aid but no accessories. See list of items not funded.
 - Includes directional microphone except in CIC (completely in the canal) models.
 - Attach the manufacturer's invoice to the WCB invoice and stamp it "not for payment."
 - Includes aids for those workers still in the work force who require a product suitable for multi-person discussion and noisy background situations.
 - If the worker chooses an upgraded product, the worker must pay the difference between the recommended aid and the aid chosen, notwithstanding the ceiling for fee code 202. The worker will not pay for additional fitting, follow-up or other fees payable by the WCB.
 - Includes where the worker has lost a hearing aid, with pre-approval.
 - If the provider cannot adjust the current aid to address a significant change in hearing or if the current aid has inadequate gain, provides improper amplification or if the WCB accepts the change as part of the work injury, the WCB will approve replacement aids. If the aid fits improperly and causes feedback or if repair is no longer cost-effective, the WCB will approve replacement aids with pre-approval.

Service	Fee code	Effective date					
		Jan. 1					
		2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Approved accessories	220	Manufacturer's price plus 50 per cent of handling fees.					

- Business rules:
 - Approved accessories include remote control to adjust the volume of aid without using a cell phone (initial purchase and replacements when not covered under warranty), replacement charger (when not covered under warranty) and dry aid kits (maximum \$25 per year).
 - Attach the manufacturer's invoice to the WCB invoice and stamp it "not for payment."

Service	Fee code	Fee
Repair fee	205	Manufacturer's price plus 50 per cent of handling fees.

- Business rules:
 - Not billable while warranty period in effect.
 - From the end of warranty period (the end of third year) to the end of the fourth year after issue, you may invoice the WCB for up to 50 per cent of the amount for fee code 202 (not including handling fee) without pre-authorization.
 - The WCB requires pre-authorization for any aid more than four years past the date of issue or when repair costs are above 50 per cent (not including handling fee) of the amount for fee code 202.
 - Include the manufacturer's invoice when billing for a repair fee and stamp it "not for payment."
 - Fee payable once per transaction with the manufacturer (not the aid).
 - When a receiver is replaced, providers cannot bill a fee during the warranty period of the replacement receiver.

Service	Fee code	Effective date					
		Jan. 1					
		2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Batteries	206	\$0.83 per cell	\$0.87 per cell	\$0.89 per cell	\$0.91 per cell	\$0.92 per cell	\$0.94 per cell

- Business rules:
 - Provide non-rechargeable batteries to workers, without pre-authorization, in amounts that will last until their next service visit.
 - If a worker runs out of batteries, you may issue more without pre-authorization.
 - Do not bill a service fee (fee code 214) to the WCB when you are supplying batteries only.
 - Bill in-clinic replacement of a rechargeable battery as a repair (see repair fee code 205 in the business rules).

Service	Fee code	Effective date					
		Jan. 1					
		2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Fitting and dispensing	213	\$577.50	\$606.38	\$618.50	\$630.87	\$643.49	\$656.36

- Business rules:
 - Select the appropriate hearing aid device.
 - Take an ear mould impression.
 - Program the hearing aid device.
 - Complete real-ear measurements for fitting verification.
 - Verify audibility, comfort and tolerance.
 - Complete speech mapping, if available.
 - Perform quality control checks (electroacoustic checks).
 - Provide training and counselling on how to use the hearing aid device.
 - Counsel the worker about realistic expectations during and after the adjustment period.
 - Follow up with the worker within the hearing aid manufacturer's noted trial period (follow-up visit includes adjustments, counselling, repair and re-programming if needed).
 - Provide the allotted service visits within the first year after the new aid is issued, including labour for repair, cleaning, re-tubing, vacuuming, adjustments and verification.
 - Provide all product manuals and warranty information.
 - Complete any warranty work required without additional shipping and handling fees.
 - Note that the WCB does not fund extended warranties.
 - This does not apply to aids replaced due to loss or damage billed under fee code 222.

Service	Fee code	Effective date					
		Jan. 1					
		2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Per ear service	214	\$33.00	\$34.65	\$35.34	\$36.05	\$36.77	\$37.51

- Business rules:
 - Complete minor in-house repairs (excluding supplies), performance checks, reprogramming, cleaning, vacuuming, re-tubing and adjustments.
 - Provide the worker with a six-month supply of batteries, if applicable, to last until next service visit. You may bill this to the WCB without pre-authorization.
 - Limit service to two visits per year. You may bill an additional two visits if the client contacts you and requests extra support; document their request in the chart notes.
 - Bill service fees only after the one-year anniversary of the fitting or dispensing date, because the fitting or dispensing fees are included in the first-year service fees.
 - Provide the service only if an audiologist or a hearing instrument practitioner delivers or supervises the service.
 - Provide labour for all warranty items during the warranty period.

Service	Fee code	Effective date					
		Jan. 1					
		2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Consumable parts	221	Manufacturer's price plus 50 per cent of handling fees.					

- Business rules:
 - Bill this fee with fee code 214 or as a separate charge when you provide items based on the client's need. You may bill a maximum of four times per year without prior approval.
 - List all supplied parts in the invoice comments to ensure payment. Keep documentation that supports the manufacturer's price and provide it upon request.

- Use this fee for incidental parts and projects needed for regular maintenance of aids including domes, tubes, microphone covers, wind covers, wax guards, filters and microphones.
- Use this fee when you replace parts in-clinic for parts not covered under warranty (excluding damage) during the first three years.
- For all other parts and repairs, see repair fee (fee code 205).

Service	Fee code	Fee
Ear moulds, behind the ear models and custom ear moulds	215	Manufacturer's price plus 50 per cent of handling fees.

- Business rules:
 - This fee applies to moulds for each ear.
 - Custom moulds may be issued without pre-authorization where domes and tips are not effective and excessive feedback occurs.
 - You may replace the item once every two years without pre-authorization. Bill the WCB only after the warranty period has expired.
 - Include mould impressions for custom moulds.
 - Attach the manufacturer's invoice to the WCB invoice and stamp it "not for payment."

Service	Fee code	Fee
Shipping fee	218	Actual cost: Not to exceed \$25

- Business rules:
 - Invoice the actual cost, up to a maximum of \$25.
 - Bill manufacturer shipping fees when they relate to hearing instruments (fee codes 202 and 222), manufacturer repairs (fee code 205) or ear moulds (fee code 215).
 - Shipping costs to the worker are:
 - Bill this fee only when you mail or courier a hearing aid to the worker and attach receipts for both the mailing or courier service and the insurance to the invoice stamped "not for payment."
 - Payable only when there is an urgent medical need for the repair or when the worker does not live in, or travel regularly to, the city for personal needs.