

Hearing service fees and fee codes

Effective Jan. 1, 2024

- The WCB will fund the following 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.

- Hearing instruments will be funded minus accessories. Accessories, including the following, should not be issued or authorization requested to issue:
 - 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 306.933.7235, who may consult the executive of the Saskatchewan Hearing Instrument Practitioners regarding the spirit of the negotiation that led to the above fee schedule.

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

- 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 the following frequencies: 250, 500, 1,000, 2,000, 3,000, 4,000, 6,000 and 8,000Hz.
 - Pure-tone bone conduction testing to include the above-noted frequencies and masking when indicated. Please note: The WCB requires all frequencies, including 3,000Hz, for determining an injured 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.
- A detailed written report of the audiological test results, including recommendations regarding appropriate amplification, must be signed and dated by the individual performing the test.
- May be repeated every three years except where the worker experiences a sudden onset of tinnitus or sudden unilateral hearing loss after illness in a worker with 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 handling fees					

- Business rules:
 - Request for funding form must be submitted to WCB for both new and replacement hearing instruments.
 - Fee code 202 to include a three-year standardized warranty.
 - Fee code 222 is payable in situations where the hearing instrument needs to be replaced due to loss or damage while the loss and damage coverage period is in effect. This coverage is offered by the manufacture 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.
 - Manufacturer's invoice to be attached to the WCB invoice stamped "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.
 - Where the injured worker chooses an upgraded product, the worker will pay the difference between the aid that was recommended and the aid chosen; notwithstanding the ceiling for fee code 202. The worker will not pay additional fitting, follow up or other fees payable by the WCB.
 - Includes where the worker has lost a hearing aid, with pre-approval.
 - Where the current aid cannot be adjusted in response to a significant change in hearing, where there are signs of inadequate gain available, improper amplification for hearing loss, or where the change is accepted as part of the work injury, the WCB will approve replacement aids. In

cases where improper fit resulting in feedback, or 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 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 (max of \$25 per year).
 - Manufacturer's invoice to be attached to the WCB invoice stamped "not for payment".

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

- Business rules:
 - not billable while warranty period in effect.
 - From end of warranty period (end of third year) to the end of fourth year post issuance, up to 50 per cent (not including handling fee) of the amount for fee code 202 may be invoiced to the WCB without pre-authorization.
 - Pre-authorization is required for any aid greater than four years post issuance date or when repair costs are above 50 per cent (not including handling fee) of the amount for fee code 202.
 - Manufacturer's invoice must be included when billing for a repair fee and stamped "Not for payment."
 - fee payable once per transaction with the manufacturer (not the aid).
 - Where a receiver has been replaced, no fee is billable 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:
 - Non-rechargeable batteries are provided to injured workers to last until the next service visit without pre-authorization.
 - Where a worker runs out of batteries, more may be issued without pre-authorization.
 - no service fee (fee code 214) is billable to the WCB if only supplying batteries.
 - In clinic replacement of a rechargeable battery should be billed as a repair (see above business rules for repair fee – code 205).

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:
 - selection of appropriate hearing aid device.
 - ear mould impression.
 - programming of the hearing aid device.
 - real ear measurements for fitting verification.
 - verification of audibility, comfort and tolerance.
 - speech mapping, if available.
 - quality control checks (electroacoustic checks).
 - appropriate training and counselling regarding usage of hearing aid device.

- Counselling injured worker regarding the realistic expectation of the benefits during and after adjustment period.
- Follow up with the injured worker within the hearing aid manufacturer's noted trial period (follow up visit to include adjustments, counselling, repair and re-programming if necessary).
- Includes the allotted service visits within the first year after new aid is issued including labour on repair, cleaning, re-tubing, vacuuming, re-adjustments and verification.
- all product manuals and warranty information must be provided.
- any warranty work required without additional shipping and handling fees.
- the WCB does not fund extended warranty.
- Not applicable for aids being replaced due to loss or damage (that were billed as 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:
 - Includes minor in-house repairs (excluding supplies), performance checks, reprogramming, cleaning, vacuuming, re-tubing, and adjustments.
 - Provide worker a six-month supply of batteries (if applicable) to last until next service visit, billable to the WCB without pre-authorization.
 - Limited to two visits per year. An additional two visits can be billed, if a client contacts provider and requests additional support – their request must be documented in chart notes.
 - Service fees are billable only after the one-year anniversary of the fitting/dispensing date as the first-year service fees are included in the fitting/dispensing fee.
 - Applicable only if service is provided by or supervised by an audiologist or hearing instrument practitioner.
 - includes labour for all warranty items during 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 handling fees.					

- Business rules:
 - Billed in conjunction of fee code 214 or separately when providing items per client need. (Max of four times per year without prior approval).
 - The list of parts supplied must be entered into the invoice comments to be eligible for payment. Provider must be prepared to show documentation (invoice) that supports the manufacturer price upon request.
 - For all incidental parts and projects required for regular maintenance of aids including domes, tubes, microphone covers, wind covers, wax guards, filters, microphones.
 - Parts not eligible for warranty coverage (excluding damage) during the first three years that are replaced in-clinic.
 - 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 handling fees.

- Business rules:
 - this fee applies to moulds for each ear.
 - Custom moulds may be issued without pre-authorization where domes/tips are not effective and excessive feedback occurs.
 - May be replaced once every two years without pre-authorization, with the WCB billed after the warranty period has expired only.
 - includes mould impressions for custom moulds.
 - Manufacturer's invoice to be attached to the WCB invoice stamped "Not for payment."

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

- Business rules:
 - invoice actual cost, amount payable not to exceed \$25.
 - Manufacturer shipping fees are payable when charges are incurred related to hearing instruments (fee codes 202 and 222), manufacturer repairs (fee code 205), and ear moulds (fee code 215).
 - shipping costs to worker are:
 - Billable only for hearing aid mailed or couriered to an injured worker with a receipt for both the mailing/courier and insurance both attached to the invoice stamped “Not for payment.”
 - Only payable if there is an urgent medical need for the repair or if the worker does not reside or travel to that city on a regular basis for personal needs.