

Home modifications

The National Injury Insurance Scheme Queensland (NIISQ) can fund modifications to your home if they relate to your eligible serious personal injury and are necessary and reasonable.

Home modifications are permanent changes to the structure, layout and/or fittings of the place you live, so that you can move around more easily and safely. Before you plan any changes to your home, or your living situation, it's important that you get in touch with your NIISQ Support planning team.

Key steps

Home modifications are usually completed in stages. The first priority are modifications to enable your safe discharge home from hospital. This typically includes modifications for safe entry and exit from the home, and access to a bathroom. If there are other areas of need, these are generally looked at once you have had some time at home.

Your NIISQ Support planning team will work with you and your health professionals to understand your home and current living situation. If changes are required due to your injury-related needs, your Support planning team will refer you to a special team member at the NIISQ Agency. This person has specialist understanding of home modifications and will be your key NIISQ contact through this process.

The NIISQ Agency will identify the barriers you face at home because of your injury. This could include things that make it harder for you to move around or do daily tasks. A trained occupational therapist, with experience in disability modifications, will work with you, your health professionals, and builders to recommend solutions that can make things easier for you.

The NIISQ Agency will then review these recommendations to see if they are necessary and reasonable to fund. You can find more information in the [NIISQ Home modifications guideline](#) available on the NIISQ website, or you can ask your NIISQ home modifications contact.

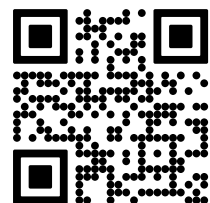


Depending on your situation and what you need, NIISQ might help you to:

- make changes to a home you or your family own
- make minor changes to a rental property
- explore other housing options
- help you move to a another home that meets your accessibility needs
- make changes to a new home that's being built



Read and download the full **Home modifications guideline** or plain language **MyGuide** at niis.qld.gov.au/tcs



Home modification examples include:

- installing ramps or grab rails
- widening door frames to allow access for a wheelchair
- changing the structure and layout of your bathroom for easier access
- modifying cooking facilities, light switches, and taps so they're easier for you to reach and use
- pathways to access important areas of the home

What if I'm thinking about moving or building a new home?

If you're planning to buy a home, build a new home, or move to a different home, you'll need to think about your injury-related needs to make sure that the property will continue to meet your needs going forward.

Before you decide or commit to anything, it's important to talk to NIISQ about your plans to move or buy or build a home.

The NIISQ Agency can advise on how we can support you in this process, what we may or may not fund, and the steps we need to undertake to approve any funds.



What if I live in a rental home?

The length of the rental agreement is one factor the NIISQ Agency considers when deciding what home modifications are necessary and reasonable to fund in a rental property. Home modifications to a rental property usually don't include funding for major changes to the structure, but smaller modifications like grab rails or simple ramps can be considered.

How long will it take to modify my home?

The time needed to make modifications to your home depends on the type of modifications and your personal situation.

The NIISQ Agency might organise temporary modifications so you can return home while waiting for more permanent ones. They will keep you updated at every step, and you can contact them anytime to talk about how things are going.

More information

For more information, contact the NIISQ Agency:

 1300 607 566
 enquiries@niis.qld.gov.au
niis.qld.gov.au

The National Injury Insurance Agency, Queensland (NIISQ Agency) collects and handles information in accordance with the *National Injury Insurance Scheme (Queensland) Act 2016*, the *National Injury Insurance Scheme Queensland Regulation 2016* and the *Information Privacy Act 2009*. You are able to gain access to the personal information held by the NIISQ Agency as provided by the *Information Privacy Act 2009*.