

Date: July 24, 2000

To: Claims Staff
Regional Vocational, Therapy and Customer Service staff

From: Karen Jost, MS, PT
Therapist Consultant Coordinator

Re: Returned Equipment from failed
Vocational Plans, Job Modifications and Pre-Job Accommodations

This is a reminder that whenever a vocational plan, job modification or pre-job accommodation has failed, any equipment purchased as part of that effort must be returned to L&I.

Claim managers should notify the worker that equipment is to be returned to the nearest service location. The service locations have developed procedures for logging receipt and disposition of the equipment. Currently, most of the equipment is sent to surplus. However, there may be occasions in which the field vocational and therapy staff are able to re-issue the equipment to another claimant. In some cases, it is appropriate to credit a portion of the cost of the equipment to the associated claim.

Except when an employer has been designated as the owner of equipment for a job modification (policy 6.70, section 14, exception 14a), L&I owns the equipment until such time as the vocational plan, job modification or pre-job accommodation is considered to be successful. As such, we are responsible for this state property. Failure to notify the worker right away that the equipment must be returned may result in increased difficulty recovering the equipment.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or need assistance (360) 902-5622.