

Vocational Rehabilitation Home Modification and Assistive Technology for Individuals with Disabilities **FY2007 Request: \$300,000**
Reference No: 41370

AP/AL: Appropriation **Project Type:** Health and Safety
Category: Health/Human Services **Recipient:** Individuals with Disabilities
Location: Statewide **Contact:** Gale Sinnott
House District: Statewide (HD 1-40) **Contact Phone:** (907)465-6927
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2006 - 06/30/2011

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

These funds will be used to provide assistance to individuals with the most significant disabilities in the purchase of modifications for vehicles and homes as part of the Individual Plan for Employment (IPE). These funds will increase the self-efficiency necessary for up to 30 individuals to become employed.

Funding:	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	Total
Gen Fund	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$1,800,000
Total:	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$1,800,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On-Going
0% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Bill	

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Project Development:	0	0
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
One-Time Startup:	0	0
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

Prior funding for home modifications included: FY98 \$100.0, FY99 \$100.0, FY00 \$50.0, FY01 \$100.0, FY02 \$100.0, FY03 \$100.0, and in FY06 assistive technology language was added \$150.0.

Project Description/Justification:

This request will provide funding for individuals with disabilities with an Individual Plan for Employment (IPE) and who meet the required financial needs test. As the department continues to provide services to the most severely disabled individuals, the need for home modifications, accessible transportation, and assistive technology increases. Without the necessary modification and transportation, an individual cannot take care of personal needs in order to go to work.

The IPE must show transportation, home modifications, or assistive technology is necessary for an individual to participate in a vocational rehabilitation service. A Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor provides guidance on cost options and the necessary modifications a vehicle, home, or work setting will need, based on the individual's disability.

The division estimates up to 30 severely disabled individuals will be served with these funds.

Examples of home modifications include ramps for wheelchairs, modification to bathrooms, and removal of barriers that restrict access. Assistive technology may include environmental control systems and speech controlled computers. Vehicle modifications may include hand controls and lift systems to make a van accessible.