Adaptive Driver Evaluation

Getting Into the Driver’s Seat

Assisting Consumers with Disabilities to Become Independent Drivers

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Licensed Driver Educator

Visit us online at alphaonenow.org
Our Vision
As the result of Alpha One's endeavors, Maine will be a model for the nation in enabling people with disabilities of all ages to live independently.

Our Mission
Alpha One, Maine’s Center for Independent Living, directed by and for people with disabilities, is committed to providing the disabled community in Maine with information, services and products that create opportunities for people with disabilities to live independently.
Alpha One - Our Services

Housing
- CAPS
- Access Design (Architectural Accessibility specialists)
- Home Retro
- Critical Access

Financing
- mPower (Maine's adaptive loan fund)
- Personal Finance Skills Training
- Title 7 part b

Independent Living Services
- AgrAbility
- Hear in Maine
- Sign Net
Alpha One - Our Services

Personal Assistance Services
  – Consumer Directed

Transportation
  – Adaptive Driver Evaluation

Recreation
  – Open Waters (Adaptive Scuba diving)
  – Rink Link (Adaptive Ice sports program)

Adaptive Equipment
  – Adapted Home and Business
  – Renegade Wheelchairs

Other
  – Maine affiliate for New England ADA Technical Assistance
Learning Objectives

- The importance of driving for a person with a disability
- Driver evaluation and driver training process
- General understanding of vehicle specifications and adaptive equipment
- Funding options
Driver Program History

- First in state and operational for over 25 years
- Team of four licensed Occupational Therapists/Licensed Driver Educators
- Membership in ADED and MDEA
- Performance based
- Consumer directed
More about the program

- Adapted evaluation vehicle
  - 4 interchangeable hand controls
  - Left footed gas pedal
- Cross disability
  - Entry level driver – Developmental Delay
  - Experienced driver – change in medical/functional status
- Non-medical model; not prescriptive
- Designed to ENABLE drivers
- Consultants to DMV
- Maine’s self-report law
Intake Process

- Information & referral call
- Consumer completes application
- Physician completes Driver Medical Evaluation; FAP
- Solicit relevant information; VR, vision
- Application can be downloaded at alphaonenow.org
Intake Process continued

Appointment is scheduled (3-4 hours)

- Screen disability and mobility equipment
- Driving readiness for entry level drivers
  - Pre-driving experience
  - Be at home alone, independence in the community
  - How interested or determined in learning to drive
  - Attention and processing skills
Components of a Comprehensive Adapted Driving Evaluation

Assessment of visual, perceptual and cognitive skills

- Visual skills – acuity, contrast sensitivity, peripheral vision
- Visual Perceptual – depth perception, visual spatial skills
- Cognitive skills - problem solving, reasoning, attention, judgment, insight, memory
Components of a Comprehensive Adaptive Driving Evaluation 2

Motor function

- range of motion
- muscle tone
- reaction time
- mobility or adaptive equipment used
  - Is the equipment adequate for function in the community?
- ability to transfer & load mobility equipment
Components of a Comprehensive Adapted Driving Evaluation 3

Personal transportation needs

- functional/medical
- work, recreation, school, family
- type of driving environment in the community
Components of a Comprehensive Adapted Driving Evaluation 4

Behind-the-wheel performance evaluation

- visual search, selective and alternating attention, and distinguishing visual information
- executive functions in decision making, anticipating and prioritizing potential hazards
- reaction time, speed of movement
- motor learning – steering, acceleration, braking and coordinating these functions
- opportunity to try adaptive equipment & seek recommendations from the evaluator
Wrap up discussion

- discuss driving readiness/evaluator recommendations
- product & vendor information
- driver training for new drivers/review for returning drivers or when adaptive equipment is recommended
- Identify individual training needs; classroom & on road
More discussion

- Identify adaptive equipment needs & vehicle specifications
- Provide information to identify local instructors or schools
- Report goes to the consumer and BMV
- Outreach to driving schools
- BMV determines need for a road test
Question for the Audience:

- What types of consumers are you seeing that may need an adapted driving evaluation?
- Do you have questions? Comments?
Adaptive Driving Equipment and Vehicle Modifications
Adaptive Driving Equipment and Vehicle Modifications 2

- Vehicle Access
- Driver Position
- Steering System
- Brake/Accelerator System
- Secondary Controls and Systems
- Wheelchair/Scooter Loaders
Raised Roof
Raised Door Opening

Cargo Doors

Sliding Door
Dropped Floor

Driver From a Wheelchair
Dropped Floor 2

Driver and Front Passenger Lowered Floor
Wheelchair Lifts

Platform Lift

Rotary Lift
Transfer Seats

Elevating Transfer seat for Pickup Trucks and SUV’s
Transfer Seats 2

Allow Passenger Transfers to Smaller Vehicles
Lowered Floor Minivan

Side Entry

Rear Entry
Power Transfer Seat

Seat Base Swivels; Moves for/aft; and, raises/lowers
Automatic Wheelchair Tie-down

Secures an Occupied Wheelchair Acting as a Vehicle Seat
Reduced Effort Steering Systems

- For individuals with deficits in strength and endurance affecting their ability to operate the standard steering system.

- The installation of one of these systems should always include an emergency backup system.
Steering Devices

- Spinner Knob
- Amputee Spinner
- Tri Pin (single pin also available)
- Quad Fork
- Palm Spinner
Steering Extensions
Remote Steering Systems
Joystick Driving System

Operates Brake, Gas, And Steering
Brake/Accelerator System

- Mechanical Hand Controls
- Powered Control Systems
- Left Foot Accelerator
- Pedal Extensions
Mechanical Hand Controls

Brake

Throttle

Push/Rock Hand Control
Mechanical Hand Controls 2

Push/Right Angle Hand Control
Powered Control Systems
Left Foot Accelerator
Pedal Extensions
Secondary Controls and Systems

- Left Hand Gear Selector
- Power Gear Selector
- Power Parking Brake
- Electronic Secondary Control Systems
- Audible Scanning Systems
- Voice Activated Systems
Left Hand Gear Selector
Power Gear Selector

Control Touchpad
Power Parking Brake

Control Touchpad
Electronic Secondary Control Systems

Multi-Function Control Touchpad
Voice Activated Systems

Voice Recognition Module
Wheelchair/Scooter Loaders

**Interior**
- Mid-Vehicle
- Rear
- Trunk
- Truck Bed

**Exterior**
- Car Top
- Hitch Mounted
- Trailer
Interior

Mid-Vehicle
Interior 3

Scooter

Manual Wheelchair

Trunk
Interior 4

Truck Bed
Interior 5

Pickup Truck
Exterior

Car Top Carrier
Exterior 2

Hitch-Mounted
Choosing a Vender

Following the evaluation we provide a list of venders that serve Maine consumers. We also encourage consumers to shop around:

- Quality of Installation
- Service After the Sale
- Price & Warranty
- First Impressions and Reputation
- Installation Time
Financing Options

- M Power Adapted Loan Program
  mpowerloans.org
- Vocational Rehabilitation
  maine.gov/rehab/
- Independent Living Services Grant $5000 cap (modifications only). Call 800-640-7200 (v/tty)
- Worker’s Compensation
Used Vehicles

- Alpha One Classifieds
  alphaonenow.org/classified_ads
- Disabled Dealer
  disableddealer.com
- GetATStuff
  getatstuff.org
Manufacturer Rebate Programs

Ford
GM
Toyota
Volkswagen
Acura

Chrysler
Saturn
Lexus
Honda
Funding

Combining Funding Options - 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ford Van</td>
<td>$28-32,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adaptive Equip. Cost</td>
<td>$24,090.00</td>
<td>(lift, tie-down, automatic door, 6” dropped floor, hand control, Tri-pin)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$52,090.00</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Vocational Rehab.</td>
<td>-$24,090.00</td>
<td>$28,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ford Mobility Motoring</td>
<td>-$1,000.00</td>
<td>$27,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraiser</td>
<td>-$4,000.00</td>
<td>$23,000.00</td>
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Financing $23,000.00 with mPower Loan Program at 4% for 8 years with a monthly payment of $280.34.

2008, 2097 mini vans purchased and converted w/ lowered floor/ramp $38,000+/-
2011 with new conversion $54,000 driving equipment and tie-downs – additional cost
Questions - Comments?

Thank you
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Please complete the electronic evaluation form and you will receive an attendance certificate.