

# Brace Fund & Camp Fund Description of Coverage 2024

## Brace Fund--Items Covered

1. Orthopedic braces--Covered.
2. Equipment--Everyday equipment related to spina bifida is covered (for example, wheelchair for everyday use, shower chair, walker). Wheelchair repairs are covered but other repairs are not covered.
3. Doctors & hospitals--If it is related to spina bifida, it is covered. For example, medical care related to hydrocephalus, scoliosis, pressure sores, urological infections and latex allergy is covered. Medical care for items not related to spina bifida is not covered (for example, flu, allergies to pollen, inoculations, physicals).
4. Prescriptions—A Prescriptions related to spina bifida are covered (for example, bladder medication). Prescriptions not related to spina bifida are not covered. Antacids and Laxatives are covered; no other over-the counter items are covered.
5. Wheelchair ramp--The installation of a ramp is covered. The initial installation is covered but ongoing maintenance and repairs are not covered (such as repairs, power-washing, staining and water-proofing).
6. Making the house accessible--Permanent structural changes unique to wheelchairs are covered (for example, widening doorways or installing a wheel-in shower). The initial installation is covered but ongoing maintenance and repairs are not covered. Garage doors and openers are not covered.
7. Urological supplies (such as catheters and KY jelly) --Covered.
8. Diapers--Covered. However, the person with spina bifida must be over 2-years' old. Wipes/Wet Ones and Protective pads are covered.
9. Basic driving lessons are not covered. However, if you are required to have a rehabilitation evaluation before beginning lessons, the evaluation is covered.
10. Vehicles-- Vehicles are not covered. But the purchase and installation of a wheelchair lift, ramp or hand-controls are covered only. Just the equipment that helps the spina bifida person be more mobile. So, no oil changes, engine, tires, brakes, or any other regular maintenance are not covered.
11. Transportation; parking; lodging; meals; postage--Not covered, except Mobility and Uber service.
12. Mobility--Covered. We cover 300 tickets per year. You order tickets through us and you pick up the tickets at our meeting.
13. Apparel--Adaptive clothing to fit over braces and AFO's is covered.
14. Eyeglasses--One pair a year and contacts up to a year supply are covered.
15. Hearing aids per Arnold Chiari Malformation diagnosis.
16. CPAP machine with relevant medical diagnosis from a physician.
17. Respite Care- Covered by brace fund by either family or professional for person with Spina Bifida only.
18. Rental beach wheelchair - Covered.

## Brace Fund--Key Rules

1. You must verify your identity and that you have spina bifida. This must be done annually. In addition, you must attend two meetings on a yearly basis, (i.e., in a twelve-month period of time). Attendance at events does not count toward this because there is no business being conducted.
2. You must file timely. Specifically, claims for services or purchases for 2024 must be filed by January 31, 2025.

You must provide the original copies of proof of payment (for example, your original credit card statement or the cancelled check your bank sends you). No photocopies or If the item costs \$50 or less, the original cash register tape is sufficient. Do not pay cash for large expenses because you will not be able to provide a suitable receipt. **Please do not email a picture copy of your Brace fund receipts from your phone or iPad.**

There is a limit on how much a family can receive for a year. "Year" is the year you purchased the item or received the service (whichever comes first is the "year"). For example, if you are hospitalized in December 2024 but receive or pay the bill in January 2025, that expense is a 2024 expense (not a 2025 expense) because you received the Service in 2024.

3. If we have a question about your claim, we will contact you before your claim is processed. However, if the error is minor, such as a simple math error, we will correct the error and pay the claim.
4. Membership—You must be a member in good standing membership and pay your membership yearly on time
5. New member families--Expenses you incur before becoming a member and before you attend your two required General Membership Meetings are not covered.
6. New member--New members must serve a 6-month waiting period before applying for Brace Fund, Camp Fund and Special Needs Trust. The 6-month period begins the date you meet the two requirements described in the prior item. Expenses incurred during that period are covered, but you must wait 6 months to file.

## Camp Fund

1. Fees for camps and summer school Tutoring that specialize in serving people with disabilities--Covered.
2. Transportation; parking; lodging; meals--Not covered.
3. The Camp Fund covers only the person with spina bifida. The costs for family members or companions are not covered.
4. You must have spina bifida. This must be done annually. Specifically, you must appear at least two time each year.
5. You must file timely. Specifically, bills for camp must be filed in the same year you attended the camp.