

**PIERCE COUNTY LEOFF 1 DISABILITY BOARD
HEARING AID POLICY**

Updated October 2010

The Pierce County Law Enforcement Officers' and Fire Fighters' Disability Board hereby authorizes the Secretary of the Board to act on requests for consideration of payment for hearing aids, as follows:

- The LEOFF 1 member must establish medical necessity. Examination by a medical doctor or audiologist is required, along with a written report of findings. The written report is to include, at a minimum, the results of the audiogram, establishing medical necessity, and a statement as to whether the examining physician considers the hearing loss to be permanent and/or not likely to improve with other available treatments, such as medication, surgery, etc.
- The member must furnish the Board with a written estimate of cost for the hearing aids. If the cost is to exceed the below-referenced Board approved maximum amount, the member must provide the Board with estimates from at least three hearing aid providers and present to the Board the reason they require these hearings aids.
- Unless the member can establish there is no coverage available under his/her health insurance plan or through any other source, he/she must provide documentation showing the involved expenses have been submitted to all available sources, and reflecting any amounts paid and/or rejected.
- Upon receipt and review of the required documentation, the Secretary of the Board may approve payment by the employer up to a maximum amount of \$1,875.00 for one, and \$3,750.00 for two, hearing aids every five years, inclusive of amounts paid by other providers.
- Prescription changes within the five-year period will be reviewed by the Board on a case-by-case basis.
- Lost, broken or damaged hearing aid(s) will not be repaired or replaced, unless the member can establish to the Board's satisfaction that the loss, breakage or damage was not caused by his/her own negligence or abuse.

Hearing aids costing in excess of the approved amount and any other issues not specifically addressed above will be directed to the Board for their consideration.