

Understanding the TSGLI Loss of Activities of Daily Living Standards

TSGLI ADL Standard for Eating

Please note the following examples are for illustrative purposes only and are not intended to be all inclusive.

Eating

- ▶ To meet the ADL standard for eating, you must be required to either:
 - Receive nutrition intravenously or by feeding tube, or
 - Obtain assistance from another person to get food from plate to mouth.
- ▶ If you can obtain liquid nourishment through a straw or cup, you do not meet the eating standard.
- ▶ Food preparation, including cooking and cutting, is not part of the eating standard.

Eating Examples

- ▶ Unable to Eat Independently
 - You are in the hospital and being fed via feeding tube due to the severity of your injury.
 - You have severe injuries to both hands with wound dressings and inability to grasp. You can eat via mouth but another person must place the food directly into your mouth so you can chew and swallow it.

- ▶ Able to Eat Independently
 - Your jaw is wired shut to allow healing after jaw surgery. You are able to obtain all necessary nutrition through a liquid diet taken via straw.
 - You can use a fork or other utensil to move food from plate to mouth with your right hand, but as your left hand is injured, another person must cut up the food before you can eat it.

For more information on Activities of Daily Living and other TSGLI losses, see the TSGLI Procedures Guide at:

<https://www.benefits.va.gov/INSURANCE/docs/TSGLIProceduresGuide.pdf>