What is OK-WARN for the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing?

OK-WARN is a new way for deaf and hard-of-hearing people to receive timely notification of weather hazards in the state of Oklahoma.

The program was created to help ease the fears of deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals who may have difficulty receiving life saving warnings.

OK-WARN is a customized database program that sends out critical weather information to alphanumeric pagers and e-mail addresses.

When the National Weather Service issues a weather alert, the program will automatically send a message to all participating pagers, so notification is nearly instant.

In addition to all that, the program also provides multiple data sources and attempts to deliver the critical message so you can be sure you’ll never miss a warning.

<table>
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<th>OK-WARN Partners</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Communication Services for the Deaf of Oklahoma</td>
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<tr>
<td>NOAA National Weather Service Norman Forecast Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitative Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management</td>
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<td>Weather Affirmation, LLC</td>
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80% of deaf and hard-of-hearing people have experienced a fear of being unprepared for weather emergencies — Vincent Wood, NOAA
Why Sign Up for OK-WARN?

By having an instant severe weather report at your fingertips, you can be:

1. **Prepared** by knowing what to do when adverse weather approaches
2. **Informed** without having to rely entirely on television, radio, other forms of media or word of mouth
3. **Calm** during dangerous weather

Sample OK-WARN Weather Messages

**Tornado Warning:**
*TORNADO WARNING FOR..OKLAHOMA & CANADIAN COUNTIES IN CENTRL OK* UNTIL 4:30PM*AT 3:36 PM SPOTTERS REPORTED A TORNADO 2 MI S OF YUKON. THIS STORM IS MOVING NE AT 30MPH.

**Winter Weather:**
NWS NORMAN OK..FREEZING DRIZZLE ADVISORY THIS AM...WINTER STORM WATCH TONIGHT...

**Non-Precipitation:**
NWS TULSA OK...HIGH WIND WARNING THROUGH MID AM TODAY...

OK-WARN Options

**You Choose the Warnings** - You get only the warnings you request. Select from the following messages:

- Tornado Watch & Warning
- Severe Thunderstorm Watch & Warning
- Winter Weather Warning
- Winter Weather Watch
- Winter Weather Advisory
- Flash Flood Watch & Warning
- Civil Emergency Message
- Special/Significant Weather
- Severe Weather Statements
- River Flood Warning
- Non-Precipitation Advisory

**You Choose the Coverage** – Pick the county or counties you’re interested in by selecting from the following coverage options:

- All counties in Oklahoma
- Single county ONLY
- Selected counties (Choose any number of counties)
- County group which includes a single county and all surrounding counties (see picture below)

**You Choose the Delivery** – Receive warnings by pager, e-mail or both.

Other Program Users

A variety of groups are already benefiting from this system, including:

- State and local emergency management officials
- Police, fire, medical services and other first responders
- Telecommunications companies

How to Apply

To sign up for OK-WARN, fill out the enclosed application and mail in a stamped envelope to P.O. Box 53365, Oklahoma City, OK 73152

There are representatives at the following Communication Services for the Deaf locations who can assist with the application process:

**CSD Tulsa** - 8519 E. 11th St.
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74112
(918) 835-7445 TTY/Voice
(866) 845-7445 TTY/Voice

**CSD OKC** - Gaylord Community Complex
2460 W. I44 Service Road
Oklahoma City, OK 73112
(405) 948-1770 Voice
(405) 942-0112 TTY
(866) 845-7445 Toll Free

Contact your local pager service company to purchase an alphanumeric pager. Any company or brand of pager can be used with the program. An approximate cost for pager service is $6-8 a month.

For more information or to obtain a full page application with additional OK-WARN option details, [www.odcem.state.ok.us/okwarn.htm](http://www.odcem.state.ok.us/okwarn.htm)