

Funding Resources for Assistive Technology

Oklahoma Equipment Distribution Program

If you have had difficulty hearing people on the telephone and are asking people to repeat themselves frequently, it may be time to start using specialized equipment. What if you can't afford to buy anything that could assist you? Did you know you may be eligible to receive devices from the Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services, Oklahoma Equipment Distribution Program or the Senior Citizens Hearing Aid Program?

What is the Equipment Distribution Program?

The program provides adaptive equipment for telephone and communications access for individuals who are deaf, deaf-blind, hard of hearing or speech impaired.

What kind of devices can you get?

Items available include TTYs, phone amplifiers, ring signalers, visual signaling devices and other adaptive devices for use in the home.

Who is eligible?

- Oklahoma residents
- Individuals who can provide proof of speech impairment or hearing loss severe enough to require use of TTY or amplifier to use the telephone
- Individuals who can provide proof of any other contributing disability (i.e. blindness, visual impairment, physical disability, etc.)
- Individuals who meet the established income guidelines

What is the cost of specialized devices?

Equipment is free for those meeting income guidelines, with sliding scale charges for persons above set income levels.



Jennie's main contact with the world was via telephone until she reached her 80s and could no longer hear phone conversations. On a limited income, she wasn't able to afford hearing aids or a specialized phone. With the assistance of the Oklahoma Equipment Distribution Program and the Senior Citizens Hearing Aid Program she received an amplified telephone which makes all the difference. Now she can have a telephone conversation with her family and friends.

Senior Citizens Hearing Aid Program

What is the Senior Citizens Hearing Aid Program?

The Hearing Aid Program provides assistance with purchasing hearing aids for income-eligible senior citizens. The program only has sufficient funds to provide one non-digital hearing aid per person.

Who is eligible?

- Oklahoma residents
- Individuals at least 60 years of age
- Individuals on a limited income
- Individuals who have a 35db hearing loss in your better ear (an audiologist, determined by the Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Service (DRS), will administer a hearing test to determine the degree of hearing loss)

What does the hearing aid cost?

The hearing aid is free if you are within the household income guidelines, which as of January 2009 is:

# in family	monthly income guideline
1	\$2,254
2	\$3,034
3	\$3,814
4	\$4,594
5	\$5,374

If your income is above the guideline, a co-payment will be charged. The co-payment will equal ten percent of the difference between your monthly income and the monthly income guideline.

How do I get a hearing aid from the program?

1. Complete application and provide proof of income
2. Select an audiologist from a list of providers contracted with DRS
3. DRS will determine eligibility and fax an authorization to the selected audiologist
4. Arrange an appointment with the audiologist; DRS will pay for the testing
5. If qualified for a hearing aid, the audiologist will order the hearing aid and arrange for a fitting

For More Information Contact

Services to the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
580-622-8812 V/TTY
866-309-1717 V/TTY Toll Free
580-622-5850 FAX



About Oklahoma AgrAbility

Oklahoma AgrAbility connects farmers and ranchers with disabilities to resources that may help provide continued success in their enterprise, operation and daily life activities. AgrAbility strives to provide education, assistance and support to those in need.

Contact Oklahoma AgrAbility

405-744-5182 • 888-885-5588 (voice/tty) • agrability.okstate.edu • ability@okstate.edu

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