



Hearing Aid Resources

A hearing aid resource guide for Colorado.

- Where do I go for financial assistance?
- What should I expect?
- What programs exist?
- What other devices are available?



COLORADO
Department of Human Services

CCDHH
Colorado Commission for
the Deaf & Hard of Hearing

Colorado Commission For the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (CCDHH)



Our mission: To be an agent of change for a sustainable statewide network of resources dedicated to cultural and linguistic equality.

Our vision: *We envision a barrier-free Colorado.*

Contact us!

Colorado Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

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Denver, CO 80203

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CCDHH has seven primary functions:

- **Auxiliary Services**

Sign Language Interpreters that are nationally certified through the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID) and communication access real-time translation (CART) providers who are certified by the National Court Reporter Association, are provided for legal proceedings in the State Court System, probation and court-ordered treatment as well as state agencies with intra-/inter-agency agreement.

- **Central resource for information and referrals**

Office hours are from 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM. Staff are available to provide resources and referrals, outline options, and answer questions.

- **Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program**

Telecommunications equipment is provided to citizens who qualify.

- **Community Access Program**

Direct one-on-one system navigation is provided to deaf-blind individuals who seek equivalent access to programs, activities, or services. A system navigator has access to ADA consultants to evaluate complex barriers to access, formulate and implement an action plan for educating entities on how to remove barriers and remain in compliance with federal and state laws. The implementation phase may involve assisting or accompanying individuals to provide advocacy services that enhance the individual's access to communication.

- **Grant Program**

Funding is made available to local governments, state agencies, state-operated programs, or private not-for-profit community-based organizations to address the needs of Colorado's deaf, hard-of-hearing, and deaf-blind Coloradans on an annual basis.

- **Outreach and Consultative Services**

Resources, including Communication Access Assessments and training, are made available to empower consumers and advise/educate local and state agencies, private agencies, and other entities regarding communication accessibility and culturally affirmative access.

- **Systems advocacy**

Support is provided to the community, service providers, governmental agencies, private entities and the general assembly for the development and implementation of action plans that facilitate and expedite consumer's ability to access the State of Colorado's programs, services and activities.

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Finding the resource that is right for you....



Each program has their own set of stipulations and eligibility criteria.

Special programs exist to provide financial assistance to people who qualify and need hearing aids.

If you are a:

- United States Military Veteran
- College Student / Job seeker
- Senior
- Recipient of government assistance

You may be eligible for specific programs.

Check with your insurance provider first!

After you receive your hearing test results, ask your audiologist's office to check your insurance plan for coverage. Some Medicare Advantage plans have a hearing aid benefit, but most Medicare/Medicaid plans in Colorado do not cover hearing aids. Individuals with private insurance through their employers may ask their employer to work with the insurance company to add hearing aid coverage to their employee's benefits package.

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Resources for Children

In the State of Colorado, children under the age of 18 have greater access to hearing aids through state mandates ([SB 08-057](#)) . Colorado currently doesn't require such access for adults over the age of 18. [Senate Bill 08-057](#) requires insurance providers to cover hearing aids for children under 18 years of age when medically necessary. Coverage must include a new hearing aid every five years, a new hearing aid when alterations to the existing hearing aid cannot meet the needs of the child, and services and supplies such as the initial assessment, fitting, adjustments, and auditory training.

Not all insurance companies are subject to this law!

Insurance plans that are considered private, public, or self-insured all have different requirements. This law only mandates private insurance companies to provide a hearing aid benefit to minors. Public (Medicaid) insurance is not covered under this bill. However CHP+ plans that cover children are subject to this requirement. Self-insured plans that are fully provided by a private company do not have the same requirements as private insurance plans.

If you are not eligible for public or private funding for your child's hearing aids, you can ask your audiologist to contact the **H.E.A.R Project**: 303-751-2519. For more information, visit <http://www.hearproject.org/> .

If you are a parent looking for additional resources:

Colorado Families for Hands and Voices is a parent-driven non-profit organization dedicated to supporting families with children who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Phone: 303-492-6283 (Voice)

Web: <http://www.cohandsandvoices.org/>

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Government Hearing Aid Assistance Programs

State Programs

Colorado Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)

Stipulation: Must be a college student or a job seeker and be a DVR client. Applicants must fill out a [Personal Information Packet](#) so DVR can determine eligibility.

Description: DVR is a State and federally funded program designed to help eligible individuals with disabilities find suitable employment, retain employment and live independently. Their services may include the provision of equipment which includes assistance with procuring hearing aids.

Contact Information:

303-318-8571 (Voice)

<http://www.dvrcolorado.com/>

Federal Programs

TRICARE

Stipulation: Must be military personnel or a covered family member. Other [eligibility requirements](#) apply.

Description: Only covers hearing aids for active duty service members and their family with specific hearing thresholds and speech recognition scores.

TRICARE doesn't cover hearing aids and hearing aid services for retirees and their family. Retirees and veterans may be able to get hearing aids from other government programs, including:

- Retiree-At-Cost Hearing Aid Program (RACHAP). This is at certain military hospitals and clinics. The RACHAP lets you get hearing aids at a significant cost savings. RACHAP doesn't cover retiree family members.
- Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). Veterans may be eligible. You must first register at any VA medical center. If you're eligible, you'll get your hearing aids at no charge.

Contact Information:

1-877-988-9378 (Voice)

<http://www.tricare.mil/>

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Veterans Health Administration

Stipulation: Must be a Veteran who has been discharged from active services due to disability determination. Former Prisoners of War (POWs), Purple Heart recipients, or individuals receiving benefits through Title 38 of the U.S. Code 1151 may be eligible.

Description: To receive hearing aids through VA, you must first register at the health Administration/enrollment section of the VA Medical Center of your choice. The following documents are usually needed at the time of registration: a copy of the Veteran's DD214, driver's license and health insurance (if available). There are several ways to enroll:

- In person at any VA Medical Center or Clinic
- Online by filling out the Form [10-10EZ](#).
- By mailing completed Form [10-10EZ](#) to the Medical Center of your choice (please be sure to sign your application or it cannot be processed for enrollment)

Once registered (or if already registered), a referral to the Audiology and Speech Pathology Clinic may be requested through your assigned VA Primary Care Provider. The audiologist will complete an evaluation and make a clinical determination on the need for hearing aids and/or other hearing assistive devices. If you are eligible, your hearing aids, repairs, and future batteries will all be at no charge to you.

Contact Information:

1-877-222-8387 (Voice)

<http://www.va.gov/>

Charitable Programs

Colorado Resources

Marion Downs Center

Stipulation: Must meet income requirements. Program resides in the Denver metro area.

Description: A non-profit organization offering hearing testing and hearing aids. Hearing aid services include the selection, fitting, verification and validation of technology based on individual needs. Services are guided using audiometric fitting prescriptions modified by personal preference and specific environmental needs. Some financial assistance may be offered if you qualify.

Contact Information:

303-322-1871 (Voice)

<https://www.mariondowns.com/>

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Colorado Gerontological Society (CGS)

Stipulation: Older adults age 60 and over who live in Adams, Arapahoe, Broomfield, Clear Creek, Denver, Douglas, Gilpin, and Jefferson County may apply for a grant for partial assistance with hearing aids and an exam. Priority is given to older adults who are in the greatest economic and social need.

Description: Through a grant from the Denver Regional Council of Governments and supported by community donations, CGS administers the Senior Answers and Services Hearing Program to provide limited financial assistance to Denver metro area seniors for the purchase of eyeglasses. This program is funded under the federal Older Americans Act (OAA) and the state Older Coloradans Fund.

Applicants are screened for social and economic need and in accordance with OAA guidelines. Services will be prioritized to those in the greatest need. Applicants will choose their own audiologist, who must agree to accept a Hearing Program grant as payment for services.

For those approved, the Hearing Program will provide an initial grant to have an exam done. The audiologist will forward a proposal for treatment (including the type of aid to be provided and any additional necessary insertion services) to CGS, who will then evaluate it for a final grant for services. The program will pay up to \$750 per aid and \$60 per molding if necessary. The full fee schedule is available upon request.

At this time there is an extensive waiting list, but encourage all interested to apply for the program.

Contact Information:

303-333-3482 (Voice)

<http://www.senioranswers.org/>

Denver Health Audiology Clinic

Stipulation: Must be a Colorado resident. Program resides in the Denver metro area. Referral from primary care physician or personal doctor required before an appointment can be scheduled. The Physician must fill out a [referral form](#).

Description: You may purchase hearing aids at a reduced cost if you receive Medicare (non-HMO) and/or Medicaid and you are a Colorado resident.

Contact Information:

303-602-6137 (Voice)

<http://www.denverhealth.org/>

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Denver Lions Club

Stipulation: Program resides in the Denver metro area.

Description: The hearing conservation efforts of the Denver Lions Club focus on providing quality hearing aids to low-income individuals. These efforts are coordinated by the Hearing Committee of the Club. The Committee determines whether the individual is income-qualified and then arranges for the Club to pay for hearing aids and/or for the fitting fees.

Contact Information:

720-231-3818 (Voice)

<http://www.denverlions.org/>

H.E.A.R.S.

Stipulation: Must reside in El Paso County and must make below a certain income to be eligible. There is a wait list. There is an [application process](#).

Description: This program serves adults and children who reside in El Paso County. HEARS is mainly supported and funded by local SERTOMA clubs. When a used hearing aid is donated to the HEARS program, hearing aid manufacturers extend credit used for repair of hearing aids. Over 2500 hearing aids and other services have been provided at little or no cost to qualifying clients through this program..

Contact Information:

719-352-5124

<http://hearscosp.weebly.com/>

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National Resources

Sertoma

Stipulation: Must meet income criteria. There is an [application process](#).

Description: Offers a hearing aid recycling program. Clubs collect used hearing aids, have them refurbished and distribute them to people who need them.

Contact Information:

816-333-8300 (Voice)

<http://sertoma.org/>

Lions Club International

Stipulation: Must meet income criteria.

Description: Offers a hearing aid recycling program.

Contact Information:

630-571-5466 (Voice)

www.lionsclubs.org/

Starkey Hearing Foundation – Hear Now Program

Stipulation: Must meet income criteria. There is an application process.

Description: Hear Now is an application-based program that provides financial assistance to Americans who cannot afford hearing aids. Qualifying applicants are fitted with new, top-of-the-line digital hearing aids that are customized to the individual.

Contact Information:

800-328-8602 (Voice)

<https://www.starkeyhearingfoundation.org/>

Information and Support Organizations

Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA)

Description: HLAA provides assistance and resources for deaf and hard of hearing people and their families. HLAA teaches individuals and their families how to adjust to communication barriers. HLAA is working to raise public awareness about the need for prevention, treatment, and regular hearing screenings throughout life. HLAA provides resources and support meetings throughout the State of Colorado.

Contact Information:

301-657-2248 (Voice)

<http://www.hearinglosscolorado.org/>

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Association of Late-Deafened Adults (ALDA)

Description: The Association of Late-Deafened Adults is about communication and acceptance of every deaf individual. ALDA gives late-deafened adults a chance to mingle with other deaf people. ALDA also provides a place for deaf/hearing couples to socialize with other couples who are facing communication barriers.

Contact Information:

815-332-1515 (Voice)

<http://www.alda.org/>

Better Hearing Institute

Description: Conducts research and engages in hearing health education with the goal of helping people who are deaf or hard of hearing benefit from proper treatment.

Contact Information:

800-327-9355 (Voice)

<http://www.betterhearing.org/>

Resources for Hearing Assistive Devices

ADCO Hearing Products

Description: Sells assistive hearing devices that are compatible with hearing aids. Some of the products offered include TV accessories, alarm clocks, signaling accessories, FM systems, headphones, amplified telephones, cell phone amplifiers and accessories, captioned phones, telephone ring signalers, and hearing aid supplies.

Contact Information:

303-794-3928 (Voice)

<https://adcohearing.com/>

Assist2Hear

Description: Assist2Hear's mission is to help educate the general public and individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing about available options to improve hearing in their own home as well as public venues and social settings through the installation of hearing induction loop systems.

Contact Information:

877-338-1084 (Voice)

<http://www.assist2hear.com/>

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Oval Window Audio

Description: Sells induction loop assistive listening systems that are compatible with all telecoil-equipped (T-coil) hearing aids, cochlear implants and induction loop receivers.

Contact Information:

303-447-3607 (Voice)

<http://www.ovalwindowaudio.com/>

Harris Communications

Description: Sells over 2,000 products designed to help people who are deaf or hard of hearing in their everyday lives. Products include alarm clocks, signaling accessories, FM systems, loop systems, personal amplifiers, headphones, amplified telephones, cell phone amplifiers and accessories, captioned phones, telephone ring signalers, hearing protection, and hearing aid supplies.

Contact Information:

800-825-6758 (Voice)

<http://www.harriscomm.com/>



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State Technology Programs

Assistive Technology Partners

Description: Has demonstration centers throughout the State of Colorado that will help individuals make informed choices about the best technology options for them before they purchase equipment.

Contact Information:

303-556-2040 (Voice)

<http://www.assistivetechologypartners.org>

Telephone Equipment Distribution Program (TEDP)

Description: The Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program (TEDP) is a state program that provides **FREE** telecommunication equipment, such as amplified and captioned phones and wireless devices as well as accessories (ring signalers and neck loops or headsets) and specialized equipment to qualified deaf, hard of hearing and deaf-blind individuals ([iCanConnect](#)).

Individuals who are becoming or are hard of hearing or those that wear hearing aids or cochlear implants can benefit from amplified technology, as it amplifies their hearing and gives them the ease of using a phone with added benefits.

The program also provides captioned phones, which allows a person who is profoundly deaf or hard of hearing to read the conversation and the phone provides some amplification. The person will need to be at the phone to read the conversation.

Our program wants to match the right device for the individual to ensure the person uses it to the fullest capacity.

The equipment itself gives the person independence and accessibility to family and the community at large.

Contact Information:

303-866-2097 (Voice)

720-949-7457 (Video Phone)

<http://ccdhh.com/index.php/tedp/>

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