

Oklahoma Equipment Distribution Program

Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services (DRS)

Purpose

The program was established by legislation in 1986 as an accessibility program for Oklahomans that have hearing or speech problems that make it difficult for them to access the telephone. The Oklahoma Equipment Distribution Program can provide one amplified or text telephone, video phone, voice carry over phone, ring signalers, and other types of equipment to Oklahomans who are deaf, hard of hearing, speech impaired, or deaf-blind, regardless of age. This program also operates the Senior Citizen Hearing Aid Program, as described on Page 56, and the Children's Hearing Aid Program as described on Page 23. Based on income eligibility, a sliding scale co-payment may apply.

Contact(s)

Jason Sledd, Specialist on Deafness,
Equipment Distribution Program
1100 E Oklahoma Ave.
Sulphur, OK 73086-3108
(405) 294-3977 (Video Ph)
(866) 309-1717 (V/TDD)
FAX: (580) 622-5850
EMAIL: jsledd@osd.k12.ok.us
www.osd.k12.ok.us

Financial Criteria

- Income eligibility, based on number in household

Eligibility

- The individual must be a resident of the State of Oklahoma and provide verification of:
- hearing or speech impairment with loss severe enough requiring the use of a TDD or amplifier to use the telephone;
- income; and
- a list of other contributing disabilities (i.e., blindness, visual impairment, physical disability, etc.).
- A request for Captioned Telephones (CapTel) requires an audiogram.

AT Services Provided/Covered

- Information & Referral
- Training for Consumer & Family

AT Devices Provided/ Covered

- Aids for Hearing Impaired
- Speech Communication

Application Process

- Contact the Oklahoma School for the Deaf (866) 309-1717 or (405) 294-3977 (VP) to request an application form.

Dispute Resolution Process

1. There is no formal dispute process. A person is determined eligible based on proof of disability. Equipment is distributed as funds are available.
2. If there is a question regarding an individual receiving equipment, questions should be directed to Traci Prince at the Oklahoma School for the Deaf.

Pieces of the Puzzle

- Funds for this program are limited; therefore applicants may be placed on a waiting list for services.
- Individuals who have an income above the allotted guideline, contribute to the program based on a sliding scale. Family income and number of people in the family are used to determine costs for each individual.
- If you are in need of assistance with setting up your equipment, you may request program staff to come to your home.
- The program also has a demonstration lab at Total Source for Hearing-loss and Access (TSHA) in Tulsa where you may schedule an appointment and try out equipment. Contact TSHA (918) 832-8742 to make an appointment.