

2026

# Hearing Aid Resource Packet



Virginia Department for the  
Deaf and Hard of Hearing



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DIRECTOR

## COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

### Department for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

1602 ROLLING HILLS DRIVE, SUITE 203  
HENRICO, VIRGINIA 23229-5012

(804) 662-9502 Voice  
(800) 552-7917 Voice  
(804) 325-1290 VP  
(804) 662-9718 FAX  
[www.vddhh.virginia.gov](http://www.vddhh.virginia.gov)

### Financial Assistance and Resources for Hearing Aids

The Virginia Department for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (VDDHH) is pleased to provide you with this hearing aid packet at no charge. Due to limited resources, the Commonwealth of Virginia cannot provide hearing aids or financial assistance for purchasing hearing aids. *However, the following pages contain links to sources of information and financial assistance for hearing aids.*

VDDHH works to reduce the communication barriers between people who are Deaf or hard of hearing and those who are hearing, including family members, service providers, and the public. As part of this mission, our agency responds to requests for information and referrals regarding a variety of topics related to hearing loss including but not limited to assistive technology, communication methods, captioning, hearing aids, interpreting, telecommunications, and sign language. Please feel free to contact VDDHH by phone at (804) 662-9502, videophone at (804) 325-1290, or by email at [info@vddhh.virginia.gov](mailto:info@vddhh.virginia.gov)

We appreciate your interest in the Virginia Department for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. Thank you for allowing us to serve you.

*Disclaimer: The contents contained herein are provided as a courtesy for informational purposes only and should not be construed as an endorsement by the Virginia Department for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (VDDHH). VDDHH does not control, monitor or guarantee the accuracy or quality of the information, opinions, products, services, and resources offered by any organization listed herein. The VDDHH assumes no responsibility or liability for any damage or loss caused by or in connection with the use of or reliance on any information, opinion, product, service, or resource offered by any organization listed herein. Some fees may apply.*

Alternative Format:

Upon request, this document is available in alternative formats for persons with disabilities.

## **About Hearing Aids: An Overview**

*Consumer Reports: Hearing Aids*

Toll Free: (800) 333-0663 (customer service)

Website: [www.consumerreports.org/health/hearing-aids/](http://www.consumerreports.org/health/hearing-aids/)

Guide available at [www.consumerreports.org/health/hearing-aids/buying-guide/](http://www.consumerreports.org/health/hearing-aids/buying-guide/)

*National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders: Hearing Aids*

Toll Free: (800) 241-1044

Email: [nidcdinfo@nidcd.nih.gov](mailto:nidcdinfo@nidcd.nih.gov)

Website: [www.nidcd.nih.gov/health/hearing-aids](http://www.nidcd.nih.gov/health/hearing-aids)

Guide available at [www.nidcd.nih.gov/sites/default/files/Documents/health/hearing/nidcd-hearing-aids.pdf](http://www.nidcd.nih.gov/sites/default/files/Documents/health/hearing/nidcd-hearing-aids.pdf)

*U.S. Food and Drug Administration: Hearing Aids*

Toll Free: (888) 463-6332

Website: [www.fda.gov/medical-devices/consumer-products/hearing-aids](http://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/consumer-products/hearing-aids)

*Virginia Board for Hearing Aid Specialists and Opticians*

Telephone: (804) 367-8590

Email: [hasopt@dpvr.virginia.gov](mailto:hasopt@dpvr.virginia.gov)

Website: [www.dpvr.virginia.gov/boards/has-opticians](http://www.dpvr.virginia.gov/boards/has-opticians)

Guide available at [www.dpvr.virginia.gov/Consumers/Guide\\_HearingAids](http://www.dpvr.virginia.gov/Consumers/Guide_HearingAids)

**Code of Virginia (law)** requires most private health insurers and HMOs to cover diagnosis and treatment for childhood hearing loss—providing one hearing aid per ear (up to \$1,500) every two years, with no copays, when prescribed by authorized professionals. The law applies to policies effective in 2024 and later, with specific exclusions for certain short-term or public plans.

Code of Virginia: [§ 38.2-3418.21. Coverage for hearing aids and related services](#)

**Legend Keys:**  Children  Veterans

## **Government Assistance Programs**

*University of Virginia - Hearing Aid Loan Bank*



Blue Ridge Care Connection for Children

2205 Fontaine Avenue., Suite 201

Charlottesville, Virginia 22903

Contact: Lisa Powley

Office: (434) 924-0222

Toll Free: (866) 596-9367

Email: [vhalb@virginia.edu](mailto:vhalb@virginia.edu)

Website: <https://childrens.uvahealth.com/support/blue-ridge-care-connection-program/>

The Virginia Hearing Aid Loan Bank, coordinated through the Blue Ridge Care Connection for Children and the Virginia Department of Health, provides free temporary hearing aids and FM systems to Virginia children under 18 years old who have confirmed hearing loss in six locations. The program is open statewide and requires an audiologist's diagnostic confirmation and completion of the official application to receive loaner devices. With no fees charged, devices are sent within five days of approved application to assist families during funding searches and ensure accessibility to essential hearing support.

### **Federal - Medicare Advantage (Part C)**

Original Medicare does not cover hearing aids, but many Medicare Advantage (Part C) plans offer hearing aid benefits, which may include partial coverage, discounted pricing, or access to specific hearing aid vendors 12. These benefits vary by plan and provider, so enrollers should review their plan's Evidence of Coverage or contact their insurer directly for details. For assistance comparing plans or confirming benefits, call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) or visit Medicare.gov

Website: <https://www.medicare.gov/medicaid/eligibility-policy/seniors-medicare-and-medicare-enrollees>

### **State - Medicaid**

Medicaid's coverage for hearing aids differs across states for adults, with some state programs offering full coverage and others providing minimal or no support. However, the federal Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment (EPSDT) requires that all enrolled children under 21 must have hearing services covered as medically necessary, ensuring consistent access nationwide. For information about Virginia's specific coverage, contact Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS), Virginia's state Medicaid agency.

### **State - Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS)**

600 East Broad Street  
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Contact Us information: <https://www.dmas.virginia.gov/about-us/contact-information>

Website: <https://www.dmas.virginia.gov>

The DMAS is the agency that administers Virginia's Medicaid program and oversees benefits for eligible members. Under DMAS policy, hearing aids are a covered benefit for children and youth under age 21 through Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment (EPSDT). Their Audiology and Hearing Program in PDF format can be readily available at:

[https://vamedicaid.dmas.virginia.gov/sites/default/files/2023-07/EPSDT%20Audiology%20and%20Hearing%20Manual%20-%20%28updated%205.2.19%29\\_FINAL.pdf](https://vamedicaid.dmas.virginia.gov/sites/default/files/2023-07/EPSDT%20Audiology%20and%20Hearing%20Manual%20-%20%28updated%205.2.19%29_FINAL.pdf)

**Federal** - U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Veterans Health Administration



Toll Free: 844-MyVA311 (844-698-2311 for general information)

Health Benefits Line: 877-222-VETS (877-222-8387)

Website: [www.prosthetics.va.gov/psas/Hearing\\_Aids.asp](http://www.prosthetics.va.gov/psas/Hearing_Aids.asp)

Through the Veterans Health Administration's Prosthetic & Sensory Aids Service (PSAS), eligible veterans enrolled in VA health care can receive no-cost hearing aids, fittings, repairs, batteries, and accessories such as wireless streaming devices and cochlear implants via audiology clinics nationwide. Veterans first register for VA health care—using forms like the 10-10EZ or by phone at 877-222-VETS or 844-MyVA311—then undergo audiology evaluation to determine device needs and receive tailored hearing plan. The program is comprehensive and fully covers maintenance, batteries, and follow-up care as long as VA eligibility remains active. Below is VA Centers that provide Audiology Services in Virginia.

*Charlottesville VA Clinic*

590 Peter Jefferson Parkway, Suite 250

Charlottesville, Virginia 22911-4655

Main: (434) 293-3890

*Fredericksburg 3 VA Clinic*

10432 Patriot Highway

Fredericksburg, Virginia 22408-2628

Main: (540) 707-7074

*Hampton VA Medical Center*

100 Emancipation Drive

Hampton, Virginia 23667-0001

Main: (757) 722-9961

**State** - Department of Veterans Services (DVS)



Phone: (804) 786-0286

Toll Free (844)-838-7838

Fax: (804) 786-0302

Email: [info@dvs.virginia.gov](mailto:info@dvs.virginia.gov)

Website: [www.dvs.virginia.gov](http://www.dvs.virginia.gov)

Virginia Department of Veterans Services serve Virginia's veterans, members of the Virginia National Guard, Virginia residents in the Armed Forces Reserves, and their family members, by ensuring they receive timely transition, employment and education assistance, benefits, health care, long-term care and recognition they have earned through service to our country and Commonwealth.

**State** - Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)

Main: (804) 616-4838 (Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services)

Website: <https://dars.virginia.gov/employment-services/>

The Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) provides Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) services to help individuals with disabilities prepare, secure, and maintain

meaningful employment. For individuals with hearing loss, VR offers personalized employment plans that may include funding for hearing aids, assistive listening devices, and related supports. Eligibility depends on how the hearing condition affects a person’s ability to work, not on income, though some services may involve cost-sharing. After assessment, VR counselors work collaboratively with individuals to obtain the hearing technology and services needed for job readiness, training, and long-term employment success.

### **Loans to Purchase Hearing Aids**

#### *CareCredit*

Toll Free: (800) 677-0718

Website: [www.carecredit.com/hearing](http://www.carecredit.com/hearing)

CareCredit offers a healthcare credit card that can be used for hearing-related expenses—such as hearing evaluations, hearing aids, cochlear implants, and related follow-up services—at thousands of provider locations nationwide. It allows applicants to spread payments over time with convenient monthly payment plans, subject to credit approval.

#### *Virginia Assistive Technology Loan Fund Authority (ATLFA)*

Telephone: (804) 662-9000

Toll Free: (866) 835-5976

Email: [atlfa@atlfa.org](mailto:atlfa@atlfa.org)

Website: [www.atlfa.org](http://www.atlfa.org)

The ATLFA provides low-interest loans (typically around 5%, with flexible repayment terms and no down payment) to Virginia residents with disabilities, including hearing aids, communication devices, and other assistive technology—even for those with poor or limited credit. Any Virginia resident with a disability (or their caregiver) can apply by completing the direct loan and personal information applications and submitting them with a vendor quote, proof of income, and documentation of disability. Loan decisions are made monthly by a committee, and emergency needs may be addressed promptly by contacting them directly.

### **National Organizations**

May Offer Free or Discounted Hearing Aids or Grants to Purchase Hearing Aids

#### *2 Ears 2 Learn (BAHA)*



Main: (208) 949-6975

Website: <https://2ears2learn.org/for-parents/application-sound-processor-aka-baha-device/>

2 Ears 2 Learn is a non-profit dedicated to helping children affected by Microtia and Aural Atresia. Microtia and Aural Atresia are developmental problems of the external ear and ear canal. They are usually in one ear (unilateral) but occasionally can occur with both ears (bilateral). Most people understand that bilateral hearing loss is a disability, but most are unaware of the significant disability caused by unilateral hearing loss and how it affects a child’s ability to learn.

*Beltone Hearing Care Foundation*

Main: (847) 832-3300

Toll Free: (866) 521-7164

Toll Free: (800) 235-8663 (patient care/customer service)

Website: <https://www.beltone.com/en-us/why-beltone/beltone-foundation>

The Beltone Hearing Care Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization that donates behind-the-ear (BTE) hearing aids to qualify individuals in need but are unable to afford them. To apply, applicants must visit a local Beltone provider, undergo a candidacy assessment, and have their application submitted on their behalf; the foundation's board reviews applications in approximately 30 days. The program has helped thousands of individuals and offers no-cost hearing aids, although custom (in-the-ear) devices are not currently provided.

*Hearing Loss Association of America: Financial Assistance*

Telephone: (301) 657-2248

Email: [inquiries@hearingloss.org](mailto:inquiries@hearingloss.org)

Website: <https://www.hearingloss.org/find-help/financial-assistance/>

The HLAA nationwide community offers education, connection and support to the growing number of people with, and at risk of, hearing loss. Virginia local chapters can be found on the website.

*Help America Hear Program*



Main: (631) 366-3461

Toll Free: (888) 580-8886

Email: [info@helpamericahear.org](mailto:info@helpamericahear.org)

Website: <http://helpamericahear.org/help-america-hear-program>

Help America Hear provides brand-new, high-quality prescription hearing aids at a minimal refundable deposit to low-income individuals and families who have exhausted other financial options. Applicants must meet income and asset criteria, submit documentation of moderate-to-profound hearing loss, and pay a modest fee (typically \$250), which may be refunded or donated toward services. Approved participants receive two prescription hearing aids, custom molds, and one year of limited service, with devices supplied by GN ReSound and professional fitting support.

*Lions Clubs International Foundation: Affordable Hearing Aid Project*



Main: (630) 203-3819

Email: [LionsAHAP@lionsclubs.org](mailto:LionsAHAP@lionsclubs.org)

Lions Affordable Hearing Aid Project (AHAP), operated by Lions Clubs International Foundation in partnership with Rexton Inc., provides **free or low-cost digital hearing aids** and comprehensive testing, fitting, and follow-up services to low-income individuals through local Lions clubs and approved hearing-care professionals. To apply, individuals must work through their local Lions Club, which will verify income eligibility (typically at or below 200% of the federal poverty level), coordinate audiologist evaluations, and submit applications on their behalf. Hearing aids are ordered centrally and shipped directly to the provider, with the program covering device costs while local clubs may assist with fitting fees, molds, and ongoing care.

*Miracle-Ear Foundation*



Toll Free: (800) 234-5422

Toll Free: (877) 632-6320 (customer service)

Email: [miracleearfoundation@amplifon.com](mailto:miracleearfoundation@amplifon.com)

Website: <https://www.miracle-earfoundation.org/gift-of-sound>

Miracle-Ear Foundation's "Gift of Sound" program provides free hearing aids and lifetime aftercare to individuals and families who have exhausted other financing options and meet income eligibility. Eligible adults pay a non-refundable application fee (typically around \$200), while children receive the service at no cost, and all recipients get hearing aids fitted by local Miracle-Ear professionals. The foundation has donated over 54,000 devices since 1990 and supports recipients through ongoing service and repair coordinated via Miracle-Ear centers.

*Sertoma, Inc./Hearing Charities of America National Hearing Aid Project*

Telephone: (816) 895-2410

Email: [hcoa@sertomahq.org](mailto:hcoa@sertomahq.org)

Website: <https://www.sertoma.org/Hearing-Aid-Project>

The Hearing Aid Project (HAP), operated by Sertoma International and merged with Hearing Charities of America, provide free refurbished hearing aids and accessories to low-income individuals across the U.S., partnering with universities and audiology providers. Applicants must complete an application and income verification; accepted hearing aids are refurbished at the University of Kansas Medical Center and distributed through a national provider network. The program covers service, fitting, and follow-up care at no cost to recipients.

*The Hearing Improvement Kids Endowment Fund, Inc. (The Hike Fund)*



Main: (712) 325-0812

Email: [applications@thehikefund.org](mailto:applications@thehikefund.org)

Website: [www.thehikefund.org](http://www.thehikefund.org)

The Hike Fund provides grants for hearing aids and assistive listening devices to U.S. children from newborn to 20 years old whose families face financial hardship, requiring a prescription and candidacy verification by an audiologist or physician. According to their Application Information page, they paused processing until after August 10, 2025, and are currently accepting and processing completed applications received after that date. Applicants must submit a six-page application—including income documentation, audiogram, and vendor quote—and grant decisions are made by the board, with notification within a few weeks of receipt.

*Travelers Protective Association (TPA) Hearing Trust*

Telephone: (636) 724-2227

Toll Free: (877) 872-2638

Email: [trustsecretary@tpahq.org](mailto:trustsecretary@tpahq.org)

Website: [www.tpahq.org/community-engagement/hearing-trust/](http://www.tpahq.org/community-engagement/hearing-trust/)

The TPA Hearing Trust established in 1975 by the Travelers Protective Association, offers annual grants ranging from \$100–\$1,000 to U.S. citizens who are deaf or hard-of-hearing and have financial need, covering hearing devices, treatments, and specialized services

Applicants may receive assistance once per year, must submit expense receipts, and decisions are made by a board reviewing quarterly submissions, with notifications sent within 30 days of each quarter's end. To date, the Trust has awarded over \$2.4 million to roughly 6,100 individuals and relies on donations, bequests, and investment earnings to fund its scholarship grants.

*United Healthcare Children's Foundation (UHCCF)*



Main: (855) 698-4223

Email: [uhccfcustomerservices@uhc.com](mailto:uhccfcustomerservices@uhc.com)

Website: <https://www.uhccf.org>

Guide available online: <https://guidebook.ifopa.org/unitedhealthcare-childrens-foundation/>

UnitedHealthcare Children's Foundation (UHCCF) is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization that provides medical grants to help children gain access to health-related services not covered, or not fully covered, by their family's commercial health insurance plan. Applicants don't have to be members of UnitedHealthcare to apply.

### **Virginia Organizations**

May Offer Free or Discounted Hearing Aids or Grants to Purchase Hearing Aids

*Here2Hear, LLC*

9327 Midlothian Turnpike, Suite 1S

North Chesterfield, Virginia 23235

Main: (804) 774-8311

Email: [here2\\_hear@aol.com](mailto:here2_hear@aol.com) or [Here2HearLLC@gmail.com](mailto:Here2HearLLC@gmail.com)

Website: <https://here2hear.org>

Here2Hear is a Richmond-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit that offers free and low-cost hearing health services—including hearing tests, ear exams, and hearing aids with loaner options—to residents of Richmond, Henrico, Chesterfield, Colonial Heights, Charles City, and Petersburg. The organization also provides educational seminars, emergency communication kits for deaf or hard-of-hearing adults, and advocacy support on ADA compliance and housing rights. Programs are provided by licensed audiologists and community volunteers, and outreach is tailored to underserved populations with a mission to promote hearing health and accessibility.

*Lions Clubs International, Virginia: Multiple District 24*

Main: (540) 342-LION (540-342-5466)

Website: <https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/explore-our-clubs/eyeglasses-and-hearing-aids-recycling>

The Lions Clubs International within Virginia's Multiple District 24 operates a Hearing Aid Recycling Program (HARP), collecting used hearing aids, refurbishing them, and distributing them to individuals in need through local clubs and related foundations like the Central Virginia Lions Hearing Aid Bank in Glen Allen. This statewide initiative supports sign-language and hearing device donations, partnering with local clubs to provide communication aids—including hearing dogs—and connecting recipients with audiologists for fittings. To access services, individuals contact their local Lions club or district (MD 24) via phone or the online club locator and may receive hearing aids refurbished through the program.