



Telecommunications Access Program

What is TAP?

The Telecommunication Access Program (TAP) provides specialized telecommunication equipment to eligible Arkansans who are deaf, hard of hearing, deafblind, or who have a speech, visual, mobility, or intellectual impairment. TAP removes the barriers to telecommunication access through the delivery of adaptive communication technology. The equipment that TAP provides remains the property of the State of Arkansas for two years and then becomes the property of the recipient of the equipment.

What are the Eligibility Requirements?

- Be a resident of the state of Arkansas
- Have personal telecommunication service. TAP does not pay for anyone's phone service.
- Disability certified by a qualified professional verifying the need for specialized telecommunication equipment. A listing of qualified professionals can be found on our TAP application.
- Meet financial income standards. If the applicant's income is \$50,000 a year or below, the equipment is provided free. If the applicant has an income greater than \$50,000, a shared cost option is available.

What Type of Equipment is Available Through TAP?

The following is a list of some of our more commonly distributed equipment. If there is a need for equipment that is not listed, please contact the TAP office. To view phones available through TAP, scroll down below:

- **Deaf/Profound Hearing Loss**
- **Blind/Low Vision**
- **Mobility**
- **Speech**
- **Cognitive**
- **Cell Phones**
- **Cell phone Amplification Accessories**

How Do I Apply For Equipment ?

[TAP Application 2016 – PDF](#)

How Do I Contact TAP?

Phone: 501-686-9693

Toll Free: 1-800-981-4463

Fax: 501-683-3011

Email: ARS.TAP@arkansas.gov

TAP iPad Pilot Program

TAP is conducting an iPad Pilot Program for interested participants who qualify. This trial is for a one-year period with a maximum of 100 participants. Participants will be determined by a screening and application process. Please click on the link for more information and to download a screening questionnaire.

The purpose of the TAP iPad pilot program is to provide wireless devices that can improve the ability of persons with disabilities to use telecommunications and communication tools such as e-mail, phone, text or relay services. Each iPad has specific built-in access features and pre-installed apps matched to the recipient's disability. **If approved**, trial participants can choose from either an iPad Air 2 4G, an iPad Air 2 Wi-Fi only, an iPad Mini 4 4G, **or** an iPad Mini 4 Wi-Fi only.

- [TAP Announcement Flyer and Conditions of Acceptance – PDF](#)
- [TAP iPad Screening Questionnaire – PDF](#)

Deaf/Profound Hearing Loss:

TTY: the user sends and receives typed messages



Captioned Phone: Enables the user to use their speech for outgoing calls but receive captioned messages for incoming calls



Visual Signaler: connects to a lamp; light flashes on and off when phone rings. For deaf or severe to profound hearing loss.



Hard of Hearing:

Cordless Amplified Phone: A cordless phone with volume and tone adjustments.



Corded Amplified Phone: A desktop, corded phone with volume and tone adjustments.



Emergency Amplified Phone: amplified speakerphone with wristwatch-style remote control transmitter. User presses remote control and the phone will automatically dial pre-programmed contacts until there is an answer.



Audible Signaler: loud ringer, for hard of hearing.



Combination Signaler: visual and audible; includes loud ringer and flashing light.



Low Vision or Blind:

Phone with talking keypad and talking caller ID:



Phone with Braille Characters:

Speech or Voice Impairment:

Portable Voice amplifier :



Outgoing Speech Amplified Phone: A corded phone that amplifies the outgoing voice of the user.



Hearing Carry-over phone: allows speech impaired individual to communicate by using a combination text telephone and standard phone through the relay service.



Electrolarynx: handheld portable device for people who have lost the use of their larynx. Specific model must be recommended by the person who signs the Eligibility Certification.



Mobility Impairment :

Hands-free remote-controlled speakerphone: This phone offers one-touch access to dialing, answering and memory scanning from up to 40 feet away. Optional accessories are available.



Cognitive Impairment:

Photo Phone: This phone has large photo auto-dial memory buttons.



Cell Phones/Smart Phones:

Smartphone through Sprint, 2-year contract required



Smartphone through GreatCall (service provider Verizon), no contract required



**Non-Smartphone through GreatCall (service provider Verizon), no contract required.
TAP provides the devices only, not the service.**



Cell Phone Amplification Accessories:

Wired Loopset: For users with telecoil equipped hearing aids. Uses a cable to connect to cell phone.



Wireless Bluetooth amplified cellular loopset: This device can be connected to any Bluetooth enabled phone and can be used with those who wear telecoil hearing aids or those who do not wear hearing aids.



Handheld cell phone amplifier for cell phones with Bluetooth settings: features adjustable tone and speaker mode for cell phone calls. Can be used with those who wear telecoil hearing aids or those who do not wear hearing aids.



Wireless cell phone ringer/flasher: this is a stationary device for home use. (insert picture)

