

# ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY & HEARING AIDS

## Assistive Technology Equipment & Financial Loan Programs

### **Maryland Technology Assistance Program (MDTAP) – [www.mdtap.org](http://www.mdtap.org)**

The loan program helps Maryland residents with disabilities and their families qualify for low-interest loans to buy equipment that helps them live, work, and learn more independently. The loans can be used to purchase assistive technology, which includes hearing aids, TTYs, building modifications for accessibility, and other devices. All loans have below-market interest rates.

To apply for monetary loan go to: [www.mdtap.org/cpcontent/at-loans.html](http://www.mdtap.org/cpcontent/at-loans.html)

To request for equipment demonstration or to apply for short-term equipment loan – go to: [www.mdtap.org](http://www.mdtap.org) then click on – TAP Services. Click on Equipment Demo & Loan under menu listing.

### **MDTAP Office:**

#### Central Maryland & Statewide

#### **Workforce Technology Center (WTC) – Headquarters**

Maryland Technology Assistance Program

2301 Argonne Drive, Rm T-17

Baltimore, MD 21218

410-554-9230 - Voice

800-832-4827 - Voice (Toll Free)

866-881-7488 - TTY

E-mail: [mdtap@mdtap.org](mailto:mdtap@mdtap.org)

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

### **Maryland Equipment Demonstration Centers:**

#### Central Maryland & Statewide

#### **Workforce Technology Center (WTC) – Headquarters**

Maryland Technology Assistance Program

2301 Argonne Drive, Rm T-17

Baltimore, MD 21218

410-554-9230 - Voice

800-832-4827 - Voice (Toll Free)

866-881-7488 - TTY

E-mail: [mdtap@mdtap.org](mailto:mdtap@mdtap.org)

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

Western Maryland & Statewide

**Assistive Technology: Loans, Acquisitions, Services, and Training, Inc.  
(AT:LAST, Inc.)**

d.b.a Maryland A.T. Cooperative

7050 Oakland Mills Road, Suite 160

Columbia, MD 21046

410-381-2667 - Voice

866-928-5278 - Voice (Toll Free in Western Maryland)

410-381-2444 - Fax

E-mail: [info@matcoop.org](mailto:info@matcoop.org)

Website: [info@matcoop.org](http://info@matcoop.org)

Eastern Shore

**Holly Community, Inc.**

408 Coles Circle

P.O. Box 1489

Salisbury, MD 21802

443-260-0822 - Voice

877-511-0744 - Voice (Toll Free)

443-260-0833 - Fax

E-mail: [info@hollycommunity.org](mailto:info@hollycommunity.org)

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

State Approved Vendor

**Potomac Technology**

One Church Street, Suite 101

Rockville, MD 20850

800-433-2838 - Voice/TTY

301-762-1892 - Fax

E-mail: [info@potomactech.com](mailto:info@potomactech.com)

Website: [www.potomactech.com](http://www.potomactech.com)

Sells Text Telephones, Assistive Devices, Amplified Telephone, Wireless, TTYs, TTY-Voice Answering Machines, Signalers & Smoke Detectors, etc.

State, county and local government entities may purchase certain equipment from the DBM/TAM contract. Contact Director of TAM at 410-767-6960 (V/TTY) or 1-800-552-7724 (V/TTY) for additional information.

Other Vendors

There are many vendors, other than Potomac Technology, that sell TTY's and Assistive Listening Systems listed on the Internet. A few of the services with locations in Maryland are listed below:

**Cardinal Sound & Communications**

2317 Kansas Avenue  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910  
800-964-3496 - Voice (Toll Free)  
301-589-3700 - Voice  
301-589-4284 - Fax  
E-mail: [info@cardinalsound.us](mailto:info@cardinalsound.us)  
Website: [www.cardinalsound.biz](http://www.cardinalsound.biz)

**National Flashing Signal Systems (NFSS Communications)**

1 Turnmore Court  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20906  
301-589-6670 - Voice  
888-589-6670 - Voice (Toll Free)  
301-589-5153 - Fax  
E-mail: [sales@nfss.com](mailto:sales@nfss.com)  
Website: [www.nfss.com](http://www.nfss.com)

**United TTY Sales and Service**

21004 Brooke Knolls Road  
Laytonsville, MD 20882  
301-926-2365 - V/TTY in MD, DC and VA  
866-889-4872 - V/TTY (Toll Free)  
301-963-0785 - Fax for orders  
E-mail: [sales@unitedtty.com](mailto:sales@unitedtty.com)  
Website: [www.unitedtty.com](http://www.unitedtty.com)

**State Hearing Aid Loan Bank****Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE)****Hearing Aid Loan Bank**

200 West Baltimore Street  
Baltimore, MD 21201  
410-767-0739 - Voice  
800-535-0182 - Voice (Toll Free)  
410-333-8165 - Fax

The Hearing Aid Loan Bank was created as a bridge between newborn hearing screening and early intervention. Its purpose is to provide infants and toddlers under the age of three years immediate access to hearing aids following confirmation of hearing loss by an audiologist. A six-month loan period may be granted to provide the parents, or legal guardians of infants and toddlers, adequate time to secure permanent amplification through personal resources, insurance, or community assistance programs.

## Financial Assistance for Assistive Technology Devices & Hearing Aid Purchases

Check with your health insurance provider to see if full or partial coverage is available. In the event you have no coverage there are some additional resources available.

### State

#### Headquarters

#### **Maryland State Department of Education**

#### **Division of Rehabilitation Services (DORS)**

Administrative Offices

2301 Argonne Drive

Baltimore, MD 21218-1696

410-554-9385 - Voice

888-554-0334 - Voice (Toll-Free)

410-554-9411 - TTY

410-554-9412 - Fax

E-mail: [dors@dors.state.md.us](mailto:dors@dors.state.md.us)

Website: [www.dors.state.md.us](http://www.dors.state.md.us)

**DORS** prepares people with disabilities to go to work, to stay on the job, or remain independent in the home or community. Rehabilitation counselors in offices throughout Maryland provide or arrange for services that may include career counseling, assistive technology, vocational training and/or job placement assistance. Vocational Rehabilitation Services may provide hearing aids and assistive devices for qualifying adults who want to maintain current employment or who are seeking employment. Eligibility can be determined by meeting with a DORS Rehabilitation Specialist.

Go to: [www.dors.state.md.us](http://www.dors.state.md.us) (on right-hand side, click on DORS Locations for an office near your home).

#### **Maryland Technology Assistance Program (MDTAP) – [www.mdmap.org](http://www.mdmap.org)**

(For more information see Pg. 1)

#### MDTAP Office

#### **Workforce Technology Center (WTC) – Headquarters**

Maryland Technology Assistance Program

2301 Argonne Drive, Rm T-17

Baltimore, MD 21218

410-554-9230 - Voice

800-832-4827 - Voice (Toll Free)

866-881-7488 - TTY

E-mail: [mdtap@mdtap.org](mailto:mdtap@mdtap.org)

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

## **University of Maryland Speech and Audiology Clinic**

Department of Hearing & Speech Sciences  
0100 Lefrak Hall, College Park, MD 20742  
Tel: 301-405-4214  
Fax: 301-314-2023

<http://www.bsos.umd.edu/hesp/clinicServices/overview.htm>

Provides comprehensive audiological evaluations, hearing aid dispensing, and aural rehabilitation services (assistive listening device demonstrations, speech reading training, and auditory training services for children and adults). There are also a number of research projects for children and adults with cochlear implants as well as adults with hearing loss. When individuals participate in the research, they are paid approximately \$10 on average.

The University is working on developing an Assistive Listening Device Center.

## **Towson University Speech and Audiology Clinic**

Speech, Language and Hearing Center at Towson University  
Van Bokkelen Hall - Lower Level  
Towson University  
8000 York Rd.  
Towson MD 21252-0001

Phone: 410-704-3095 (V/TTY)  
Fax: 410-704-6303  
E-mail: [kports@towson.edu](mailto:kports@towson.edu)

The Speech, Language and Hearing Center is part of the Towson University Department of Audiology, Speech-Language Pathology and Deaf Studies. The Center provides training experiences for senior undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral students enrolled in our programs. All services are closely supervised by professionals with full certification from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and licensure from the Maryland Board of Examiners in Audiology, Hearing Aid Dispensers, and Speech-Language Pathology. The Center's state of the art equipment and materials, combined with our dedicated professional staff, insures that all patients receive excellent care.

## **Private**

### **Better Hearing Institute**

515 King Street, Suite 420  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
703-684-3391 - Voice  
800-EAR-WELL (800-327-9355)  
E-mail: [mail@betterhearing.org](mailto:mail@betterhearing.org)  
Website: [www.betterhearing.org](http://www.betterhearing.org)

**Children of the Silent World**

P.O. Box 2425  
Cridersville, OH 45806  
E-mail: [silent@metroevents.com](mailto:silent@metroevents.com)  
Website: [www.metroevents.com/silent](http://www.metroevents.com/silent)

Assists low-income children with purchasing hearing aids.

**Disabled Children's Relief Fund**

P.O. Box 7420  
Freeport, NY 11520  
Website: <http://dcrf.com>

Provides disabled children with hearing aids and other assistive devices.

**Easter Seals**

230 West Monroe Street, Suite 1800  
Chicago, IL 60606  
312-726-6200 - Voice  
800-221-6827 - Toll Free  
312-726-4258 - TTY  
312-726-1494 - Fax  
Website: [www.easter-seals.org](http://www.easter-seals.org)

Over 400 local service centers with varying services; some assist low-income adults and children with hearing aids and other rehabilitative devices.

**Hike Fund, Inc.**

C/o Hike Board Secretary  
10115 Cherryhill Place  
Spring Hill, FL 34608-7116  
352-688-2579 - Voice and Fax  
E-mail: [ceterrill1@aol.com](mailto:ceterrill1@aol.com)  
Website: [www.thehikefund.org](http://www.thehikefund.org)

Provides low-income children between 0-20 years with hearing aids and assistive devices.

**Let Them Hear Foundation Insurance Advocacy Program**

Headquarters  
1900 University Avenue, Suite 101  
E. Palo Alto, CA 94303  
650-462-3143 - Voice  
650-462-3144 - Fax  
Website: [www.letthemhear.org](http://www.letthemhear.org)

Let Them Hear Foundation has a nationwide Insurance Advocacy Program to assist you in appealing the denial, free of charge. The specific services they provide appeal support with are: cochlear implants (single or bilateral), bone-Anchored Hearing Aid implantation, conventional hearing aids, atresia repair, microtia reconstruction, balance disorders, and other hearing related surgery.

[http://www.odhh.md.gov/docs/Assistive\\_Technology\\_&\\_Hearing\\_Aids.doc](http://www.odhh.md.gov/docs/Assistive_Technology_&_Hearing_Aids.doc)

**Lions Club International**

300 West 22<sup>nd</sup> Street

Oak Brook, IL 60523-8842

E-mail: [executiveservices@lionsclubs.org](mailto:executiveservices@lionsclubs.org)

Website: [www.lionsclubs.org/EN/content/programs\\_hear.shtml](http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/content/programs_hear.shtml)

The Lions Club has an international hearing aid recycling program to promote the collection, refurbishing and distribution of donated hearing aids.

[www.lionsclubs.org/EN/content/programs\\_hear\\_recyclepolicy.shtml](http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/content/programs_hear_recyclepolicy.shtml)

**Miracle Ear Children's Fund**

P.O. Box 59261

Minneapolis, MN 55459-0261

800-234-5422 - Toll Free

763-268-4295 - Fax

Website: [www.mnplan.state.mn.us/star/program.html?Id=18](http://www.mnplan.state.mn.us/star/program.html?Id=18)

Website: [www.miracle-ear.com/store/showstate.asp?state=MD](http://www.miracle-ear.com/store/showstate.asp?state=MD) for locations near your home.

This program provides new Miracle-Ear hearing aids to children who are 16 years old and under and in an income level (US residents earning \$20,000 to \$40,000 for a family of four) that does not allow them to be eligible to receive public support. Also, provides two hearing aids every 2 years if the applicant qualifies.

**Optimists International Club**

Help Them Hear Program

4494 Lindell Blvd.

St. Louis, MO 63108

314-371-6000 - Voice

800-500-8130 - Toll Free

314-371-6006 - Fax

E-mail: [programs@optimist.org](mailto:programs@optimist.org)

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

Contact your local Optimists Club in Maryland – [www.mdsdoptimist.org/Clubs.htm](http://www.mdsdoptimist.org/Clubs.htm)

Provides aids and services to hearing impaired youth.

**Quota International**

1420 21<sup>st</sup> Street, NW

Washington, DC 20036

202-331-9694 - Voice

202-331-4395 - Fax

E-mail: [staff@quota.org](mailto:staff@quota.org)

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

Assists low-income individuals with purchasing hearing aids

**Sertoma International**

1912 East Meyer Boulevard

Kansas City, MO 64132-9990

[http://www.odhh.md.gov/docs/Assistive\\_Technology\\_&\\_Hearing\\_Aids.doc](http://www.odhh.md.gov/docs/Assistive_Technology_&_Hearing_Aids.doc)

816-333-8300 - Voice  
816-333-4320 - Fax  
E-mail: [infosertoma@sertoma.org](mailto:infosertoma@sertoma.org)  
Website: [www.sertoma.org](http://www.sertoma.org)

Assists low-income persons with purchasing hearing aids

**Sertoma Hearing Aid Recycling Program (SHARP)**

10720 Dimple Dell Drive  
Sandy, Utah 84092-4835  
801-495-2949 - Voice  
888-495-2949 - Toll Free  
Website: <http://www.sertoma.org/%5ESponsorships/SHARP.htm>

**Starkey Hearing Foundation**

**The Hear Now Program**

6700 Washington Avenue, South  
Eden Prairie, MN 55344  
800-328-8602 - Toll Free  
612-929-1318 - Fax  
E-mail: [contact\\_us@sotheworldmayhear.org](mailto:contact_us@sotheworldmayhear.org)  
Website: [www.sotheworldmayhear.org/home/index.php](http://www.sotheworldmayhear.org/home/index.php)

This organization disseminates donated, reconditioned hearing aids or cochlear implants to low-income people with hearing impairments through their National Hearing Aid bank. Also, provides assistance for low-income children and families in purchasing hearing aids.

**Starkey SoundChoice and CareCredit**

901 East Cerritos Avenue  
Anaheim, CA 92805  
800-839-9078 - Toll Free  
E-mail: [info@carecredit.com](mailto:info@carecredit.com)  
Website: [www.soundchoicefinancing.com](http://www.soundchoicefinancing.com)  
Website: [www.carecredit.com](http://www.carecredit.com)

CareCredit provides financing for the purchase of healthcare products and procedures, including hearing aids and accessories. CareCredit is the healthcare financing division for GE Consumer Finance division.

**Travelers Protective Association Scholarship Trust for the Deaf and Near-Deaf**

3755 Lindell Boulevard  
St. Louis, MO 63108  
314-371-0533 - Voice  
Website: [www.travelersprotectiveasn.com](http://www.travelersprotectiveasn.com) (on left-hand side, click on "Scholarship Trust")

Provides assistance for mechanical devices, medical care, and/or specialized education or treatment, to those who demonstrate financial need. (U.S. citizens only) Grants may be used to purchase hearing aids, assistive listening equipment, or may help with the cost of a cochlear implant.

## Additional Resources

Many local civic clubs and organizations often contribute to the purchase of assistive technology devices and hearing aids by setting aside or raising money to help people with hearing loss obtain the equipment needed. These non-profit organizations often have specific mission statements that direct their activities and may target only certain types of disabilities or age groups. Because chapter activities of individual groups vary, individuals who wish to pursue this potential funding avenue will find it beneficial to contact the group's national headquarters also. The civic clubs and organizations that are not listed above, such as the American Legions, Civitan International, Eagles Clubs, Elks Lodges, Jaycees, Kiwanis International, Knights of Columbus, Masons and Shriners, Moose Lodges and Rotary International may be able to provide financial assistance to purchase or acquire hearing aids and other assistive technology devices. Check your local phone directories or Chamber of Commerce for a listing of civic organizations in your area.

You might also be eligible for Veteran's benefits through the Veteran's Administration (VA). Contact your local VA center in Maryland through [www.vamhcs.med.va.gov](http://www.vamhcs.med.va.gov).

## Other Resources

### **ABLEDATA**

8630 Fenton Street, Suite 930

Silver Spring, MD 20910

800-277-0216 - Voice

301-608-8912 - TTY

301-608-8958 - Fax

E-mail: [abledata@orcmacro.com](mailto:abledata@orcmacro.com)

Website: [www.abledata.com](http://www.abledata.com)

ABLEDATA provides objective information on assistive technology and rehabilitation equipment available from domestic and international sources to consumers, organizations, professionals, and caregivers within the United States. ABLEDATA serves the nation's disability, rehabilitation, and senior communities.

### **Learning Independence Through Computers (LINC)**

1001 Eastern Avenue, 3rd Floor

Baltimore, Maryland 21202

410-659-5462 - Voice

410-843-0219 - TTY

410-659-5472 - Fax

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

Learning Independence Through Computers (LINC) is a non-profit computer resource center that provides opportunities for people with disabilities, their families, professionals, and members of the business community to explore adaptive technology, computer systems, software, and the Internet.

**TCS Associates**

11410-P Georgia Avenue

Wheaton, MD 20902

302-942-9766 - Voice/TTY

301-942-9110 - Fax

E-mail: [info@tcsassociates.com](mailto:info@tcsassociates.com)

Website: [www.TCSassociates.com](http://www.TCSassociates.com)

TCS Associates provides a full range of AT products and services such as 508 consulting, ADA compliance assistance, products and training. GSA schedule (GS-35F-0512L), 8a, SDB, MBE certified.

**State Regulator****Board of Audiologist, Hearing Aid Dispensers & Speech-Language Pathologists****Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene**

4201 Patterson Avenue

Baltimore, MD 21215

410-764-4725 - Voice

877-463-3464 - Voice (Toll Free)

800-735-2258 - TTY (Toll Free)

410-358-0273 - Fax

E-mail: [cosbyz@dhmh.state.md.us](mailto:cosbyz@dhmh.state.md.us)

Website: [www.dhmh.state.md.us/boardsahs](http://www.dhmh.state.md.us/boardsahs)

Website: [www.dhmh.state.md.us/boardsahs/consumerinfo](http://www.dhmh.state.md.us/boardsahs/consumerinfo)