

Nebraska Public Service Commission

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Nebraska Specialized Telecommunications Equipment Program ("NSTEP") Application Package

To Interested Applicants:

The Nebraska Specialized Telecommunications Equipment Program is designed to offer monetary assistance to Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Deaf/Blind, and Speech Impaired Nebraskans in purchasing specialized telecommunications equipment, such as TTY/TT's, phone amplifiers and signaling devices.

The application package consists of the following documents: 1) Application form (Required); 2) "United States Citizenship Attestation Form" (Required); 3) Application Completion Guidelines; 4) Program Policies and Procedures; 5) CapTel Information Sheet; 6) Participating Vendors Who Sell Equipment; 7) Procedures for Selecting Wireless Devices and; 8) Frequently Asked Questions. Please complete the front portion of the application and have a professional certifier complete the applicable portion on the reverse side of the form.

Please review the attached "Application Completion Guidelines" prior to submitting the completed application form to any of the following locations:

Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard Of Hearing – Four Locations:

4600 Valley Road Ste. #420
Lincoln, NE 68510-4844

1313 Farnam On-The-Mall
Omaha, NE 68102-1836

200 South Silber, Rm 207
North Platte, NE 69101-4298

4500 Ave I
Scottsbluff, NE 69363-1500

Nebraska Public Service Commission
300 The Atrium, 1200 N Street
P.O. Box 94927
Lincoln, NE 68509-4927

Steven G. Stovall - Staff Accountant
Nebraska Public Service Commission

Application for the Nebraska Specialized Telecommunications Equipment Program

A.

(Please Print)

APPLICANT INFORMATION

NAME: _____
(Last) (First) (Middle Initial) (Email Address-Optional)

HOME ADDRESS: _____
(Number and Street Name, or PO Box) (Apt #)

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____ COUNTY: _____

DAYTIME PHONE: () _____ HOME PHONE: () _____
V/TTY/VRS/VP (Circle) V/TTY/VRS/VP (Circle)

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER: _____ - _____ - _____ BIRTH DATE: _____ / _____ / _____
(Mo) (Day) (Yr.)

Name of someone who can help us contact you: (a person not living with you). NOTE: If mail address is different than the applicant's address, complete this section and check this box .

NAME: _____ TELEPHONE: () _____
V/TTY/VRS/VP (Circle One)

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

B.

EQUIPMENT NEEDS

Check if Setup is required

Part 1 – Telephone Equipment - (Please Check Only One)

- CapTel (Captioned Telephone)
- Computer Conversion Package (TTY modem only)
- Phone with Amplification (Built-in)
- Phone Amplifier
- TTY/TT (with 6 rolls of paper maximum)
- Voice Carry Over (VCO) Phone
- Other (please specify) _____

Additional application required:

- Tactile Ring Signaler (severe hearing & vision disability)
- TTY and Large Visual Display or /Telebrailer (severe hearing & vision disability)

Part 2 – Phone Signaling Devices – (Please Check Only One)

- Light Signaler Phone Ring - One Signaler
_____ Number of remote receivers needed (Limit of 2)
- Phone Ringer
- Personal Signaler (vibrating device)
- Other (What Kind –example, "Alertmaster") _____

C.

ELIGIBILITY

"United States Citizenship Attestation Form" must be completed and filed with this application.

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Yes | No | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | I have a hearing, visual and hearing loss, or speech disability which prevents me from using the telephone effectively. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | I am three years of age or older, and can demonstrate the ability to use the equipment. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | I now have phone service or have applied for phone service in the state of Nebraska at my place of residence. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | I am a current resident of the state of Nebraska. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Have you ever applied for this program? If yes, approximate month and year ____ / ____ |

The above facts are true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

X _____ DATE _____

(Applicant or Guardian's Signature if applicant is under 18 years of age)

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION

(to be completed by certifier)

I certify this applicant as one of the following:

- Deaf Hard of Hearing Speech Disability Deaf-Blind (includes severe hearing & vision)

(check one of the following and provide appropriate information)

- Assistive Technology Project Representative (ATP)
 Audiologist or Licensed Hearing Aid Dispenser
 Augmentative Speech Pathologist
 Center for Independent Living Representative
 Licensed Physician/Assistant
 Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (NCDHH)
 Services for the Visually Impaired Representative (SVI)
 Speech Pathologist
 Vocational Rehabilitation Representative (VR)
 Other _____

This individual requires other adaptive equipment (specify): _____

(Please Print)

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFIER NAME: _____

AGENCY NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ **STATE:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

TELEPHONE: () _____ **FAX:** () _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

X _____ **DATE:** _____
(Certifier's Signature) (Title)

INTERNAL USE ONLY

Approved

Denied

COMPLETED BY: (Please Print)

NAME: _____ **AGENCY:** _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ **STATE:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

PHONE NUMBER: () _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

X _____ **DATE:** _____
(NSTEP Coordinator's Signature)

United States Citizenship Attestation Form

For the purpose of complying with Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 4-108 through 4-114, I attest as follows:

I am a citizen of the United States.

— OR —

I am a qualified alien under the federal Immigration and Nationality Act, my immigration status and alien number are as follows:

_____ and I agree to provide a copy of my USCIS documentation upon request.

I hereby attest that my response and the information provided on this form and any related application for public benefits are true, complete, and accurate and I understand that this information may be used to verify my lawful presence in the United States.

PRINT NAME:

(First)

(Middle)

(Last)

SIGNATURE: _____ Date: _____

Nebraska Specialized Telecommunications Equipment Program
Application Completion Guidelines
(Policies and procedures that govern this program follows these guidelines).

Checklist of Required Documents

- Application form has been completed (reverse side must be completed by Professional Certifier).
- "United States Citizenship Attestation Form" has been completed (required).

Applicant Information Section (Section A on application):

- 1) Applicants should complete all applicable information in this section. If you have an email address and would like to use this as a point of contact regarding your application, please include your email address. This point of contact will only be used for Public Service Commission, Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing or vendor inquiries.
- 2) Under Daytime Phone and Home Phone, circle the type of service access a contact person would be using. For example V ("Voice"), TTY ("Text telephone") or VRS ("Video Relay Service" or VP ("Videophone").

Selection of Equipment guidelines (Section B on application):

- 1) You may check only one box in Part 1. If your selection does not match one of those categories, check the box marked "Other" and please specify your selection. Remember, only **specialized telephone equipment** can be selected. In other words it must be related to the use of the telephone and specially designed for individuals with a hearing, both visual and hearing loss, or speech disabilities.
- 2) You may check only one box in Part 2. This part allows you to select a signaling device. Applicants seeking a visual ring signaler may also apply for a maximum of two additional remote receivers.
- 3) Check the Setup box if you wish to allow a vendor to contact you to arrange for setup and demonstration on use of the equipment.

Eligibility guidelines (Section C on application):

- 1) You must have a hearing, visual and hearing, or speech disability which prevents you from using the phone effectively;
- 2) You must be three years of age or older, and can demonstrate the ability to use the equipment;

- 3) You must have phone service or have applied for phone service in the state of Nebraska at your primary residence.

Note: Special Considerations for Videophone users: if you are selecting a videophone device, you will need a high-speed internet connection. The applicant is responsible for obtaining internet service and selecting a Video Relay Service (VRS) provider.

- 4) You are a current resident of the state of Nebraska;
- 5) Only one person per household may be a recipient of equipment from this program;
- 6) A recipient of equipment from this program may not reapply for assistance more than once every five years.

Professional Certification (Reverse side of application):

A person who is properly licensed or authorized must complete the professional certification on the back of the application form. This certification provides an independent evaluation regarding the disability of the applicant. **This section is reserved for a professional or organization authorized to certify an applicant's disability.**

Contacting a Vendor in Advance Before Receiving Your Voucher: The following are some questions you should ask your vendor before you select your equipment:

- 1) Do you have a catalog or equipment list I can make a selection from?
- 2) Do you provide set up at residence and demonstrate how to use the equipment after purchase?
- 3) Returns/Exchanges of equipment? Warranty? Replacement or repair?

Nebraska Public Service Commission
PARTICIPATING LIST OF VENDORS WHO SELL EQUIPMENT
(Effective 10/20/2009)

*To contact people whose numbers are TTY only; please use the Nebraska Relay System 1-800-833-0920

Nebraska Vendors (Alphabetical By Location):

AUBURN

Beltone Audiology and Hearing Center

1315 J Street

Auburn NE 68305

V: (402) 274-9703

(Amplified telephones, amplifiers and loud ringers).

AURORA

Fontel, Inc.

807 C. Street

Aurora, NE 68818

Website: www.fontel.com

Email Address: lgustafson@fontel.com

V: (800) 238-0787 / (402) 694-4204

Fax: (402) 694-6955

(Amplified Telephones & accessories, TTY's, paging/messaging services, signaling systems).

Hamilton Telephone Company d/b/a Hamilton Telecommunications

1001 Twelfth Street

Aurora, NE 68818

Website: www.hamilton.net/relay

Email Address: relay@hamilton.net

V/TTY: (800) 618-4781

(A wide variety of TTY equipment and assistive technology available).

BEATRICE

Beltone Audiology and Hearing Center

722 East Court Street, Suite 201

Beatrice, NE 68310

V: (402) 228-8333

(Amplified telephones, amplifiers and loud ringers).

COLUMBUS

Alternative Hearing

Kimberly Oberg

1357 32nd Ave

Columbus, NE 68601

E-Mail Address: Kimoberg@helloworld.com

V: (402) 562-4327

Toll Free: (877) 766-4327

Fax: (402) 562-4327

(TTY's, amplified phones, telephone amplifiers, assistive listening devices, VCO phones).

Audio-Logic, P.C.

(Vendor Representative for Teltex)

Healthpark Medical Office Bldg., #144

4508 38th Street

Columbus, NE 68601

Email Address: Julie@AudiologicPC.com

V/Fax: (402) 564-9198

(Amplified telephones and other communication devices for the hard of hearing).

Beltone Audiology and Hearing Center

1364 25th Ave.

Columbus, NE 68601

V: (402) 564-8631

(Amplified telephones, amplifiers and loud ringers).

Hearing Aid Center of Columbus

3704 23rd Street

Columbus, NE 68601

Email Address: HearingAidCentofCol@neb.rr.com

V: (402) 563-2787

Fax: (402) 563-9197

(Amplified telephones, ringers, alert lights).

FREMONT

Beltone Audiology and Hearing Center

301 East 6th Street

Fremont, NE 68025-5087

V: (402) 721-3201

(Amplified telephones, amplifiers and loud ringers).

Glassman's Hearing Aid Service33 West 6th St.

Fremont, NE 68025

Email Address: gmanhrsvc953@msn.com

V: (402) 727-7866

Fax: (402) 727-7866

*(Amplified phones, alerting devices).***GRAND ISLAND****Beltone Audiology and Hearing Center**

1004 N Diers Ave Suite 206

Grand Island NE 68803

V: (308) 382-5121

*(Amplified telephones, amplifiers and loud ringers).***Grand Island Hearing Aid Center**

721 West 7th Street

Grand Island NE 68801

Email Address: gihac@hamilton.net

V/TTY: (308) 382-9169

V/TTY: (800) 382-9169

*(Full line of assistive devices available, amplified telephones, light signalers, TTY's, VCO and an in-office demonstration room).***The Hearing Clinic, Inc., Craig A. Foss, Au.D.**

702 North Alpha Street

Grand Island, NE 68803-4318

Email Address: cfoos702@yahoo.com

V: (308) 384-2101

Fax: (308) 381-4787

*(Assistive Devices, Amplified Telephones, Signaling Devices, Loud Ringers, TTY's and VCO units).***Professional Hearing Aid Services**

Attn: Tom Tambling

819 Diers Ave, Suite 1

Grand Island, NE 68803

Email Address: tt74837@alltel.net

V/TTY: (308) 395-8107

Toll Free: (866) 395-8107

Fax: (308) 398-0447

*(Amplified Telephones, Phone amplifiers, VCO Phones, Cellular amplifiers, Signaling devices, Amplified telephone ringers, TTY/Textphones).***HASTINGS****Beltone Audiology and Hearing Center**2119 W 12th Street

Hastings NE 68901

V: (402) 463-5300

*(Amplified telephones, amplifiers and loud ringers).***LINCOLN****Associated Hearing Health Care**

Sandra Miller

1530 South 70 St, Suite 103

Lincoln NE 68506

Website: www.associatedhearing.netEmail Address: Entavdio@nebrr.com

V: (402) 489-4418

*(Amplified telephones, telephone amplifiers, loud phone ringers and visual ring signalers with remote receivers, TTY's, VCO phones and pagers).***Beltone Audiology and Hearing Center**

2130 Winthrop Road

Lincoln, NE 68501

V: (402) 489-5700

*(Amplified telephones, amplifiers and loud ringers).***Johnson Hearing Aid Service**

5417 Spruce Street

Lincoln NE 68516

Email Address: jj01000@navix.net

V/TTY:(402) 489-1206

*(All applicable assistive devices).***League of Human Dignity**

Ken Mercer

1701 "P" Street

Lincoln, NE 68508-1741

V/TTY: (402) 441-7871

V/TTY: (800) 742-7338

*(TTY's, signalers).***White's Hearing Aid Specialists, LLC**

1405 N Cotner Suite 303

Lincoln NE 68505

V: (402) 466-6402

V: (800) 284-4579

(Amplified phones, TTY systems, phone lamp systems, amplifiers, VCO phones, etc).

McCOOK

U-Save Pharmacy & Medical Supply, LLC

Attn: Angie Langan, President

902 N Hwy 83

McCook, NE 69001

Email Address: alangan@hotmail.com

V: (308) 345-2560

Toll Free: (800) 658-4258

Fax: (308) 345-1947

(TTY's, signalers and amplifiers, amplified phones, phone lamp systems, loud ringers and remote receivers).

NORFOLK

Beltone Audiology and Hearing Center

110 No. 16th St., Suite 15, First Floor –

Skyview Medical Center

Norfolk, NE 68701

V: (402) 564-8631

(Amplified telephones, amplifiers and loud ringers).

NORTH PLATTE

B Hear Inc.

323 West B Street

North Platte, NE 69101

Email Address: josael@charter.net

V: (308) 539-0572

(Assistive listening devices, TTYs, amplified phones and alerting systems).

OMAHA

A.G.N. Sales

Attn: Art Nelson

5255 Oak Hills Drive

Omaha, NE 68137-3339

Email Address: artga_40@yahoo.com

TTY: (402) 895-7476*

(Amplified phones, TTY's, signalers and computer software for TTY's).

Beltone Audiology and Hearing Center

Main Office: 8313 Cass St.

Omaha, NE 68114

V: (402) 391-0811

Toll Free: (888) 800-3628

See also the following branch offices: 5026 Grover St., Omaha, NE 68106, V:(402)346-1131; Auburn,

Beatrice, Columbus, Fremont, Grand Island, Hastings, Lincoln, and Council Bluffs, IA offices. (Amplified telephones, amplifiers and loud ringers).

Carl & Ruth Johnson

13420 Lake St.

Omaha, NE 68164

Email Address: cajrej@juno.com

V/TTY: (402) 496-4408

(A wide variety of TTY equipment and assistive technology available, including amplified phones).

Glassman's Hearing Aid Service

3015 No. 90th St., #1

Omaha, NE 68134

Email Address: gmanhrsvc953@msn.com

V: (402) 571-1207

Fax: (402) 573-7836

See also the branch office at Fremont.

(Amplified phones, alerting devices).

SCOTTSBLUFF

Sherard Hearing Aid Center

Attn: Lee Sherard

2821 Ave. B

Scottsbluff, NE 69361

V: (308) 635-7415

V: (800) 658-4327

(A wide variety of TTY equipment and assistive technology available).

Western Hearing Clinic

Attn: Kurt Fahenbrook – Doctor of Audiology

Two West 42nd St., Suite 1100

Scottsbluff, NE 69361

V: (308) 635-3155

Fax: (308) 635-2966

(Amplified telephones, telephone signalers, vibrotactile signalers).

Out of State Vendors (Alphabetical By Vendor):

ADCO Hearing Products

4242 South Broadway
Englewood, CO 80113
Website: www.adcohearing.com
V/TTY: (303) 794-3928
Order Toll Free V/TTY (800) 726-0851
Fax (303) 794-3704
(Amplified phones, signalers).

Audex, Inc.

710 Standard Street
Longview, TX 75604
Website: www.audex.com
Email Address: cbeatty@audex.com
V: (903) 295-8244
Fax: (903) 295-0310
Order Toll Free (800) 237-0716
24 Hour Fax (800) AUDEX-74
(Amplified telephones and cell phone adaptors).

Audio Visual Mart, Inc.

P.O. Box 23020
Harahan, LA 70183
Website: www.av-mart.com
Email Address: jpp@av-mart.com
V: (800) 737-MART
Fax: (504) 733-1662
(Braillephone Braille TTY for Deaf-Blind individuals).

Audiology Services & Hearing Aid Center

Marvin Pekny, V.P.
530 East Broadway
Council Bluffs, IA 51503
Email Address: apekny@cbiowa.com
V/TTY: (712) 322-8393
Fax: (712) 322-2660
(TTY's, amplified phones, signalers, loud ringers and tactile signalers).

Beltone Audiology and Hearing Centers

1275 East Pierce Street
Council Bluffs, IA 51503
V: (712) 323-2301
(Amplified telephones, amplifiers and loud ringers).

COMPU TTY, Inc.

3408 Indale Road
Fort Worth, TX 76116
Website: www.computty.com or
www.krownTTY.com
Email Address: info@computty.com
V: (817) 738-2485
TTY: (817) 738-8993*
Fax: (817) 738-1970
National Order Hotline: 1-800-366-9950
(TTY's, signalers, amplified phones, Braille TTY's, Large Visual Display TTY's).

DynaVox Systems, LLC

2100 Wharton Street, Suite 400
Pittsburgh, PA 15203
Website: www.dynavoxsys.com
Email Address: steve.mills@dynavoxsys.com
V/TTY: (412) 381-4883
Fax: (412) 381-5241
Customer Support: support@dynavoxsys.com
Product & Sales Information:
sales@dynavoxsys.com
(Augmentative communication devices for the verbally disabled (DME). In addition, warranty and repairs of the above products available at the applicant's cost).

Fanstel Corporation

7466 E Monte Cristo Ave
Scottsdale, AZ 85260-1208
Website: www.fanstel.com
Email Address: sale@fanstel.com
V: (480) 948-4928
Fax: (480) 948-5459
(1-line and 2-line amplified speakerphones).

Harris Communications

15155 Technology Drive
Eden Prairie, MN 55344-2277
Website: www.harriscomm.com
Email Address: info@harriscomm.com
V: (800) 825-6758
TTY: (800) 825-9187*
FAX: (952) 906-1099
(Complete line of assistive devices from major manufacturers including amplified phones, emergency phone, signaling systems, TTYs, pagers).

HITEC Group International Inc.

8160 Madison Ave.

Burr Ridge, IL 60527

Website: www.hitec.comEmail Address: info@hitec.com

V: (603) 654-9200 / (800) 288-8303

TTY: (800) 536-8890*

Fax: (630) 654-9219

*(Complete line of assistive devices).***LS&S Group**

Attn: Jason Dean

PO Box 673

Northbrook, IL 60065

Website: www.LSSproducts.comEmail Address: JDean@LSSproducts.com

V: (800) 468-4789

TTY: (866) 317-8533*

Fax: (847) 498-2648

*(Complete line of assistive devices).***Maxis Aids, Inc. d/b/a Hear More**

42 Executive Blvd

P.O. Box 3209

Farmingdale, NY 11735

V: (800) 881-4327

TTY: (800) 281-3555*

Fax: (631) 752-0689

Website: www.hearmore.comEmail Address: sales@hearmore.com*(Complete line of assistive devices).***Silent Call Communications**

5095 Williams Lake Road

Waterford, MI 48329

Website: www.silentcall.comEmail Address: sales@silentcall.com

V/TTY: (800) 572-5227

Fax: (248) 673-7360

*(Complete line of assistive listening devices, amplified telephones and TTY's).***Sound Clarity, Inc.**

359 N. First Ave.

Iowa City, IA 52245

Website: www.soundclarity.comEmail Address: info@soundclarity.com

V/TTY: (888) 477-2995

Fax: (319) 354-5851

*(Complete line of assistive devices; TTY's, amplified phones, speech amplified phones, vibro-tactile**signalers, loud phone ringers, visual alerting and signaling devices, pagers, VCO phones).***Talk To Me Technologies, Inc.**

921 Franklin Street

Cedar Falls, IA 50613

Website: www.talktometechnologies.comEmail Address: Kate@talktometechnologies.com

V: (319) 277-6626

Fax: (319) 277-6626

*(A wide variety of Speech Generating Devices).***Teltex Inc.**

1081 West Innovation Drive

Kearney, MO 64060

Website: www.teltex.comEmail Address: info@teltex.com

V: (888) 515-8120

TTY: (866) 515-6316*

Fax: (816) 635-4043

*(Complete line of assistive devices and provides a 5-year warranty).***Viable, Inc.**

5320 Marinelli Road

Rockville MD 20852

V: (240) 292-0222

Fax: (301) 230-2442

Website: www.viable.netEmail Address: contact@viable.net*(Videophones for Deaf applicants).***Weitbrecht Communications, Inc. (WCI)**

926 Colorado Ave

Santa Monica, CA 90401-2717

Website: www.weitbrecht.comEmail Address: sales@weitbrecht.com

V/TTY: (800) 233-9130

Fax: (310) 450-9918

*(WCI offers CapTel phones, Ultratec TTY's, amplified phones, signalers, text pagers and a wide range of assistive devices from major manufacturers for the Deaf, hard of hearing and speech-impaired individuals).***CapTel website:** www.captionedtelephone.com,**CapTel contact:** Sales Department, (800) 233-9130*(V/TTY), and (310) 450-9918 Fax.*

Wireless Providers:

*Verizon Wireless
(Call the Public Service Commission)*

*Sprint Relay Store
(See separate attachment regarding procedures for
acquiring wireless devices from this provider).*