



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

News Media Information: 202-418-0500
Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov>
TTY: 1-888-835-5322

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BUREAU ANNOUNCES 2013-2014 STATE ALLOCATIONS FOR THE NATIONAL DEAF-BLIND EQUIPMENT DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM

Washington, D.C. – The Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau (CGB) of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) announces the state funding allocations for the National Deaf-Blind Equipment Distribution Program (NDBEDP) for the 2013-2014 Fund year.

The NDBEDP is a program mandated by section 105 of the Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act (CVAA) that provides funding of up to \$10 million annually for the distribution of communications equipment to low-income individuals who are deaf-blind.¹ On April 4, 2011, the Commission adopted the *NDBEDP Pilot Order*, establishing the framework for a pilot program to fulfill this CVAA mandate.² In that Order, the Commission determined that it would certify one entity per state as eligible to receive support for the local distribution of equipment to low-income individuals who are deaf-blind.³ On July 2, 2012, after an application and selection process, the Commission announced the entities that had been selected as certified programs to participate in the NDBEDP and informed them of the respective state allocations for the 2012-2013 Fund year.⁴

For each year of the pilot program, the Commission sets aside \$500,000 of the \$10 million (annually allocated for the NDBEDP) for national outreach efforts.⁵ The remaining \$9.5 million of annual funding is used to reimburse NDBEDP certified programs for the reasonable costs of operating their programs in compliance with the Commission's NDBEDP rules.⁶ Funding allocations for the 2012-

¹ Pub. L. 111-260, 124 Stat. 2751 (2010); *see also* Pub. L. 111-265, 124 Stat. 2795 (2010) (providing technical corrections to the CVAA). Section 105 of the CVAA adds Section 719 to the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and is codified at 47 U.S.C. § 620. The CVAA allows the Commission to allocate these funds from the Interstate Telecommunications Relay Service Fund (TRS Fund).

² *See Implementation of the Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010, Section 105, Relay Services for Deaf-Blind Individuals*, CG Docket No. 10-210, Report and Order, 26 FCC Rcd 5640 (2011) (*NDBEDP Pilot Order*). The NDBEDP pilot will run for two years, with an option for the Commission to extend the program for another year. *Id.* at 5649, ¶ 22.

³ *Id.* at 5646, ¶ 12.

⁴ *Commission Announces Entities Certified to Participate in the National Deaf-Blind Equipment Distribution Program*, Public Notice, DA 12-1050, 27 FCC Rcd 7397 (July 2, 2012).

⁵ *See NDBEDP Pilot Order*, 26 FCC Rcd at 5675-76, ¶ 80. The Commission announced the selection of the Perkins School for the Blind to conduct national outreach efforts to promote the NDBEDP pilot. *See Perkins School for the Blind to Conduct National Outreach for the National Deaf-Blind Equipment Distribution Program*, Public Notice, DA 12-910 (June 8, 2012). For this effort, the Perkins School for the Blind is partnering with the Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults, FableVision, Inc., and other national and local consumer groups, parent groups, agencies, and associations. *Id.*

⁶ *NDBEDP Pilot Order*, 26 FCC Rcd at 5677, ¶ 85.

2013 Fund year were calculated by allocating a minimum base amount of \$50,000 for each jurisdiction plus a portion of the remaining available funding in an amount proportionate to the population of each jurisdiction.⁷ Allocations for the 2013-2014 Fund year were calculated by using the same formula with the most current census population estimates and appear below.⁸

State	NDBEDP Certified Program	Funding Allocation for 2013-2014
Alabama	Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind	\$153,973
Alaska	Assistive Technology of Alaska	\$65,772
Arizona	Perkins School for the Blind	\$191,302
Arkansas	Perkins School for the Blind	\$113,589
California	Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired	\$870,252
Colorado	Colorado Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing	\$161,855
Connecticut	Connecticut Tech Act Project	\$127,415
Delaware	University of Delaware – Center For Disabilities Studies	\$69,774
Florida	Florida Telecommunications Relay, Inc.	\$466,527
Georgia	Georgia Council for the Hearing Impaired	\$263,895
Hawaii	Island Skill Gathering	\$80,021
Idaho	University of Idaho – Idaho Assistive Technology Project	\$84,407
Illinois	The Chicago Lighthouse for People Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired	\$327,617
Indiana	Indiana State University	\$190,958
Iowa	Iowa Utilities Board	\$116,286
Kansas	Assistive Technology for Kansans	\$112,226
Kentucky	Eastern Kentucky University Center on Deafness and Hearing Loss	\$144,451
Louisiana	Affiliated Blind of Louisiana Training Center	\$149,226
Maine	Maine Center on Deafness	\$78,660
Maryland	Perkins School for the Blind	\$176,883
Massachusetts	Perkins School for the Blind	\$193,305
Michigan	Michigan Commission for the Blind	\$263,106
Minnesota	Minnesota Department of Human Services Deaf and Hard of Hearing Service Division	\$165,985
Mississippi	The Arc of Mississippi	\$114,361
Missouri	Missouri Assistive Technology	\$179,847
Montana	Perkins School for the Blind	\$71,673
Nebraska	Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing	\$90,009
Nevada	To Be Determined	\$109,488
New Hampshire	Northeast Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services, Inc.	\$78,477

⁷ *NDBEDP Pilot Order*, 26 FCC Rcd at 5677, ¶ 84. The Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau may adjust these allocations, as needed and appropriate. *Id.* at 5677, ¶¶ 85, 90.

⁸ Population figures for these calculations are derived from U.S. Census data. *See* Table 1. Annual Estimates of the Population for the United States, Regions, States, and Puerto Rico: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2012 (NST-EST2011-01), available at <http://www.census.gov/popest/data/state/totals/2012/tables/NST-EST2012-01.xls> (last visited June 26, 2013). *See also* U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 for the U.S. Virgin Islands and the 2010 Census for the U.S. Virgin Islands available at http://www.census.gov/2010census/news/xls/cb11cn180_vi.xls (last visited June 27, 2013).

State	NDBEDP Certified Program	Funding Allocation for 2013-2014
New Jersey	New Jersey Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired	\$241,139
New Mexico	Perkins School for the Blind	\$94,969
New York	Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youth and Adults	\$471,975
North Carolina	North Carolina Division of Services for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing	\$260,275
North Dakota	Interagency Program for Assistive Technology	\$65,085
Ohio	Ohio Deaf-Blind Outreach Program	\$298,917
Oklahoma	Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services	\$132,255
Oregon	Access Technologies, Inc.	\$134,078
Pennsylvania	Institute on Disabilities – Temple University	\$325,208
Rhode Island	Perkins School for the Blind	\$72,646
South Carolina	Perkins School for the Blind	\$151,853
South Dakota	South Dakota Department of Human Services	\$67,969
Tennessee	Tennessee Regulatory Authority	\$189,210
Texas	Perkins School for the Blind	\$611,890
Utah	Utah Public Service Commission	\$111,566
Vermont	Vermont Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing	\$63,498
Virginia	Virginia Department for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing	\$226,504
Washington	Department of Social and Health Services – Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing	\$198,714
West Virginia	Perkins School for the Blind	\$90,007
Wisconsin	Public Service Commission of Wisconsin	\$173,473
Wyoming	Wyoming Institute for Disabilities – University of Wyoming	\$62,429
Washington, DC	Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind	\$63,634
Puerto Rico	Perkins School for the Blind	\$129,070
U.S. Virgin Islands	Perkins School for the Blind	\$52,294

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jackie Ellington, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, 202-418-1153, e-mail Jackie.Ellington@fcc.gov; or Rosaline Crawford, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, 202-418-2075, e-mail Rosaline.Crawford@fcc.gov.

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