



PUBLIC NOTICE

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2020-2021 ALLOCATIONS FOR THE NATIONAL DEAF-BLIND EQUIPMENT DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM

Under the National Deaf-Blind Equipment Distribution Program (NDBEDP), also called “CanConnect,” the Federal Communications Commission (FCC or Commission) may provide up to \$10 million annually from the interstate telecommunications relay service fund (TRS Fund) to support local programs that distribute equipment to eligible low-income individuals who are deafblind, so that these individuals can access telecommunications service, Internet access service, and advanced communications services.¹ By this notice, the Commission’s Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau (CGB) announces the funding allocations for the NDBEDP for 2020-2021.²

As directed by the *NDBEDP Permanent Program Order*, for 2020-2021, CGB will set aside \$250,000 for national outreach efforts to be conducted by the Perkins School for the Blind.³ In addition, pursuant to that order, CGB will set aside \$100,000 towards the development of a centralized database that certified programs will be required to use to submit information about their NDBEDP-related activities for reporting purposes and may use for the generation of reimbursement claims.⁴

The remaining \$9.65 million of funding for 2020-2021 will be used to reimburse certified programs for the cost of equipment and authorized related services, up to each certified program’s funding allocation.⁵ Pursuant to the *NDBEDP Permanent Program Order*, initial funding allocations for 2020-2021 are calculated by providing a minimum base amount of \$50,000 for each jurisdiction plus a

¹ 47 U.S.C. § 620; *see also* 47 CFR §§ 64.6201-64.6219; *Implementation of the Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010, Section 105, Relay Services for Deaf-Blind Individuals*, Report and Order, 31 FCC Rcd 9178 (2016) (*NDBEDP Permanent Program Order*).

² The fund year for the NDBEDP runs from July 1 through June 30 of the following year, which coincides with the TRS Fund year. *See generally* 47 CFR § 64.604(c)(5)(iii)(H).

³ *See NDBEDP Permanent Program Order*, 31 FCC Rcd at 9236-37, 9242, paras. 135, 149.

⁴ *See id.* at 9242, 9250-51, paras. 149, 169 (authorizing CGB to allocate an amount necessary from the \$10 million available annually from the TRS Fund for the NDBEDP for the development and maintenance of the centralized database). During 2020-2021, CGB and the NDBEDP Administrator will continue to coordinate with the FCC’s Office of Managing Director and Chief Information Officer, as well as with NDBEDP certified programs that will use or access the database, as appropriate, to identify the data elements, structure of the database, and other implementation details in accordance with the *NDBEDP Permanent Program Order*. *See id.* at 9250-51, 9264-65, paras. 169, 202. CGB may reallocate to certified programs all or part of the funds set aside for this purpose if it determines that they will not be used during 2020-2021. *See* 47 CFR § 64.6205 (directing CGB to designate an NDBEDP Administrator to determine annual funding allocations and reallocations).

⁵ *See* 47 CFR § 64.6213.

portion of the remaining available funding in an amount proportionate to the population of that jurisdiction.⁶ The initial allocations for the 56 covered jurisdictions are as follows:⁷

State	NDBEDP Certified Program	2020-2021
Alabama	Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind	\$151,224
Alaska	Assistive Technology of Alaska	\$65,102
Arizona	Perkins School for the Blind	\$200,265
Arkansas	Perkins School for the Blind	\$112,301
California	Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired	\$865,708
Colorado	Colorado Commission for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and DeafBlind	\$168,886
Connecticut	Connecticut Tech Act Project	\$123,603
Delaware	University of Delaware – Center for Disabilities Studies	\$70,103
Florida	Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youth and Adults	\$493,396
Georgia	Georgia Center of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing	\$269,191
Hawaii	Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youth and Adults	\$79,230
Idaho	University of Idaho – Center on Disabilities and Human Development	\$86,893
Illinois	Lester and Rosalie Anixter Center (Chicago Hearing Society)	\$311,603
Indiana	Perkins School for the Blind	\$188,983
Iowa	Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youth and Adults	\$115,135
Kansas	Assistive Technology for Kansans	\$110,144

⁶ *NDBEDP Permanent Program Order*, 31 FCC Rcd at 9242, para. 149.

⁷ Population figures for these calculations are derived from U.S. Census data. See U.S. Census Bureau, Population, population change, and estimated components of population change: April 1, 2010, to July 1, 2019 (NST-EST-alldata), <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest/datasets/2010-2019/national/totals/nst-est2019-alldata.csv> (Feb. 21, 2020); U.S. Census Bureau, Table 1b, Population, Housing Units, Land Area, and Density by Place for American Samoa: 2010, <https://www.census.gov/population/www/cen2010/cph-t/t-8tables/table1b.pdf> (Oct. 28, 2013); U.S. Census Bureau, Table 3b, Population, Housing Units, Land Area, and Density by Place for Guam: 2010, <https://www.census.gov/population/www/cen2010/cph-t/t-8tables/table3b.pdf> (Oct. 28, 2013); U.S. Census Bureau, Table 2b, Population, Housing Units, Land Area, and Density by Place for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands: 2010, <https://www.census.gov/population/www/cen2010/cph-t/t-8tables/table2b.pdf> (Oct. 28, 2013); U.S. Census Bureau, Table 4b, Population, Housing Units, Land Area, and Density by Place for the U.S. Virgin Islands: 2010, <https://www.census.gov/population/www/cen2010/cph-t/t-8tables/table4b.pdf> (Oct. 28, 2013).

State	NDBEDP Certified Program	2020-2021
Kentucky	Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youth and Adults	\$142,233
Louisiana	Affiliated Blind of Louisiana Training Center	\$145,972
Maine	Disability Rights Maine	\$77,750
Maryland	Perkins School for the Blind	\$174,810
Massachusetts	Perkins School for the Blind	\$192,292
Michigan	Perkins School for the Blind	\$256,173
Minnesota	Perkins School for the Blind	\$166,427
Mississippi	Perkins School for the Blind	\$111,441
Missouri	Missouri Assistive Technology	\$176,704
Montana	Perkins School for the Blind	\$72,064
Nebraska	Nebraska Assistive Technology Partnership	\$89,935
Nevada	Perkins School for the Blind	\$113,588
New Hampshire	Northeast Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services, Inc.	\$78,070
New Jersey	New Jersey Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired	\$233,368
New Mexico	Perkins School for the Blind	\$93,288
New York	Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youth and Adults	\$451,608
North Carolina	North Carolina Division of Services for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing	\$266,521
North Dakota	North Dakota Assistive	\$65,732
Ohio	Perkins School for the Blind	\$291,315
Oklahoma	Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services	\$131,689
Oregon	Access Technologies, Inc.	\$137,073
Pennsylvania	Institute on Disabilities – Temple University	\$314,290
Rhode Island	Perkins School for the Blind	\$71,870
South Carolina	Perkins School for the Blind	\$156,292
South Dakota	South Dakota Department of Human Services	\$68,263
Tennessee	Tennessee Public Utility Commission	\$190,984
Texas	Perkins School for the Blind	\$648,604

State	NDBEDP Certified Program	2020-2021
Utah	Perkins School for the Blind	\$116,185
Vermont	Perkins School for the Blind	\$62,882
Virginia	Perkins School for the Blind	\$226,211
Washington	Perkins School for the Blind	\$207,205
West Virginia	Perkins School for the Blind	\$86,998
Wisconsin	Wisconsin Bureau of Aging and Disability Resources	\$170,201
Wyoming	Wyoming Institute for Disabilities – University of Wyoming	\$61,948
Other Jurisdictions	NDBEDP Certified Program	2020-2021
District of Columbia	Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind	\$64,570
American Samoa	Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youth and Adults	\$51,146
Guam	Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youth and Adults	\$53,290
Northern Mariana Islands	Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youth and Adults	\$51,112
Puerto Rico	Perkins School for the Blind	\$115,932
U.S. Virgin Islands	Perkins School for the Blind	\$52,197
	Subtotal	\$9,650,000
	National Outreach	\$250,000
	Centralized Database	\$100,000
	Total	\$10,000,000

CGB reminds certified entities that the above amounts are intended to serve as initial allocations only. To maximize available funds under the NDBEDP, CGB may make (1) voluntary reallocations between certified programs at any time during the TRS Fund year and (2) involuntary reallocations when individual program performance indicates that NDBEDP funds could be more fully utilized by other certified programs.⁸

⁸ NDBEDP Permanent Program Order, 31 FCC Rcd at 9244, para. 153.

ACCESSIBLE FORMATS: To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530 (voice), 202-418-0432 (TTY).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Contact Jackie Ellington, Disability Rights Office, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, at 202-418-1153 or Jackie.Ellington@fcc.gov.

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