



PUBLIC NOTICE

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2023-2024 ALLOCATIONS FOR THE NATIONAL DEAF-BLIND EQUIPMENT DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM

CG Docket No. 10-210

Under the National Deaf-Blind Equipment Distribution Program (NDBEDP), also called “iCanConnect,” 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 2023-2024.²

As directed by the *NDBEDP Permanent Program Order*, for 2023-2024, 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 \$150,000 towards the maintenance of the centralized database to be used by certified programs for reporting and reimbursement purposes.⁴

The remaining \$9,600,000 of funding for 2023-2024 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 2023-2024 are calculated by providing 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 that jurisdiction.⁶ CGB reminds certified entities that the below 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

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*, CG Docket No. 10-210, 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); 47 CFR § 64.6205 (directing CGB to designate an NDBEDP Administrator to determine annual funding allocations and reallocations).

⁵ *See* 47 CFR § 64.6213.

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

individual program performance indicates that NDBEDP funds could be more fully utilized by other certified programs.⁷

The initial allocations for the 56 covered jurisdictions are as follows:⁸

State	NDBEDP Certified Program	2023-2024
Alabama	Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind	\$152,436
Alaska	Assistive Technology of Alaska	\$64,809
Arizona	Perkins School for the Blind	\$198,561
Arkansas	Perkins School for the Blind	\$111,483
California	Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired	\$837,893
Colorado	Colorado Commission for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and DeafBlind	\$167,892
Connecticut	Connecticut Tech Act Project	\$123,203
Delaware	University of Delaware – Center for Disabilities Studies	\$70,559
Florida	Helen Keller National Center for DeafBlind Youth and Adults	\$499,060
Georgia	Georgia Center of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing	\$270,300
Hawaii	Helen Keller National Center for DeafBlind Youth and Adults	\$79,073
Idaho	University of Idaho – Center on Disabilities and Human Development	\$89,144
Illinois	Lester and Rosalie Anixter Center (Chicago Hearing Society)	\$303,996
Indiana	Perkins School for the Blind	\$187,940

⁷ *NDBEDP Permanent Program Order*, 31 FCC Rcd at 9244, para. 153.

⁸ Population figures for these calculations are derived from U.S. Census data. See U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for the United States, Regions, States, District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico: April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2022 (NST-EST2022-POP), <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest/tables/2020-2022/state/totals/NST-EST2022-POP.xlsx> (accessed Apr. 3, 2023); U.S. Census Bureau, Table 1. Population of Guam: 2010 and 2020, <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/decennial/2020/data/island-areas/guam/population-and-housing-unit-counts/guam-phc-table01.pdf> (Oct. 28, 2021); U.S. Census Bureau, Table 1. Population of Guam: 2010 and 2020, <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/decennial/2020/data/island-areas/american-samoa/population-and-housing-unit-counts/american-samoa-phc-table01.pdf> (Oct. 28, 2021); U.S. Census Bureau, Table 1. Population of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands: 2010 and 2020, <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/decennial/2020/data/island-areas/commonwealth-of-the-northern-mariana-islands/population-and-housing-unit-counts/commonwealth-northern-mariana-islands-phc-table01.pdf> (Oct. 28, 2021); U.S. Census Bureau, Table 1. Population of the United States Virgin Islands: 2010 and 2020, <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/decennial/2020/data/island-areas/us-virgin-islands/population-and-housing-unit-counts/us-virgin-islands-phc-table01.pdf> (Oct. 28, 2021).

State	NDBEDP Certified Program	2023-2024
Iowa	Helen Keller National Center for DeafBlind Youth and Adults	\$114,609
Kansas	Assistive Technology for Kansans	\$109,293
Kentucky	Helen Keller National Center for DeafBlind Youth and Adults	\$141,091
Louisiana	Affiliated Blind of Louisiana Training Center	\$142,664
Maine	Perkins School for the Blind	\$77,966
Maryland	Perkins School for the Blind	\$174,447
Massachusetts	Perkins School for the Blind	\$190,946
Michigan	Perkins School for the Blind	\$252,560
Minnesota	Perkins School for the Blind	\$165,414
Mississippi	Perkins School for the Blind	\$109,351
Missouri	Missouri Assistive Technology	\$174,716
Montana	Perkins School for the Blind	\$72,668
Nebraska	Nebraska Assistive Technology Partnership	\$89,727
Nevada	Perkins School for the Blind	\$114,150
New Hampshire	Northeast Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services, Inc.	\$78,166
New Jersey	New Jersey Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired	\$236,968
New Mexico	Perkins School for the Blind	\$92,662
New York	Helen Keller National Center for DeafBlind Youth and Adults	\$447,226
North Carolina	North Carolina Division of Services for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing	\$265,982
North Dakota	North Dakota Assistive	\$65,731
Ohio	Perkins School for the Blind	\$287,322
Oklahoma	Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services	\$131,148
Oregon	Access Technologies, Inc.	\$135,596
Pennsylvania	Institute on Disabilities – Temple University	\$311,868
Rhode Island	Perkins School for the Blind	\$72,079
South Carolina	Perkins School for the Blind	\$156,642
South Dakota	South Dakota Department of Human Services	\$68,367
Tennessee	Tennessee Public Utility Commission	\$192,347

State	NDBEDP Certified Program	2023-2024
Texas	Perkins School for the Blind	\$656,213
Utah	Perkins School for the Blind	\$118,249
Vermont	Perkins School for the Blind	\$63,062
Virginia	Perkins School for the Blind	\$225,298
Washington	Perkins School for the Blind	\$207,173
West Virginia	Perkins School for the Blind	\$85,835
Wisconsin	Wisconsin Bureau of Aging and Disability Resources	\$168,954
Wyoming	Wyoming Institute for Disabilities – University of Wyoming	\$61,736
Other Jurisdictions	NDBEDP Certified Program	2023-2024
District of Columbia	TCS Access	\$63,562
American Samoa	Helen Keller National Center for DeafBlind Youth and Adults	\$51,004
Guam	Helen Keller National Center for DeafBlind Youth and Adults	\$53,106
Northern Mariana Islands	Helen Keller National Center for DeafBlind Youth and Adults	\$50,955
Puerto Rico	Perkins School for the Blind	\$115,039
U.S. Virgin Islands	Perkins School for the Blind	\$51,759
	Subtotal	\$9,600,000
	National Outreach	\$250,000
	Centralized Database Maintenance	\$150,000
	Total	\$10,000,000

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.

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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