



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
45 L Street NE
Washington, DC 20554

News Media Information 202-418-0500
Internet: www.fcc.gov

DA 26-415

Released: April 28, 2026

2026-2027 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 2026-2027.²

As directed by the *NDBEDP Permanent Program Order*, for 2026-2027, CGB will set aside \$250,000 for national outreach efforts to be conducted by the Perkins School for the Blind (Perkins).³ In addition, pursuant to that order, CGB will set aside \$150,000 towards the maintenance of the centralized database used by certified programs for reporting and reimbursement purposes.⁴

The remaining \$9,600,000 of funding for 2026-2027 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 2026-2027 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

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 (selecting Perkins as the national outreach entity beginning July 1, 2017, through June 30, 2022). On May 5, 2022, CGB extended Perkins’s national outreach efforts for an additional five-year period ending June 30, 2027. Letter from Jackie Ellington, NDBEDP Administrator, CGB, FCC, to Marcia Brooks, Perkins School for the Blind at 1 (May 5, 2022) (on file in CG Docket No. 10-210), <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-383038A1.pdf>.

⁴ *See NDBEDP Permanent Program Order*, 31 FCC Rcd 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.

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.⁷

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

State	NDBEDP Certified Program	2026-2027
Alabama	Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind	\$ 152,265
Alaska	Helen Keller National Center for DeafBlind Youth and Adults	\$ 64,519
Arizona	Perkins School for the Blind	\$ 200,133
Arkansas	Perkins School for the Blind	\$ 111,338
California	To Be Determined ⁹	\$ 825,008
Colorado	Colorado Commission for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and DeafBlind	\$ 168,403
Connecticut	Connecticut Tech Act Project	\$ 122,636
Delaware	University of Delaware – Center for Disabilities Studies	\$ 70,873
Florida	Helen Keller National Center for DeafBlind Youth and Adults	\$ 512,037
Georgia	Georgia Center of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing	\$ 272,580
Hawaii	Helen Keller National Center for DeafBlind Youth and Adults	\$ 78,216

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, 2025 (NST-EST2025-POP), <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest/tables/2020-2025/state/totals/NST-EST2025-POP.xlsx> (accessed Feb. 27, 2026); The following tables are updated every ten years. 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).

⁹ The entity certified under the NDBEDP for the state of California will be relinquishing its certification effective June 30, 2026. The Commission is currently soliciting applications from entities interested in being certified to provide equipment and related services under the NDBEDP to eligible individuals in California from July 1, 2026 until June 30, 2027. *Applications for National Deaf-Blind Equipment Distribution Certification for California Due May 5, 2026*, CG Docket No. 10-210, Public Notice, DA 26-317 (CGB 2026), <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-26-332A1.pdf>.

State	NDBEDP Certified Program	2026-2027
Idaho	University of Idaho – Center on Disabilities and Human Development	\$ 89,971
Illinois	Lester and Rosalie Anixter Center (Chicago Hearing Society)	\$ 300,473
Indiana	Perkins School for the Blind	\$ 187,323
Iowa	Helen Keller National Center for DeafBlind Youth and Adults	\$ 113,772
Kansas	Assistive Technology for Kansans	\$ 108,629
Kentucky	Helen Keller National Center for DeafBlind Youth and Adults	\$ 140,721
Louisiana	Affiliated Blind of Louisiana Training Center	\$ 140,944
Maine	Perkins School for the Blind	\$ 77,862
Maryland	Perkins School for the Blind	\$ 173,381
Massachusetts	Perkins School for the Blind	\$ 190,882
Michigan	Perkins School for the Blind	\$ 249,444
Minnesota	Perkins School for the Blind	\$ 164,816
Mississippi	Perkins School for the Blind	\$ 108,175
Missouri	Missouri Assistive Technology	\$ 173,483
Montana	Perkins School for the Blind	\$ 72,542
Nebraska	Nebraska Assistive Technology Partnership	\$ 89,740
Nevada	Perkins School for the Blind	\$ 114,635
New Hampshire	Northeast Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services, Inc.	\$ 77,872
New Jersey	New Jersey Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired	\$ 238,029
New Mexico	Perkins School for the Blind	\$ 91,857
New York	Helen Keller National Center for DeafBlind Youth and Adults	\$ 443,899
North Carolina	North Carolina Division of Services for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing	\$ 270,517
North Dakota	North Dakota Assistive	\$ 65,741
Ohio	Perkins School for the Blind	\$ 284,352
Oklahoma	Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services	\$ 131,198
Oregon	Access Technologies, Inc.	\$ 134,158
Pennsylvania	Institute on Disabilities – Temple University	\$ 307,174

State	NDBEDP Certified Program	2026-2027
Rhode Island	Perkins School for the Blind	\$ 71,948
South Carolina	Perkins School for the Blind	\$ 159,693
South Dakota	South Dakota Department of Human Services	\$ 68,414
Tennessee	Tennessee Public Utility Commission	\$ 194,053
Texas	Perkins School for the Blind	\$ 674,448
Utah	Perkins School for the Blind	\$ 119,690
Vermont	Perkins School for the Blind	\$ 62,695
Virginia	Perkins School for the Blind	\$ 224,872
Washington	Perkins School for the Blind	\$ 207,561
West Virginia	Perkins School for the Blind	\$ 84,780
Wisconsin	Wisconsin Bureau of Aging and Disability Resources	\$ 167,620
Wyoming	Wyoming Institute for Disabilities – University of Wyoming	\$ 61,594
Other Jurisdictions	NDBEDP Certified Program	2026-2027
District of Columbia	TCS Access	\$ 63,660
American Samoa	Helen Keller National Center for DeafBlind Youth and Adults	\$ 50,979
Guam	Helen Keller National Center for DeafBlind Youth and Adults	\$ 53,029
Northern Mariana Islands	Helen Keller National Center for DeafBlind Youth and Adults	\$ 50,932
Puerto Rico	Perkins School for the Blind	\$ 112,718
U.S. Virgin Islands	Perkins School for the Blind	\$ 51,716
	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: For more information about NDBEDP, visit www.fcc.gov/ndbedp or www.iCanConnect.org, or contact Jackie Ellington, Disability Rights Office, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, at (202) 418-1153 or NDBEDP@fcc.gov or Jackie.Ellington@fcc.gov. Individuals who use videophones and are fluent in ASL may call the FCC's ASL Consumer Support Line at (844) 432-2275 (videophone).