Funding Resources for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing

**Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing**

Phone: (202) 337-5220  
Website: [listeningandspokenlanguage.org](http://listeningandspokenlanguage.org)

They have 3 programs that can assist children with hearing loss. Preschool-Age Financial Aid Program; Parent-Infant Financial Aid Program; School-age Financial Aid Program

**Audient**

Phone: (877) 283-4368  
Website: [audientalliance.org](http://audientalliance.org)

Audient can pay 50% of the cost of hearing aids depending on income and the audiologist’s willingness to provide some free services.

**First Hand Foundation**

Phone: (816) 201-1569  
Website: [cerner.com/firsthand/](http://cerner.com/firsthand/)

The Foundation assists individual children who have clinical, health-related needs and no financial safety net to cover these expenses. This can include hearing aids.

**Hear Now Foundation**

Phone: (800) 648-4327  
Website: [sotheworldmayhear.org/hearnow/](http://sotheworldmayhear.org/hearnow/)

Hear Now is a national non-profit program committed to assisting deaf and hard-of-hearing persons with limited financial resources in obtaining hearing aids.

**Hike Fund**

Website: [thehikefund.org/](http://thehikefund.org/)

The purpose of the Fund is to provide hearing devices for children with hearing losses between the ages of newborn and twenty years whose parents are unable to meet this special need financially.

**Private Insurance**

Kentucky law requires health benefit plans, including those issued by HMOs, to cover one hearing aid per hearing-impaired ear and all related services up to $1,400 every 36 months for children under age 18. The benefit is subject to all applicable copayments, coinsurance, deductibles, and out-of-pocket limitations. (Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. §§ 304.17A-132 and 304.17A-005(19)) Check your policy. There may be exemptions.

**Kentucky Assistive Technology Loan Corporation (KATLC)**

Phone: (877) 675-0195  
Website: [kattc.ky.gov](http://kattc.ky.gov)

The Kentucky Assistive Technology Loan Corporation (KATLC) offers low interest loans for qualified applicants with disabilities who need assistive technology. This includes Hearing aids.
**KY Commission for Children with Special Health Care Needs**

Phone: (800) 232-1160  
Website: [chfs.ky.gov/ccshcn](http://chfs.ky.gov/ccshcn)

The Commission can cover hearing aids for children/teenagers up to age 21.

**Kentucky Deaf-Blind Services**

**Office for Blind**

Dorothy Brame, Deaf-Blind Services Coordinator  
Phone: (800) 222-1215 or (270) 495-3132 (VP)  
Email: [Dorothy.Brame@ky.gov](mailto:Dorothy.Brame@ky.gov)

**Office of Vocational Rehabilitation**

Sherry West (Office of Vocational Rehabilitation)  
Phone: (270) 282-2153 (VP/VRS) or (270) 495-3521 P3-VP  
Email: [SherryA.West@ky.gov](mailto:SherryA.West@ky.gov)

OFB and OVR work together to provide vocational services to individuals who are deaf-blind. This can include the purchase of assistive technology including hearing aids.

**Kentucky Medicaid**

**Hearing Services**

Phone: (502) 564-6890  
Website: [chfs.ky.gov/dms/hearing.htm](http://chfs.ky.gov/dms/hearing.htm)

Hearing and hearing aid evaluations performed by audiologists, and hearing aids dispensed by hearing aid dealers are covered for persons under age 21. Follow-up visits, checkups and certain hearing aid repairs are also covered.

**Kentucky Medicaid Waivers**

Hearing aids can be provided for individuals enrolled in the Supports for Community Living (SCL) Waiver Program.  
Phone: (502) 564-7702

The other Medicaid waivers, Home and Community Based, Acquired Brain Injury, and Michelle P can provide hearing aids only when the consumer directed option is being used.  
Phone: (502) 564-5560  
Website: [chfs.ky.gov/dms](http://chfs.ky.gov/dms) (click programs and services)

**Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs (KDVA)**

Phone: (800) 572-6245  
Website: [veterans.ky.gov](http://veterans.ky.gov)

The KDVA can guide eligible veterans through the process of receiving hearing aids from the Federal Veterans administration.

**Kentucky Office for Vocational Rehabilitation Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services**

Phone: (800) 372-7172 (V/TTY)

OVR provides vocational services to individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing. This can include the purchase of assistive technology including hearing aids.
**Miracle-Ear Foundation Gift of Sound Program**

Phone: (800) 234-5422  
Website: miracleearfoundation.org

The Miracle-Ear Foundation serves and support children and adults who have a hearing loss. Our Gift of Sound program provides at no-cost hearing aids and hearing support services to families or individuals who have income that are significantly limited. (There is a $150 application fee for adults)

**Lexington Lions Club Hearing Aid Distribution Program**

Phone: (502) 848-0634 (Lions club-Janis Friend)  
(859) 277-3725 (Audiologist-Karon Kallio)

Provides hearing aids to low income individuals who live in Lexington/Fayette County Kentucky.

**Telecommunication Access Program (TAP)**

Phone: (800) 372-2907  
VP: (502) 416-0607

The TAP is administered by Kentucky Commission for the deaf and hard of hearing KCDHH and provide specialized telecommunications equipment at no charge to deaf, hard of hearing, speech impaired or deaf-blind Kentucky residents.

**iCanConnect The National Deaf-Blind Equipment Distribution Program**

Website: [www.icanconnect.org](http://www.icanconnect.org)  
Contact Information for Kentucky  
Dorothy Brame (Office for the Blind)  
Phone: (800) 222-1215 or (270) 495-3132 (VP)  
Sherry West (Office of Vocational Rehabilitation)  
Phone: (270) 282-2153 (VP/VRS) or (270) 495-3521 P3-VP

The goal of this program is to get technology into the hands of Americans with combined hearing and vision loss so they can connect with family, friends, and community. For those who qualify, technology equipment used for distance communication is provided free. The types of equipment available include: Braille devices, Phones, Computers, Signallers, Mobile devices, and CCTV's. (hearing aids are not included)

**TPA Scholarship Trust for the Deaf and Near Deaf**

Phone: (314) 371-0533  
Website: [tpahq.org](http://tpahq.org)

The Travelers Protective Association of America established the TPA Scholarship Trust for the Deaf and Near Deaf in 1975 to provide financial aid to children and adults who suffer deafness or hearing impairment and who need assistance in obtaining mechanical devices, medical or specialized treatment or specialized education as well as speech classes, note takers, interpreters, etc. and in other areas of need that are directly related to hearing impairment.

**Kentucky Hearing Loss Associations**

**Bowling Green Chapter**

Phone: (270) 782-7329  
Kentuckiana Chapter (Louisville)  
Email: [info@hearinglossky.org](mailto:info@hearinglossky.org)  
Website: [hearinglossky.org](http://hearinglossky.org)
Lexington Chapter
Email: Jean@hlaa-ky.org
Website: hearinglosskyhome.org
Kentucky Home Chapter (Bardstown)
Phone: (502) 349-6792
Email: ed@hearinglosskyhome.org; Becky@hearinglosskyhome.org
Website: hearinglosskyhome.org

Additional Websites:
Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf, Inc. - listeningandspokenlanguage.org
American Society for Deaf Children - deafchildren.org
Auditory Verbal Learning Institute - listeningandspokenlanguage.org/AGBellAcademy
Better Hearing Institute - betterhearing.org
Gift of Hearing Foundation - giftofhearingfoundation.org
Healthy Hearing - healthyhearing.com
Helen Keller Services - helenkeller.org
Helen Keller National Center - hknc.org
Holley Ear Institute - stjohnprovidence.org/Holley/
KY Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing – kcdhh.ky.gov
KY School for the Deaf - ksd.k12.ky.us
Let Them Hear Foundation - letthemhear.org
MEDICAID and SCHIP Programs - cms.hhs.gov/apps/contacts/
National Association of the Deaf - nad.org
National Center on Deaf-Blindness - nationaldb.org
National Technical Institute for the Deaf Scholarship Listings - ntid.rit.edu
Rienzi Foundation for Cochlear Implants– rienzifoundation.org

For more information contact the KATS Network (800) 327-5287 – katsnet.org