

## Resources for Buying Hearing Aids

*Insurance Coverage, Financial Assistance, and Recycling  
Programs*

*Provided by the MA Commission for Deaf and Hard of  
Hearing*



### 1. Insurance Coverage

- If you have Medicaid coverage, costs for hearing aids will be covered.
- Traditional Medicare, however, does not cover any of the cost for hearing aids.
- Some Medicare Advantage Plans may cover some of the cost of a hearing aid. Check with your health plan to see if they will cover the expense.
- If you have other private health insurance coverage, check with your insurer to see if they will cover the expense before exploring other options for financial assistance.
- If you are eligible to receive medical care from the US Veterans Administration, VA Outpatient Clinic Audiology Department at 150 South Huntington Avenue, Jamaica Plains, MA, contact the department for information at 617 232-9500, extension 4730

### 2. Financial Assistance to Buy Hearing Aids

Below are financial assistance programs for hearing aids. Some options for financial assistance come through government agencies, some through non-profit agencies, and some are offered by private foundations. Eligibility for assistance varies depending on financial need, age, and / or other eligibility requirements. Please contact each individual agency for the details of that specific program.

#### **Federal Funding:**

#### **Independent Living Centers of MA**

In Massachusetts, you can apply for federal money available to all of the Independent Living Centers in Massachusetts from Title VII Part B funding. However, this program is intended as a "last resort" only for individuals who are not eligible elsewhere; so, all other possible sources of funding should be explored, and evidence of such search should be kept, before applying for this service. This funding may be used for the purchase of equipment and services to assist people to maintain or achieve independence. Unfortunately, there is a long waiting list to receive this financial assistance.

The program can provide funding for assistive technology, assistive listening devices and other disability-related equipment. It can also pay for one-time or very limited provision of other services such as the cost of an appointment with an audiologist. Contact your regional Independent Living Center for more details.

## **State Agencies:**

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### **Mass. Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Assistive Technology Fund**

600 Washington Street

Boston, MA 02111

617 740-1700 TTY

617 740-1600 Voice

Contact: Mary Macone

### **Mass. Department of Public Health**

#### **Diagnosis and Support**

250 Washington St., 5th Floor

Boston, MA 02108

Contact: Community Support Line

1 800 882-1435

617-624-5992 TTY

### **MassHealth**

#### **Customer Service Center**

800-841-2900

800-497-4646 TTY

### **MassMATCH**

Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission

600 Washington Street

Boston, MA 02111

1-866-682-9955 (Toll Free)

617-204-3851 (V)

617-204-3815 (TTY)

[info@massmatch.org](mailto:info@massmatch.org)

## **Private Foundations:**

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### **American Medical Resources Foundation**

(recycles hearing aids)

P.O. Box 3609

36 Station Avenue

Brockton, MA 02404

401 789-4527 Voice

401 789-1849 Fax

[www.amrf.com/](http://www.amrf.com/)

27 Wormwood Street

Boston, MA 02210-1616

617 204-3851 x3623 Voice

[www.getatstuff.org/](http://www.getatstuff.org/)

### **Audient Program**

Northwest Hearing Care

901 Boren Avenue, Suite 810

Seattle, WA 98104

206 838-7194 Voice

206 838-7195 Fax

[www.audientalliance.org](http://www.audientalliance.org)

### **Boston Guild for Hard of Hearing**

**Northeastern University**

## **Hearing Outreach Program**

Behrakis Health Sciences Center  
30 Leon Street, 503  
617 373-8927 TTY  
617 373-2492 Voice  
617 373-8756 Fax

[www.northeastern.edu/bouve/sipa/index.html](http://www.northeastern.edu/bouve/sipa/index.html)

## **Disabled Children's Relief Fund**

P.O. Box 89  
402 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Freeport, NY 11520  
516 377-1605 Voice

## **The Hearing Impaired Kids Endowment Fund**

**The HIKE Fund, Inc.**  
10115 Cherryhill Place  
Spring Hill, FL 34608  
352 688-2579 Voice/Fax  
[www.thehikefund.org/](http://www.thehikefund.org/)

## **Knights of Columbus**

P.O. Box 194  
470 Washington Street  
Norwood, MA 02062  
781 551-0628 Voice  
781 551-0490 Fax  
<http://massachusettsstatekofc.org/>

## **Massachusetts Lions Club**

District 33-S, Hearing Foundation  
Richard Pessin, President

[RBP360@aol.com](mailto:RBP360@aol.com)

Gretchen Olney, Advocate

[gretchen1398@hotmail.com](mailto:gretchen1398@hotmail.com)

Please contact your local Lions Club for additional sources.

## **Miracle Ear Children's Foundation**

P.O. Box 59261  
Minneapolis, MN 55459

800 234-5422 Toll Free Voice

763 268-4295 Fax

[www.miracle-ear.com/miracle-ear-foundation](http://www.miracle-ear.com/miracle-ear-foundation)

## **NUsed Pilot Program**

A collaboration of the MCDHH and NU's Dept. of Speech, Language Pathology and Audiology for recycling hearing aids; Contact: Sandra Cleveland, Director, Audiology  
617-373-2496 Voice

[sa.cleveland@neu.edu](mailto:sa.cleveland@neu.edu)

Behrakis Health Sciences Center  
30 Leon Street, 503  
Boston, MA 02115

## **The Starkey Hearing Foundation**

### **Hear Now**

6700 Washington Avenue South  
Eden Prairie, MN 55344  
866 354-3254 Voice  
800 648-4327 Toll Free Voice  
952 828-6946 Fax

[www.sotheworldmayhear.org](http://www.sotheworldmayhear.org)

(funding and recycling)

## **Travelers Protective Association of America**

### **Scholarship Trust for the Hearing Impaired**

3755 Lindell Boulevard  
St. Louis, MO 63108-3476  
314 371-0533 Voice  
314 371-0537 Fax

[www.tpahq.org/sample-post-09](http://www.tpahq.org/sample-post-09)

## **United Cerebral Palsy of Berkshire County**

208 West Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
413 442-1562 TTY/ Voice  
413 499-4077 Fax

[www.ucpberkshire.org](http://www.ucpberkshire.org)

## **National Ear Care Plan/Group**

### **Membership**

6825 E. Tennessee Avenue, Suite 415  
Denver, CO 80224-1632  
303-399-1212 TTY/Voice  
800-766-3363

NECP is the largest audiology provider organization in the United States. Current members of certain subscriber organizations (such as SHHH, AFL-CIO Int'l, Co-Health/AAA, etc.) and their immediate families living in the same household are eligible. A \$10

annual enrollment fee allows you and your family to access the NECP provider network and receive substantial discounts on products and services, such as: No charge for Annual Hearing Screening; Discounted fees for Comprehensive Audiologic Assessment and Acoustic Emmittance Testing; 20% savings on hearing aids, related products and repairs (excluding batteries); No charge for annual follow-up cleaning and check of hearing aids purchased through the program.

## **3. Hearing Aid Loan Banks**

Below are programs that loan equipment or provide refurbished / recycled hearing aid equipment. Buying recycled hearing aids is an excellent way for many people who are cannot otherwise buy this necessary and expensive technology. Eligibility for assistance varies depending on financial need, age, and / or other eligibility requirements. Please contact each individual agency for the details of that specific program.

### **Peak Rehabilitation Group**

15 Belmont Street  
Worcester, MA 01602  
508-792-8700 Voice  
508-792-8727 TTY  
508-334-8751 Fax

Eden Prairie, MN 55344

800-648-HEAR (4327) TTY/Voice

Hear Now (HN) provides hearing aids and cochlear implants for individuals with limited financial resources. HN coordinates a national hearing aid bank and accepts hearing aid donations from people all over the country. HN is also involved in increasing public awareness of the need for available and affordable assistive technology for persons with hearing impairments.

### **American Medical Resource Foundation**

56 Oakhill Way  
Brockton, MA 02304  
508-580-3301  
\*accepts donated hearing aids

### **HEAR NOW**

6700 Washington Avenue S

## **Warranty and Insurance Plans - FYI**

Agencies listed below provide insurance for hearing devices against loss and/or accidental damage. Insurance can be purchased directly, or through the hearing aid dispenser, by completing an application and returning it with a check for the appropriate amount.

### **Midwest Hearing Industries**

4510 West 77th Street, #201

Minneapolis, MN 55435

800-821-5471 Voice

952-835-9481 Fax

[www.mwhi.com](http://www.mwhi.com)

### **Discovery Hearing Aid Co-op**

4318 Downtowner Loop, Suite K

Mobile, AL 36609

800-525-7936 Voice

251-342-2158 Fax

[www.discovear.com](http://www.discovear.com)

### **Esco Ear Service Corporation**

3650 Annapolis Lane, Suite 107

Plymouth, MN 55441

800-992-3726 Voice

612-559-4247 Fax

[www.earserv.com](http://www.earserv.com)

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(<https://www.mass.gov/service-details/hearing-aid-purchase-planfinancing>). Organized and reformatted by MCOA (August 2019)