

HEARING LOSS A-Z

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This is a living document and will be updated continually.

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I want to thank **Ann Thomas** (HLAA-California), for doing an inordinate amount of work helping to edit this document.

[Braille Institute](#), Atkinson Hyperlegible font for low vision is used in this document.

Many of these links appear in my monthly Washington State hearing loss newsletter.

If you wish to see the most updated - current - copy here is the link. You may need to scroll to the bottom of the page to see it. [Click Here](#)

If you want to suggest a link, or if a link does not work, please email me:

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ADVOCACY - PERSONAL

Chief Executive Officer (CEO): How to find the CEO's contact information for a publicly traded company?

COSTCO: First, resolve your problem with the local Hearing Aid Manager. The manager's email format: W740aid@costco.com, where the number 740 is the Warehouse #. If you need to escalate, contact Paul DiCola, Assistant Vice President, Costco Wholesale Hearing Centers. Email: PDiCola@costco.com 425-427-7991.

For other companies, call your librarian (or do this online): Find the 1-page ValueLine Report; the CEO's contact information is in the middle section.

FCC: To file complaints about communication inaccessibility, the FCC's Disability Rights Office may be able to help. Go to the [FCC's Consumer Complaint Center](#) to learn more.

DOJ: If you want to file a complaint based on disability discrimination, go to the Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division for ADA-related complaints at [ADA.gov/file-a-complaint](https://ada.gov/file-a-complaint).

ADA: National Network — <https://adata.org> If you have a question about ADA you can send an email to: nwadactr@uw.edu

ADVOCACY — STATE LEGISLATION

STATES: Hearing Loops & Assisted Listening Systems Legislation [Click Here](#)

WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATION:

To read the Session Law:

1. Click on the Bill number below
2. Scroll down to "Available Documents" and click on "Session Law"

Here is a list:

[SB5486](#) — Open Captions at Movie Theaters (2025-2026)

[HB1222](#) — Hearing Coverage for hearing aid instruments (2023-2024)

[SB5210](#) — Notifying purchasers of hearing instruments about uses and benefits of telecoil and Bluetooth technology. (2019-2020)

[SB5027](#) — Requiring Captions on Public TV's (2021-2022) Example below:

This Washington state law requires the use of captions on public access TV's. If you enter a restaurant, you should see captions on their TV's. If not, you can ask for that to happen. If you don't get a positive response, these are some actions you can take:

1. To get a copy of this Bill, [Click Here](#) and scroll down to "Available Documents" and click on "Session Law".
2. [Click Here](#) to file a complaint against a restaurant who is not complying with the ADA effective communications on public TV's.
3. The FCC has a similar website for state laws: Here is the FCC complaint site: [Click Here](#)
4. I assume the best approach would be to file a complaint with the Washington state Attorney General's office against the restaurant which is not complying with State laws. [Click Here](#)
5. If the manager refuses, add that to your Yelp review!

AIRLINES

New FAA regulations will make flying more accessible [Click Here](#)

Use the Apple "Find My" App with the Airlines [Click Here](#)

Cruise line Accessibility [Click Here](#)

Hearing loss is considered a disability under the ACAA and the ADA. Anyone self-identifying as a passenger with a disability, who needs additional time or assistance, must be allowed to board the airplane before other passengers. I always ask for that to have time to self-identify for my hearing loss to aircraft personnel. I explain that often I am not able to understand the announcements on board.

ALPORT SYNDROME

This is a genetic kidney disease that often causes hearing loss and a decline in kidney function, which can progress to kidney failure. Accurate diagnosis by genetic testing is the key to secure medical intervention. [Click Here](#)

ALERT DEVICES SHOPPING

Shop.bellman.com

Diglo.com

SquareGlow.com

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE (ASL)

OmniBridge shows real-time ASL Translation. For a demo [Click Here](#)

Jeenie is an app for the interpretation of 300+ languages including American Sign Language [Click Here](#)

Google Chrome Extension provides sign language interpretation. [Click Here](#)

Sign Language Resources [Click Here](#)

APPS

10 best apps for people with hearing loss. [Click Here](#)

5 popular apps for the deaf and hard of hearing [Click Here](#)

APPS FOR SMARTPHONES & COMPUTERS

[BigText](#) will caption in a large font size.

[HeardThat](#) will help to hear in noisy environments.

[Loop Finder](#) will locate hearing loops in your area.

[Purple P3](#) will provide video/audio conferencing for Sign Language

[Soundprint](#) measures background sound in restaurants and adds this information to a retrieval database, so you can search for quiet restaurants.

[Tunity](#) – Hear any muted TV live on your smartphone.

[Volume Master](#) - Here is an app that can raise the volume to 600% on your computer

AUDIOGRAM

How to read an audiogram (4 min video) [Click Here](#)

How to read an audiogram (handout) [Click Here](#)

AURACAST BROADCAST AUDIO

Auracast broadcast audio is an expanded form of Bluetooth low energy (LE) audio.

- Everything you ever wanted to know about Bluetooth LE Audio and Auracast broadcast audio? [Click Here](#)
- How does it work? [Click Here](#)
- Auracast Product List [Click Here](#)

- Hearing Tracker, YouTube, LE Audio & Auracast [Click Here](#)
- Dr Cliff, YouTube, Game changing hearing aids [Click Here](#)

AUDITORY BRAIN STEM IMPLANT (ABI)

Clinical Study on young children's progress with an ABI. [Click Here](#)

Here is a TEDx of a story related by a recipient of ABI. [Click Here](#)

AUDITORY NERVE STIMULATION

Vagus Nerve Stimulation (VNS) may enhance auditory learning. [Click Here](#)

For a study recruiting [Click Here](#)

AUDITORY TRAINING APPS

Auditory Processing Disorder [Click Here](#)

Better hearing starts with training the brain:

- Amptify App [Click Here](#)
- Angel Sounds [Click Here](#)
- Cochlear America training exercises [Click Here](#)
- Lace AI Pro* [Click Here](#) (see below for discount)
- Meluda music training-MED-EL users get 12 months of free access. [Click Here](#)
- MED-EL AI Assistant training [Click Here](#)
- Neurotone AI [Click Here](#)

*LACE AI PRO app, Lifetime license, \$170 discount. Use code DRCLIFF: [Click Here](#)

AUDITORY NEUROPATHY

Auditory neuropathy is a challenging hearing disorder in which the inner ear successfully detects sound but has a problem with sending signals from the ear to the brain, currently accounting for approximately 10% of cases of sensorineural hearing loss (SNHL) in children. Current state-of-the-art medical knowledge suggests that auditory neuropathies play a substantial role in hearing impairments and deafness, according to Lineage Cell Therapeutics. [Click Here](#)

BABIES & CHILDREN

- This new genetic test can identify a gene that could result in permanent hearing loss if a critically ill baby is admitted to emergency & treated with a common antibiotic, Gentamicin. [Click Here](#)
- Pediatric Hearing Aids: A discussion of flexible hearing aids [Click Here](#)
- Smartphone App to Diagnose Ear Infections might reduce unnecessary antibiotic prescriptions in children. [Click Here](#)
- Children and teens with hearing loss should NOT be discouraged from taking singing lessons or learning an instrument [Click Here](#)
- The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) has recommended a new treatment aimed at preventing and reducing hearing loss in patients undergoing cisplatin chemotherapy. [Click Here](#)

BACKGROUND NOISE

Understanding speech in background noise is a pervasive problem for hearing aid users. Artificial Intelligence (AI) is starting to be effectively used to solve this problem.

Phonak launched their latest premium hearing aid, Audeo Sphere Infinio, which uses AI to distinguish speech from background noise.

Dr. Cliff's, review of Audeo Spherer Infinio hearing aid. [Click Here](#)

HearAdvisor is also sharing their data on these Phonak hearing aids; [Click Here](#)

Dr Cliff's, Phonak Sphere Infinio launch in Las Vegas, [Click Here](#)

Other instruments under development:

- [OrCam](#), earbuds
- [HeardThat](#) app, available for Apple & Android.
- Using a camera to separate out noise? [Click Here](#)
- Measure restaurant noise level with the [Soundprint](#) app. It is a more robust app on the iPhone; there is some limited usability on the Android.
- US Restaurant noise level chart measured by Soundprint [Click Here](#)
- AI noise-cancelling headphones isolate a single voice in a crowd. [Click Here](#)
- Prime Video is rolling out a new accessibility feature called Dialogue Boost which lets you increase the volume of dialogue relative to background music. [Click Here](#)

BADGES

Badges that Caption [Click Here](#)

BALANCE

BEST PRACTICES

Best Practices are More Important than Best Hearing Aids was a presentation at the 2024 HLAA Convention made by Dr. Cliff Olson, AuD. (10 min video) He presented 5 best practices:

[0:00:00](#) Introduction

[0:02:56](#) 5 Best Practices:

1. [0:03:29](#) **Recorded Speech Hearing Test**
2. [0:04:22](#) **Speech in Noise Testing** - QuickSIN and ACT are two of many tests available to test your understanding in a noisy environment. Even though it is a **Best Practice** fewer than 20% of Audiologists administer this type of test. To read about it, [Click Here](#)
 - What is the QuickSIN? [Click Here](#) for the 5 min video. Request that this test be added to your Hearing Test [Click Here](#)
3. [0:05:28](#) **Test Box Measures** - Text Box Measures is a test the audiologist should do when they first receive your new hearing aids from the manufacturer. For more information, [Click Here](#)
4. [0:06:29](#) **Real Ear Measurement** — What does it look like? [Click Here](#) Dr. Cliff's update [Click Here](#)
5. [0:07:32](#) **Validated Questionnaires** — Here are the 3 Questionnaires that he discusses: Click on each one to see it:
 1. COSI
 2. [APHAB](#) This has scoring software on PC's
 3. [IOI-HA](#)

What are the Minimum Best Practices? [Click Here](#)

BLOGS

[Living with Hearing Loss](#), Sheri Eberts

[Communication Matters](#), Tina Childress AuD Tina's excellent resource lists [Click Here](#)

BLUETOOTH

Bluetooth is a wireless technology used with hearing instruments and a wide range of electronics. [Click Here](#)

BONE CONDUCTION HEARING DEVICES

There are three types of bone conduction hearing devices:

- Bone conduction hearing implants (abutment through the skin, surgically implanted).
- Bone conduction hearing implants (magnet under the skin, surgically implanted).
- Bone conduction hearing aids (soft headband, non-surgical).

There are several different manufacturers and types of bone conduction hearing systems on the market today. This technology is quickly evolving, so it is important to discuss your medical history and hearing loss with your otologist and audiologist to know what is the best option for you. Current systems include:

- Cochlear Americas BAHA
- Cochlear Americas Osia
- Oticon Medical Ponto
- Med El Bonebridge
- Med El Adhear

Johns Hopkins, Bone Conduction Hearing Aids. [Click Here](#)

Here is a background paper on candidacy criteria. [Click Here](#)

BOOK GROUP

This virtual book group often reads books about hearing loss, fiction & nonfiction. [Click Here](#)
For more information contact Laura Hagemann social@hlaatc.org

CAPTIONS

What are **Open Captions**? They cannot be turned on or off. They are always on.

What are **Closed Captions**? They can be turned on or off.

CHROME BROWSER CAPTIONS

- Be sure you are in the Chrome Browser. The word Chrome will be in the upper left corner of the screen.
- Click on 3 dots (upper right corner) to the right of your profile picture
- Click on **Settings** in the left-hand menu. You may have to scroll down.
- Click on **Accessibility** in left-hand menu
- Click on toggle to the right of **Live Caption** — it turns blue to indicate ON
- Close that window
- Audio/video on Chrome captions should appear automatically

CAPTIONS: SPEECH-TO-TEXT APPS

1. [Ava](#)
2. [Otter](#)
3. [Live Caption](#), Apple
4. [Live Transcribe](#), Android, (video) and [here \(website\)](#)
5. NALscribe, Apple, [Click Here](#)
6. Nuance: Dragon Anywhere [Click Here](#)

Speech to Text Resource List [Click Here](#)

SMARTPHONE ACCESSIBILITY CAPTIONS

Example: You could use the captions on your smartphone at the doctor's office

iPhone

Live Captions [Click Here](#), user guide

1. Open Settings: Go to the Settings app on your iPhone or iPad.
2. Accessibility: Tap on **Accessibility** in the Settings menu.
3. Live Captions: Select **Live Captions** from the list of options.
4. Turn On Live Captions: Toggle the switch to turn on Live Captions.
5. Customize Appearance: Tap on **Appearance** to customize the text, size, and color of the captions.

Once activated, Live Captions will automatically transcribe spoken audio in apps like FaceTime, Podcasts, and even live conversations around you. Note: For live conversations, you will need to select the microphone icon on the popup on the screen.

Sound Recognition

1. Open Settings: Go to the Settings app on your iPhone or iPad.
2. Accessibility: Tap on **Accessibility** in the Settings menu.
3. Sound Recognition: Scroll down and select **Sound Recognition**
4. Turn On Sound Recognition: Toggle the switch to turn on Sound Recognition. Note: When activating for the first time, you may need to download Sound Recognition first and follow the steps as prompted on your phone.
5. Choose Sounds: Tap on **Sounds** to select which sounds you want your device to listen to.

Once activated, your device will notify you when it detects the selected sounds. You can also access Sound Recognition from the Control Center to turn it on or off or to change the sounds list¹.

Real-Time Text (RTT) on your Apple phone, follow these steps:

1. Open Settings: Go to the Settings app on your iPhone.
2. Accessibility: Tap on **Accessibility** in the Settings menu.
3. RTT/TTY: Scroll down and select **RTT/TTY** under the Hearing" section.
4. Turn On RTT/TTY: Toggle the switch to turn on Software RTT/TTY.

5. Choose SIM Line: If you have a Dual SIM, select the SIM line you want to use for RTT/TTY calls.
6. Relay Number: Tap **Relay Number** and enter the phone number to use for relay calls.
7. Send Immediately: Toggle on **Send Immediately** to send each character as you type or turn it off to complete messages before sending.
8. Answer All Calls as RTT/TTY: Toggle this option if you want to answer and make all calls as RTT/TTY.
9. Hardware TTY: If you want to use an external TTY device, turn on **Hardware TTY** and connect your iPhone to the device using the iPhone TTY Adapter.
10. Once activated, you can start an RTT/TTY call by opening the Phone app, selecting a contact, and choosing **RTT/TTY Call** or **RTT/TTY Relay Call**.

Android

Live Transcribe [Click Here](#) —1 min video

1. Open Settings: Go to the Settings app on your Android device.
2. Accessibility: Scroll down and tap on "Accessibility".
3. Hearing enhancements: Under Accessibility, click "Hearing enhancements"
4. Live Transcribe: Under the "Captions" heading, tap on "Live Transcribe".
5. Open Live Transcribe: Tap "Open Live Transcribe" to start the app.
6. Permissions: Allow the necessary permissions for the app to access your microphone.
7. Enable Shortcut: Toggle on the Live Transcribe shortcut to display a floating icon for easy access.

Once activated, Live Transcribe will transcribe spoken audio in real time, making it easier for people with hearing impairments to follow conversations.

Sound Notifications

1. Open Settings: Go to the Settings app on your Android device.
2. Accessibility: Scroll down and tap on **Accessibility**
3. Hearing enhancements: Under Accessibility, click **Hearing enhancements**
4. Sound Notifications: Under the "Sound Notifications" heading, tap on "Sound Notifications".
5. Open Sound Notifications: Tap **Open Sound Notifications** to start the app.
6. Permissions: Allow the necessary permissions for the app to access your microphone.
7. Enable Shortcut: Toggle on the Sound Notifications shortcut to display a floating icon for easy access.
8. Choose Sounds: Select which sounds you want to be notified about from categories like emergency, priority, and appliances.

Once activated, Sound Notifications will alert you when it detects the selected sounds. You can also customize how you are notified for each sound category, such as vibration, flash, or watch notification

Real-Time Text (RTT)

1. Open Settings: Go to the Settings app on your Android device.
2. Accessibility: Scroll down and tap on **Accessibility**.
3. Hearing enhancements: Under Accessibility, click **Hearing enhancements**.
4. Real-Time Text (RTT): Under the **Captions** heading, tap on **Real-Time Text (RTT)**
5. Turn On RTT: Toggle the switch to turn on RTT.
6. Choose Visibility: Select "Visible during call" or "Always visible" to determine when the RTT option is available.
7. Make a Call with RTT: Open the Phone app, select a contact, and tap "RTT" to start a call.

Once activated, you can use RTT to type and read text messages during phone calls in real-time.

CELLPHONE CALLS WITH CAPTIONS

In comparing them, here are some questions to ask:

- Does the captioning contain both sides of the conversation?
- Can I save and send a transcript of the call?
- To receive calls, can I use my own phone number, or do I need to use a different app phone number?
- Is 3-way calling available?
- What languages are supported?

CaptionMate App [Click Here](#)

ClearCaptions Mobile [Click Here](#)

InnoCaption [Click Here](#)

CaptionCall Mobile, formerly Olelo [Click Here](#)

Nagish [Click Here](#)

Google Pixel Phones [Click Here](#)

FACETIME — IPHONE

- Tap on Settings
- Tap on Apps
- Tap on FaceTime
- Scroll down to **Live Captions** and Tap the button on the right to turn it green (ON)
- Close that screen down
- When you get a FaceTime call, captions should automatically appear on your iPhone screen.

[Click Here](#) (30 sec video)

GROUP PRESENTATION — TRANSLATES AND CAPTIONS LIVE CONVERSATIONS

Microsoft Translator App [Click Here](#)

Also works with PowerPoint by installing the app on the computer

1. Download Microsoft Translator app on iOS or Android and start conversation.
2. Share the conversation code with other participants, who can join using the Translator app or website.
3. Speak or type to communicate. Your messages will be translated and captioned into the recipient's chosen language on their device (phone/computer)

INTERPRETERS — AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE

Jeenie, is an interpretation app, 300+ languages, including American Sign Language [Click Here](#)

SignUp Google Chrome Extension provides American Sign Language. [Click Here](#)

LANDLINE PHONES

These phones have a stronger volume control and voice to text captioning for the incoming calls. They can be installed at Panorama and are free to those with hearing loss. Please keep your Panorama phone, which can be used during an emergency. Put this other phone on another line so you can choose to answer the Panorama phone or the Caption phone. Some of these phones require that you have internet access. Normally, you will need to get the company's form signed by medical personnel to certify that you are hard of hearing. Call the company to arrange a date for installation. You can enter a work order and let Panorama know that this phone is being installed by the company personnel. The company will bring out the phone to your place of residence, install it and show you how to use it.

The companies that have come to Panorama to demonstrate their phone are:

- [Caption Call](#), 1-877-557-2227
- [CapTel](#), 1-800-1-233-9130
- [Clear Captions](#), 1-866-996-1498

MACBOOK PRO

For captions on your Mac computer:

1. Click on Settings Icon
2. Click on Accessibility, left menu
3. Under the Hearing category, click on Live Captions

4. At the top, click on the dot, it will turn blue
You can also click on “Live Captions in Facetime” if you want
You can also click on the up/down arrows and pick certain settings.

[Click Here](#) for the Apple Help.

MOVIE THEATERS

Sony Entertainment Access Glasses [Click Here](#)

CaptiView, [Click Here](#)

NPR article, Closed caption glasses, [Click Here](#)

[Ark Movie Theater](#), Seattle

POWERPOINT CAPTIONS

Microsoft PowerPoint Captions, [Click Here](#)

THEATER CAPTIONS

[McCall Hall](#), Seattle, WA. All performances at McCaw Hall feature English supertitles that are visible from every seat.

[Village Theater](#), Issaquah, WA has caption and ASL performances.

Theater Apps

Gamiotics [Click Here](#)

GalaPro [Click Here](#)

TV CAPTIONS

Xfinity Remote — Press “B” on your remote to turn off/on captions

TV Disney+ [Click Here](#)

TV Paramount+ [Click Here](#)

Making caption display settings more accessible [Click Here](#)

YOUTUBE

For a video of how to turn on YouTube Captions, [Click Here](#)

VIDEO CONFERENCES

FCC Ruling Requires Captions [Click Here](#) and [Click Here](#)

Microsoft Team Meeting Captions: [Click Here](#)

Zoom Meeting Captions: [Click Here](#)

CART - COMMUNICATION ACCESS REAL-TIME TRANSLATION

For the following States, there are free captions for video conferences, by a real time person captioner. Submit a form:

- [CART - Remote Conference Captioning \(RCC\), Washington State,](#)
- [CART – Remote Conference Captioning \(RCC\), California.](#)

CHEMOTHERAPY AND HEARING LOSS

Preventing hearing loss [Click Here](#)

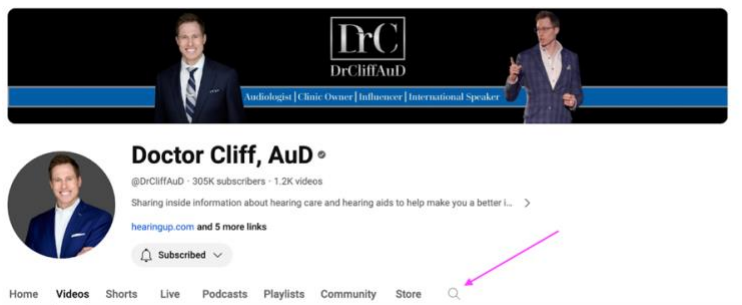
If you have been treated with cisplatin-based chemotherapy, [Click Here](#)

Researcher develops drug delivery systems for chemo-induced hearing loss. [Click Here.](#)

CHILDREN'S TV PROGRAM

PBS Kids Podcast about a teacher with hearing loss, "Lend Me Your Ear". [Click Here](#) to see it on YouTube.

CLIFF OLSON, AU.D.



Be sure you are using the magnifying glass next to his **Subscribe** button and NOT the YouTube search at the top: On Olson's menu, you may need to click an arrow on the far right, to see his magnifying glass as pictured above. [Click Here](#)

Be sure to click on the gear icon (bottom right corner) to

- set captions (CC) on

- slow down audio

Be sure to skip the ads; after 4 seconds there will be a SKIP button on the lower right of the video

CLINICAL TRIALS

For National Institutes of Health listing, [Click Here](#).

A search on “clinical trials” (Dr. Cliff Olson’s website) produces this list of videos: [Click Here](#)

COCHLEAR IMPLANTS

- This study may explain why some cochlear implant recipients have hearing improved immediately after implant, while others take years. [Click Here](#)
- Fully implanted Cochlear Implants, update [Click Here](#)
- Research: Do Cochlear Implants affect Personality? [Click Here](#) to read about this study.
- Tuning Cochlear Implants: The maps the team created should make a huge difference to the sound quality of cochlear implants. [Click Here](#)
- The Panorama Hearing Loss Program on Cochlear Implants, by Dr. Chad Ruffin, MD 3/1/24 was taped. [Click Here](#)
- Cochlear Implant Facebook Swap, [Click Here](#)
- When is the time to Ditch your Hearing Aids for a Cochlear Implant? Get out your audiogram and [Click Here](#) for the 8 min video.
- Cochlear Clinical Trial on microphone for Totally Implanted Cochlear Implant. [Click Here](#)

COMMUNICATION RIGHTS UNDER ADA

The ADA specifies your rights to receive effective communication. [Click Here](#)

COMMUNICATION DISORDER

[Communication Disorders NIH](#)

CONTRAST CHECKER – ACCESSIBILITY VISION LOSS

If you have web publicity material and you wish to check the web content accessibility guidelines for this content you can test your materials. [Click Here](#)

COSTCO HEARING AIDS 2024

[Costco Hearing Centers Review](#)

[Costco Jabra and Philips Hearing Aids Review](#)

[Costco Rexton Hearing Aids Review](#)

CRUISE LINE ACCOMMODATIONS

- [Norwegian Cruise Accommodations](#)
- [Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines](#) is installing an "Audio Over WiFi" assistive listening system on their ships. "Passengers with Bluetooth-enabled hearing aids or cochlear implants can stream the audio directly from their smartphones to their hearing devices, the company says" (However I would check with my audiologist to confirm my hearing aids will work.)

DEMENTIA AND HEARING LOSS

The Hearing Review magazine devotes an issue to this topic. [Click Here](#)

A study involving over 1 million participants [Click Here](#)

ACHIEVE Study: ADA (Doctors of Audiology) report the results on hearing loss & dementia. [Click Here](#)

Research: Can an Ear-EEG be used to diagnose Alzheimers & Parkinsons early? [Click Here](#)

DISASTER RELIEF

Some Hearing Aid and Cochlear Implant Manufacturers may replace your equipment in a natural disaster. Scroll to the bottom of page. [Click Here](#)

DISEASE, EAR

[Red Flag Warnings of Ear Disease](#)

DMV VISOR CARDS

Hard of Hearing Visor Card is available to carry in your car.

[Washington State](#)

DRUG-BASED HEARING THERAPY

Currently, in clinical trials, SPI-1005 has shown safety and efficacy in treating three different forms of acquired sensorineural hearing loss in adults: loud sound exposure or acute noise-induced hearing loss, Ménière's disease, and antibiotic-induced ototoxicity. [Click Here](#) Are stem cells a possibility? [Click Here](#). Read about the development of a "biobank" for genetic hearing loss. [Click Here](#)

EARLENS

This is an expensive hearing aid placed on the eardrum, to give you more hearing frequency range. Used by some musicians. The closest office is in Portland, Oregon. [Click Here](#)

EYEGASSES FOR LOW VISION

Essilor Luxottica's Nuance with enhanced audio glasses (Beta):

1. [Click Here](#) for CES Wearable Review
2. [Click Here](#) for Dr. Cliff Olson's Interview

[Vuzix eyeglasses](#) can speak scanned text, allowing the visually impaired to 'read' anything from street signs, novels, handwritten notes, and much more.

EYEGASSES THAT CAPTION CONVERSATIONS

Captify, announced at CES Convention [Click Here](#) and [Click Here](#)

Hearsight with Active Look's ENGO Glasses [Click Here](#)

TranscribeGlass, [Click Here](#). For the AirCaps Demo at Panorama CCRC, Lacey, WA on Feb 8, 2025, [Click Here](#) -- AirCaps has changed its name to TranscribeGlass.

Vuzix, [Click Here](#)

Xander, [Click Here](#) and [Click Here](#)

Xrai.glass, [Click Here](#)

Hearview, [Click Here](#)

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

[Northwest Access Fund](#)

Hearing Industries Association Guide to financial assistance programs for hearing aids [Click Here](#)

Financial Assistance spreadsheet of resources [Click Here](#)

GENE THERAPY FOR INHERITED DEAFNESS

- Restores hearing in an eleven year old due to a congenital otoferlin (OTOF) deficiency [Click Here](#) and [Click Here](#)
- Breakthroughs on hereditary hearing loss (CBS News) [Click Here](#)

- More information about the otoferlin (OTOF) protein [Click Here](#) and [Click Here](#)
- Hearing Review Magazine discussion [Click Here](#)
- Here is an update on this trial. [Click Here](#)

GOOGLE MAPS

If you are a telecoil user, Google Maps includes information on Hearing Loops at venues. [Click Here](#)

HEARING ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY

Hearing Assistive Technology (HAT) includes personal amplifiers, safety alerting devices, doorbells, personal FMs, and assistive listening systems, to name a few.

Be sure to ask for **Telecoil and Bluetooth** to be installed in your new hearing instruments. Why both? Each **turns your hearing aids into headphones**, but each technology is used in different hearing situations. With both installed, you have the benefit of hearing well in multiple environments. In my experience, the quality & clarity of the sound are the same for both technologies, using their respective ideal situations.

Here is a chart to send sound directly into your hearing instruments via Bluetooth and Telecoil.

SITUATION	BLUETOOTH	TELECOIL
Ease of turning it on/off?	Once paired, Bluetooth automatically activates	You manually activate the telecoil program setting to turn it on or off.
How to activate it?	You must pair the hearing instrument to your device. Pairing instructions will be in your user manual.	Manually activate the telecoil in your hearing instrument by pressing a button or using your app.
Types	Bluetooth Classic Bluetooth LE Bluetooth Auracast, emerging	Permanently installed room loops, portable hearing loops and neckloops to connect to FM and infrared ALS, etc.
What kind of sound?	Stereo Sound	Mono Sound
Energy source	Need to charge your devices	Batteries
Hearing Situation: Large Auditorium with installed room loop (e.g, Quinault Seattle Room)	Not available	Turn on your telecoil. It automatically connects to the room's sound system.

<p>Hearing Situation: Large Auditorium without room loop (e.g. Panorama Auditorium)</p>	<p>Not available</p>	<p>Check out a neck loop from the usher & place around your neck. Connect it to the FM black receiver box. Turn that on and check to be sure it is on the correct channel; turn on your telecoil & adjust volume.</p>
<p>Hearing Situation: Hear your cellphone calls in your hearing aids.</p>	<p>Calls come into your hearing aids automatically. With some phones, you may speak to the incoming caller if your smartphone is within Bluetooth range (about 30 feet).</p>	<p>Activate your telecoil and connect the cord of the neckloop to your smartphone's audio port (round hole) to hear the caller. You may speak to the incoming caller by talking into your smartphone.</p>
<p>Hearing Situation: stream TV audio to your hearing instruments</p>	<p>Bluetooth TV, pair your Bluetooth hearing instruments to the TV. Non Bluetooth TV, you will need an additional assistive listening device like a Phonak Roger to stream the audio wirelessly to your hearing instruments.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use a proprietary TV connector • Connect your neckloop to the TV's audio port with an audio cable; put neckloop around your neck, turn on your telecoil.
<p>Hearing Situation: Stream video or music on your smartphone to your hearing aids.</p>	<p>Pair your hearing instruments to the smartphone, Bluetooth should stream automatically.</p>	<p>Connect your neckloop to the smartphone's audio port with an audio cable; put neckloop around your neck, turn on your telecoil.</p>

- **Telecoil:** You can find public hearing loop locations on Google Maps. How? [Click Here](#)
- **Telecoil:** How to use telecoil at home: [Click Here](#)
- **Bluetooth:** Do my hearing aids pair with my Apple devices? [Click Here](#)
- **Bluetooth:** How to connect Bluetooth hearing aids to MacBook Pro. [Click Here](#) and [Click Here](#). For a list of compatible hearing aids [Click Here](#)

To explore hearing assistive technology, I would start with the free or generic technology that crosses most brands/models of hearing aids (telecoil) and then move up to pricier equipment, as needed.

Hearing instruments have limitations and may not be enough in all situations. Once you purchase a hearing aid, you may soon discover there are situations where you still need extra help to hear. "For example, my mother lived with me, and I wore hearing aids. But

her voice was so soft I could not hear her well. I purchased a "Bluetooth clip-on microphone", which she wore daily at home. It solved my problem as I could hear her perfectly, even as she whispered from the other room.

Here is some additional information on assistive technology:

- Premium vs Basic Technology Level: Is the difference in price worth it? [Click Here](#)
- When selecting the Dome and Vent Size for your hearing aid the hearing care professional should do a "Feedback Manager Check". [Click Here](#)
- Are Your Hearing Aids Locked?_What are locked hearing aids? To find out [Click Here](#)
- Five Questions to Ask Before you Schedule an Appointment to Buy Hearing Aids. [Click Here](#)
- Extend the life of your hearing aids & note the "end of warranty refurbishment". [Click Here](#)
- What you Don't Know about your Hearing Aids, Juliëtte Sterkens —TEDx Oshkosh Talk [Click Here](#)

HEARING AID REVIEWS

HearingTracker, 117 models, [Click Here](#)

HearAdvisor, review hearing aid and earplug sound performance, [Click Here](#)

Dr. Cliff, best hearing aids **2025**, [Click Here](#)

Dr Cliff's Hearing Aid Buyer Guide, **2025**, [Click Here](#)

Dr. Cliff, best hearing aids **2024**, [Click Here](#)

If you wish to see only one selection of the 2024 YouTube, click on the number below.

[0:00:00](#) Introduction

[0:01:34](#) Oticon Real One

[0:05:33](#) Disclosure Statement

[0:06:11](#) ReSound Nexia 9

[0:10:39](#) Signia Pure Charge&Go 7 IX

[0:14:27](#) Phonak Audeo Lumity 90

[0:20:43](#) Cost of Hearing Aids

[0:22:08](#) Starkey Genesis AI 2400

[0:25:26](#) Recap

HEARING DOGS

Service Dogs for people with hearing loss.

Assistance Dogs International [Click Here](#)

Canine Companions [Click Here](#)

Dogs for Better Lives [Click Here](#)

Paragon Service Dogs [Click Here](#)

Pause with a Cause [Click Here](#)

San Simon Foundation, [Click Here](#)

Watch the Puppy Cam! [Click Here](#)

HEARING INSTRUMENT DRYERS

Dr. Cliff, Hearing Aid Dryer review [Click Here](#)

ReDux Home Hearing Aid Dryer, 15% discount code DRCLIFF, [Click Here](#)

If you have questions, write an email to: support@redux.com

HEARING RESEARCH

"This was the first study that has 'rescued' hearing in aging mice. [Click Here](#) and for another article [Click Here](#)

HEARING TESTS

The National Council on Aging (NCA), evaluated online hearing tests. 2025 [Click Here](#)

- [Jabra Enhance](#): Easiest to Use
- [Phonak](#): Simplest Results
- [Eargo](#): Best for Virtual Follow-Up Appointments
- [MDHearing](#): Best Detailed Results
- [Best Buy](#): Best Retailer Test
- [Healthy Hearing](#): Best Multiple-Choice Test

For a hearing test by an audiologist, make sure it includes a **QuickSIN** (speech in noise) test. Here is the reason why: [Click Here](#) Be sure you leave with your audiogram in hand!

HIDDEN HEARING LOSS, AUDITORY NEUROPATHY

Do You Have a Normal Audiogram, but Problems Hearing in Background Noise?

You may have a **Hidden Hearing Loss**. Dr. Cliff Olson addresses the 4th type of hearing loss, called Hidden Hearing Loss. [Click Here](#) & fast-forward to minute 7:20 to hear about this specific condition.

Popular Science article about Hidden Hearing Loss,. [Click Here](#).

Diagnosing Hidden Hearing Loss: [Click Here](#) and [Click Here](#)

HEARING LOSS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA (HLAA) WEBSITES

Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA), [Click Here](#)

Hearing Loss Association of America Washington State Association (HLAA-WA), [Click Here](#)

HLAA-Washington state HOPE Support Group [Click Here](#)

HLAA-Washington E-News [Click Here](#)

HLAA Washington Chapters and Support Groups

- HLAA-Northwest Washington, Larry Wonnacott, President, 360-656-6457, www.hearingloss-whatcom.org
- Panorama Support Group, Olympia-Lacey, WA, Carolyn Odio, carolyn@odio.com
- Renton Support Group, Renton, WA, Glenda Philio, philiofam@gmail.com

HOPE SUPPORT GROUP, HEARING OTHER PEOPLES EXPERIENCES

HLAA Washington State Association hearing loss Zoom support group meets the 1st Wednesday of the month from 4 to 5:15 PM. To register [Click Here](#)

HOSPITAL EXPERIENCES

St Joseph's, Bellingham, WA

Sept 2024 "I had surgery in Bellingham. The entire experience was SO POSITIVE I'd go there again in a minute! Personnel had contacted me 3 times by phone before I arrived. When I checked in, they immediately gave me a rather large name tag that said, hard of hearing or deaf. EVERY person I talked to was aware of what I needed as a hearing-impaired person.

The admitting clerk came around from behind her desk and brought a chair to face-to-face to ask me questions. Then, the OR nurse positioned me right next to her as she asked further questions and entered the data into her computer. My doctor knew I was hearing-impaired and took off her mask to talk with me before I went into surgery. I wanted to make sure to talk to the anesthesiologist and he ALSO came right to my eye level, removed his mask and we talked."

EVERY person I encountered knew I was hearing-impaired and made accommodations for me. The recovery room nurse got right up next to me to communicate and then the male nurse (I

love that lower voice) spoke to me directly, watching my face all the time as I prepared to be discharged.

It was a hearing-impaired person's dream during the whole experience. All the advocacy work we all do IS ACTUALLY WORKING!! Just wanted to share this because it was SO awesome."
(Erlene)

HYBRID MEETINGS

Quinault Auditorium (Lower Level, 1835 Circle Lane, SE, Lacey, WA 98503) Instructions:

The auditorium holds a maximum of 300 people. There is a wall panel that sets up the configuration of screens and an instruction sheet.

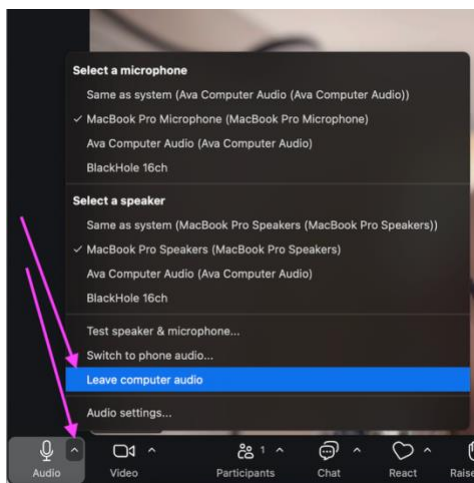
There are 2 screens in front. The left screen is connected to Zoom. You need the Zoom ID and Passcode to join a Zoom meeting (as host).

Audio: The right screen is connected via HDMI, so a separate computer can be attached. To prevent audio feedback, it is important to turn off the audio on that computer, or any other laptop that is in the room, as follows:

Video: The in-person audience is shown together and therefore are not separated by Zoom video shots. IT help is not available on the weekend for troubleshooting. During weekday hours call Jacqueie x6044.

Volunteers needed:

- Host to lead the meetings, upfront
- Zoom host at a table, running the Zoom



A Couple of Volunteers

- add chairs during the program, if needed
- each having a microphone standing on each side of the room for Q&A
- handing out programs, evaluations, sign-in sheet, etc.
- explain the Assistive Listening System to individuals as they enter the room; telecoil, volume control, handing it out, etc.

HYPERACUSIS

When everyday sound levels become unbearably loud and painful, [Click Here](#)

There are several types of sound identified [Click Here](#)

LIBRARIES

[Collection of Hearing Loss Resources](#) (Zotero) Collections on the left; resources in the middle; [details here](#)

[Washington Assistive Technology Lending Library \(WATAP\)](#) Local libraries e.g. Timberland, also have their Assistive Devices [Click Here](#)

[NIH Multimedia Library](#) Share our multimedia content! To view, use sharing tools, and see embeddable code, click on the thumbnail image. Information on our website is in the public domain, but we appreciate when you link to the source and when credit is given to the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders, National Institutes of Health.

LIP READING

Lip reading / Speech reading activates the brain region like real speech. [Click Here](#)

Introductory remarks: [Click Here](#)

Websites:

1. <https://hearinglosslive.com/lipreading-classes/>
2. <https://lipreadingpractice.co.uk/>
3. <https://www.lipreading.org/>
4. <https://seehear.us/accounts/home/>

MÉNIÈRE'S DISEASE

[National Insitutes of Health Discussion](#) (NIH)

Zoom Monthly Support Group: Email your request to info@hearinglosspen.org to receive an invite.

Trial, Phase 3 Treatment for Meniere's Disease, [Click Here](#)

MICROPLASTICS AND HEARING LOSS

To read about this [Click Here](#)

MOVIES

- Sound of Metal: Amazon Prime Video [Click Here](#)
- CODA: Apple TV Video [Click Here](#)
- We Hear You Now – a hearing Loss Documentary. [Click Here](#)

- Wonderstruck: Amazon Prime Video [Click Here](#)
- The Miracle Worker: Amazon Prime Video [Click Here](#)
- Rally Caps, released in Sept 2024, this film which takes on the stigma of hearing loss, mental health & bullying. [Click Here](#) to read about it.

MUSIC & MUSICIANS

- Best Hearing Aid Music Settings? [Click Here](#)
- Phonak Active Vent Receivers [Click Here](#)
- HLAA gives several ideas and websites to help enhance your listening experience. [Click Here](#)
- [Earlens](#) is an expensive hearing aid that covers more sound frequencies and therefore used by some musicians.
- How to use Bluetooth and Hearing Aids for a live performance. [Click Here](#)
- Association of Adult Musicians with Hearing Loss [Click Here](#)

MUSICAL EAR SYNDROME

What is Musical Ear Syndrome? [Click Here](#)

Three Facebook Support Groups:

- [Click Here](#)
- [Click Here](#)
- [Click Here](#)

OVER-THE-COUNTER HEARING AIDS

Over-the-counter (OTC) hearing aids were authorized by the FDA on September 12, 2024, for mild to moderate hearing loss.

- FDA Press Release, [Click Here](#) Check your [audiogram](#) to find your level of loss.
- HLAA Webinar Series on OTC Hearing Aids, [Click Here](#)
- From Consumer Reports: How to Tell if OTC Hearing Aids are Right for You. [Click Here](#)
- How do you evaluate OTC Hearing Aids? [Click Here](#)
- HearAdvisor, an independent hearing aid testing lab, recommends top OTC hearing aids. Select the OTC option: [Click Here](#)
- The [Lexie Lumen](#) OTC hearing aid has a **telecoil**.
- Eyeglasses that have OTC hearing aids built in are Nuance Audio [Click Here](#)
- The Best 2025 OTC hearing aids:
 - National Council On Aging - NCOA.org [Click Here](#)
 - Forbes [Click Here](#)
 - Consumers Guide [Click Here](#)
 - AARP [Click Here](#)

- Wirecutter – New York Times [Click Here](#)
- Dr. Cliff Olson reviews **Apple AirPods Pro2**, [Click Here](#). With AirPods Pro 2, iOS 18 you can take a hearing test as well as set them up to use as hearing aids. For a setup tutorial by Dr. Cliff Olson, [Click Here](#). Remember, you can slow down the audio and select captions in YouTube by using the gear icon in the lower right corner.

ORGANIZATIONS – HEARING LOSS

- [Academy of Doctors of Audiology \(ADA\)](#)
- [ACI Alliance](#)
- [ADA National Network](#)
- [Advanced Bionics, cochlear implant manufacturer](#)
- [The Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing \(AG Bell\)](#)
- [American Academy of Audiology \(AAA\)](#)
- [American Academy of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery \(AAO-HNS\)](#)
- [American Speech-Language-Hearing Association \(ASHA\)](#)
- [American Tinnitus Association](#)
- [Association of Court Reports and Captioners \(NCRA\)](#)
- [Association of Late-Deafened Adults \(ALDA\)](#)
- [Association of Medical Professionals with Hearing Losses \(AMPHL\)](#)
- [Audiology Practice Standards Organization \(APSO\)](#)
- [Bar Association \(Deaf & Hard of Hearing \(DHHBA\)](#)
- [Bionics Institute](#)
- [British Cochlear Implant Group](#)
- [Canadian HARD of HEARING Association \(CHHA-Hamilton\)](#)
- [CART - Remote Conference Captioning \(RCC\), Washington State](#), FREE
- [CART – Remote Conference Captioning \(RCC\), California](#). FREE
- [Center for Hearing Access](#)

- [Cochlear America – cochlear implant manufacturer](#)
- [Cochlear Implant International Community of Action \(CIICA\)](#)
- [Deafness Forum of Australia](#)
- [Deafness Foundation Australia](#)
- [Deafopia](#)
- [Ear Community](#)
- [European Association of Cochlear Implant Users \(EURO-CIU \)](#)
- [European Federation of Hard of Hearing People \(EFHOH\)](#)
- [The Global Alliance of Speech-to-Text Captioning](#)
- [Hands & Voices](#)
- [Hearing Link \(Part of Hearing Dogs for Deaf People\)](#)
- [Hearing Health Foundation \(HHF\)](#)
- [Hearing Health & Technology](#)
- [Hearing Industries Association](#)
- [Hearing Loss Association of America \(HLAA\)](#)
- [The Hearing Review](#)
- [Hearing Tracker](#)
- [HLAA Washington State Association](#)
- [Ida Institute](#)
- [Industry-Consumer Alliance Access for Technology \(ICAAT\)](#)
- [International Federation of Hard of Hearing People \(IFHOH\)](#)
- [International Hearing Society](#)
- [Let's Loop Seattle](#)
- [Med-El cochlear implant manufacturer](#)
- [NIH-NIDCD](#)
- [NIHR University College London Hospitals Biomedical Research Centre](#)

- [Northwest Academy of Audiology \(NWAA\)](#)
- [Office of Deaf & Hard of Hearing](#) (DSHS), Washington State
- [Paid Research Opportunities](#)
- [Pindrop Foundation](#)
- [RNID-UK](#)
- [Shedd Institute Center for Hearing Access](#)
- [Virginia Assistive Technology](#)
- [Washington State Association of the Deaf \(WSAD\)](#)
- [TDIforAccess, Inc](#), (TDI)
- [Tinnitus Hub](#)
- [Usher Syndrome Coalition](#)
- [Zotero Library for Assistive Listening](#)

PODCASTS

[Hearing Matters](#), Podcast

QUESTIONNAIRES

When you visit an audiologist, it is handy to have filled out a special questionnaire to let them know in what situations you have the most difficulty hearing. There are three types of questionnaires in use: [APHAB](#), [COSI](#), [IOI-HA](#)

Please fill one out on a regular basis and keep it with your hearing test and audiogram to help track your hearing loss.

REAL EAR MEASUREMENT (REM)

Real Ear Measurement is a most important best practice. [Click Here](#)

ROGER DEVICES - PHONAK

How to network up to 10 Roger Devices [Click Here](#)

How to connect a Roger Pen (mini-microphone) with a Roger MyLink (neckloop), so you can use your telecoil with any brand of hearing aids [Click Here](#)

SLEEP & HEARING LOSS

In a Hearing Loss and Sleep Study, the authors write, "We hypothesize that sleep disturbances are associated with hearing loss. With a higher prevalence of both sleep disturbances and hearing loss with older age, we also explored how the associations might differ by age. [Click Here](#)

SMARTPHONES

FCC requires all mobile phones to be hearing aid compatible. [Click Here](#)

SPANISH RESOURCES

Resources for Hispanic/Latino/a/x Individuals with Disabilities:

- [NIDILRR-funded Resources for Latinx/Hispanics with Disabilities and Their Families](#)
- [Deaf Latinos y Familias Organization](#) (English/español)
- [National Coalition for Latinxs with Disabilities](#) (English/español)
- [NAMI — Latino/a/x Resources](#)
- [NAMI — La salud mental en la comunidad latina](#) (español)
- [NARIC — Encontrar recursos en su comunidad](#) (español)

SPEECH IN NOISE TEST

QuickSIN Test (SIN=Speech in Noise) Audiologists can give you a test to assess your ability to hear speech in background noise. This QuickSIN Test can be given along with your hearing test — but you must ask for it. That score normally appears at the top of your audiogram. For an explanation of the QuickSIN test, [Click Here](#)

Compare your score to this chart:

SNR-Loss 0-3 dB	Normal/Near Normal
SNR-Loss 3-7 dB	Mild SIN Disability
SNR-Loss 7-15 dB	Moderate SIN Disability
SNR-Loss >15 dB	Severe SIN Disability

Table 1. Guidelines for interpreting QuickSIN test results.

The interesting thing is that your ability to hear speech in noise is a completely different measurement than the Audiogram chart. Some people with normal hearing can have more difficulty with this than some people that have a hearing loss! Here is the research presentation

Matthew Fitzgerald, PhD, Chief of Audiology, Stanford Ear Institute presents “Why Can’t I Hear in Background Noise and What Can I Do About It?” [Click Here](#) (Advance to 0:05:26)

[STATISTICS](#)

In Thurston County, WA around 75% of the 75 year and over population have hearing loss. [Click Here](#)

For the map, [Click Here](#)

SUDDEN HEARING LOSS

Treat this as a medical emergency.

- What are the symptoms? [Click Here](#)
- New Research Highlights Potential of AC102 to Treat Acute Hearing Loss. [Click Here](#)
- Sudden hearing loss is often treated with anti-inflammatory corticosteroids without regulatory approval or reliable evidence of effectiveness. Therefore, new treatment options are urgently needed for this condition. [Click Here](#)
- Notably, the strongest predictor of recovery was steroid treatment within the first seven days, with patients who received early treatment having more than five times the odds of complete recovery compared to those who did not receive treatment. [Click Here](#)
- For notes on therapy [Click Here](#)

TED TALKS

Juliëtte Sterkens – What you Don’t Know About Hearing Aids [Click Here](#)

TELECOIL

A telecoil is a small copper coil installed inside your hearing instrument. Telecoil turns your hearing aids into virtual headphones by sending the microphone sound directly into your hearing instrument. You need to be inside a “hearing loop” to activate it. There are many kinds of loops: room loops, neck loops, portable counter loops, etc. You can use telecoil at home or in public.

If a public venue does not have a room loop installed, their assistive hearing technology may involve handing out a neckloop -- if you have telecoil, which connects to FM or infrared technology.

- How much of a difference in sound does telecoil make? [Click Here.](#)
- For a chart comparing telecoil and Bluetooth, go to the HAT (hearing assistive technology) section of this document.

- Buying New Hearing Aids? Be sure they have both Telecoil and Bluetooth capability! [Click Here](#)
- Can I use telecoil at home? [Click Here](#). You can check out a neckloop from the Panorama Library staff to give it a try at home.

TINNITUS

- **What is Tinnitus - NIH**
- For the trial results of this FDA approved Lenire treatment, [Click Here](#) and [Click Here](#).
- For the relationship of tinnitus and TMJ [Click Here](#).
- Review of Tinearity G1 FDA approved device, **Hearing Tracker** [Click Here](#)
- Review of Lenire Treatment FDA approved treatment [Click Here](#)
- If you have severe tinnitus, the VA now has the FDA approved Lenire Tinnitus Treatment option. [Click Here](#)
- Research on psychological effects of tinnitus, **Psychology Today** [Click Here](#)
- Tinnitus & retraining the brain, **Washington Post** [Click Here](#)
- Cochlear nerve damage associated with tinnitus (NIH) [Click Here](#)
- Genetic foundations of tinnitus, **Hearing Tracker** [Click Here](#)
- Musician explains his tinnitus experience in relation to his music. [Click Here](#)
- Research on relationship to Vitamin D [Click Here](#)
- Tinnitus May Be Linked to “Hidden Hearing Loss”. Read in NBC News via Apple News: [Click Here](#).
- [Click Here](#) or another article where researchers link it to auditory nerve degeneration in individuals with normal hearing tests.
- Research: Could Severe Tinnitus be Treated with a Brain Implant? [Click Here](#)
- What is Pulsatile Tinnitus? If you hear a rhythmic sound in your ears that matches your heartbeat, you might be experiencing pulsatile tinnitus. In this video, audiologist Matthew Allsop explains what sets it apart from other forms of tinnitus and why it’s important to take it seriously. [Click Here](#). And for an article on management of it [Click Here](#) and [Click Here](#).

USHER SYNDROME

Scientists advance new gene therapy. [Click Here](#)

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

How to navigate the VA system, 10 min video. [Click Here](#)

If you have severe tinnitus, the VA now has the FDA-approved Lenire Tinnitus Treatment option. [Click Here](#)

If you are interested in participating in a veteran's group, email Steven, who is a member of a Zoom group: steve.sterry@gmail.com

WASHINGTON STATE DRIVER LICENSE

You may update your driver's license to include a symbol to indicate you are hard of hearing. [Click Here](#)

WASHINGTON STATE DEPT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES (DSHS)

Office of Deaf and Hard of Hearing (ODHH) Services:

- [Assistive Communication Technology \(ACT\)](#)
- [Case Management](#)
- [Community Resources](#)
- [Family Mentor Services](#)
- [Hard of Hearing Resources](#)
- [Sign Language Interpreter Contracts and Resources](#)
- [Telecommunication Equipment Distribution \(TED\)](#)
- [Telecommunication Relay Service \(TRS\)](#)
- [Training and Presentation](#)
- **Who We Are:** The Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (ODHH) provides programs and services for Deaf, Deaf-blind, Deaf-disabled, hard of hearing, late-deafened, and speech disabled individuals, their families, and service providers in Washington State.
- **What We Do:** ODHH operates under the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) and is entrusted with fulfilling its legislative mandate outlined in RCW 43.20A.725. ODHH's work includes:
 - **Advocacy:** ODHH advocates for the rights, interests, and needs of individuals who are Deaf, Deaf-blind, deaf disabled, hard of hearing, late-deafened, and Speech Disabled. The Office works to eliminate communication barriers and promote equal opportunities in various service areas, including training, consultation, contract management, information and referrals, and resources to promote communication equity.
 - **Coordination:** ODHH is a centralized resource. The Office collaborates with governmental, business, and community stakeholders to develop and implement policies, programs, and initiatives that address and ensure that state services and resources are accessible and inclusive to all Washingtonians.

[ODHH News](#)

[ODHH Staff](#)

ODHH [Application for Equipment](#)

ODHH has some equipment to distribute for people with mild to severe hearing loss. You can apply to borrow this equipment for a small charge. There are iPads, iPhones, ring signaling and alert devices such as a lamp that blinks when the telephone is ringing, etc.

For other accommodation requests, contact odhhaccessrequest@dshs.wa.gov

Contact Us!

800-422-7930 Voice

425-461-3603 Videophone

odhh@dshs.wa.gov

WRITERS

Request for Hearing-Challenged Poetry Submissions – Deadline April 15, 2025. [Click Here](#)