## **TECHNOLOGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TAP)**

The Virginia Department for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (VDDHH) offers specialized telecommunication equipment and assistive technology devices to qualified applicants as a solution to their communication needs through the Technology Assistance Program (TAP). To qualify for TAP you must be a resident of the Commonwealth of Virginia, meet income eligibility requirements (for equipment at no cost) and fall into one of the following categories:

- Deaf
- Hard of Hearing
- Person with difficulty speaking
- Have both a hearing and vision loss
- Veteran with hearing loss and an Honorable Discharge (Documentation of Veteran status required)
- Surviving spouse/child with a hearing loss of a Veteran killed in active duty (Documentation of Veteran status required)
- National Guard member with a hearing loss (Leave Earning Statement required)

Equipment available through TAP includes but is not limited to:

Amplified telephones

- Assistive listening devices
- o Cell phone accessories

- Alerting Devices & Accessories
- Captioned telephones
- Special requests

#### **TAP APPLICATION PROCESS**

1.	Application	Complete TAP Application and gather required documentation: Proof of VA state residency <u>and</u> income verification (income verification <u>NOT</u> required for Veterans, their surviving spouse/children or National Guard members).
2.	Intake & Eligibility	Submit documentation to your Regional Deaf/Hard of Hearing (D/HH) Specialist (see TAP contact on page 3) or email to <a href="mailto:TAP@vddhh.virginia.gov">TAP@vddhh.virginia.gov</a> . Specialist will process your application then schedule an appointment to discuss your specific needs, review available equipment, as well as outline next steps.
3.	Equipment Distribution	During your appointment, you and your Specialist will test available equipment to determine which device(s) best meet your needs. Device(s) will be assigned to you for a 30 day trial period. Within 30 days, Specialist will follow up with you to ensure the equipment is a good fit.

#### 1. Application

TAP applications are available to any resident in the Commonwealth of Virginia. All applicants must submit a complete and signed application. In addition to your TAP application, you will need to provide your Regional D/HH Specialist with one document from each column below as Specialists are required to verify proof of residency as well as family gross income. While there are no age restrictions for participation in TAP, all applications from minors must be cosigned by a parent or legal guardian.

'Family gross income' is defined as the income, total cash receipts before taxes from all sources for the applicant, their dependents, and any person legally required to support the applicant, including a spouse.

Proof of Residency	Family Gross income			
Current Lease or Deed	Most recent bank statement or W2			
Current Virginia Driver's license, Virginia issued ID or Voter Registration card	Current income/benefits award letter (SSI,SSDI,SSA, SNAP)			
Utility bill	Any other form of proof approved by VDDHH			

If you do not qualify for equipment at no cost, it can be purchased at the state contracted cost with a Pay Coupon.

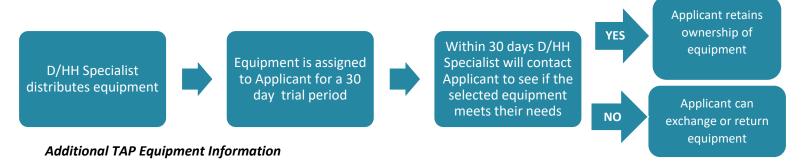
Your Regional Specialist can provide additional information about this option.

### 2. Intake & Eligibility

Specialist will contact you to discuss your specific needs, review available TAP equipment and help you to identify which device best fits your communication needs. Each Regional TAP office is equipped with a display that shows all available equipment. Your Specialist will schedule an appointment with you to test and distribute selected equipment.

### 3. Equipment Distribution

Equipment will be assigned to qualified individuals for a 30 day trial period. This gives you up to 30 days to determine if the selected device meet your communication needs. During the 30-day period, if it is determined that the equipment does <u>not</u> meet your needs, you have the option to return or exchange the equipment. At the end of the 30-day period, if you feel that the equipment meets your needs, you retain ownership of the equipment.



- o Applicants can reapply for new equipment every 4 years.
- All equipment received through TAP carries a minimum one (1) year warranty. Some devices have longer warranties (Specialist can provide more details).
- Exchange of equipment prior to the 4 year renewal period may be permitted (additional documentation required) in cases where the original equipment can no longer be used by a recipient due to deteriorating vision or hearing or when a new device has become available through TAP and is deemed more appropriate to the applicant's disability than a device previously issued to the Applicant.

#### **2022 TAP INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES**

To be eligible for the TAP program, your family income must be below 250% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, as shown in the following table:

Number of persons in family	Annual Income	Monthly Income
1	\$ 33,975	\$ 2,831
2	\$ 45,775	\$ 3,915
3	\$ 57,575	\$ 4,798
4	\$ 69,375	\$ 5,781
5	\$ 81,175	\$ 6,765
6	\$ 92,950	\$ 7,748
7	\$ 104,775	\$ 8,731
8	\$ 116,575	\$ 9,715

For families with more than 8 people, add \$4,720 for each additional person.

## **MAP OF TAP REGIONS**



# **TAP CONTACT LIST**

Region	Service Provider	Mailing Address	Phone Number	Email Address	
Region 1, 2, 3 and 6	Deaf and Hard of Hearing Service Center (DHHSC)	P.O. Box 20444 Roanoke, VA 24018	(540) 613-8608	dhhscinc@gmail.com	
Region 4	Northern Virginia Resource Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing (NVRC)	3951 Pender Drive Suite 130 Fairfax, VA 22030	(703) 352-9055	execdirector@nvrc.org	
Region 5	Virginia Department for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (VDDHH)	10300 Spotsylvania Ave #220 Fredericksburg, VA 22408	(804) 662-9502	tap@vddhh.virginia.gov	
Region 7	Virginia Department for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (VDDHH)	1602 Rolling Hills Drive Suite 203 Richmond, VA 23229	(804) 662-9502	tap@vddhh.virginia.gov	
Region 8	Endependence Center, Inc. (ECI)	6300 E. Virginia Beach Blvd Norfolk, VA 23502	(757) 351-1584	mhollowell@endependence.org	

# **TECHNOLOGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TAP) APPLICATION**

APPLICANT INFORMATION									
Last Name:			First Name:			Middle Initial:		Birth date:	
Application Type:			Application Date:			Veteran Status:		uute.	
Home Address:									
City:	County:					State:	VA	Zip:	
Email Address:									
Phone Numbers:	Primary  □VP	, □Voice □ T					Other Contact Name/Number		
			1						
PROOF OF RESIDENCY (Please attach a CURRENT copy of one of the following documents)									
☐ Deed or Lease		VA Driver's Lic	ense or DMV	ID [	☐ Voter's Registra	tion Card	☐ Utility b	ill	
						1			-
INCOME ELIGIBILITY  (NOT required for Veterans or Applicants using Pay Coupon)									
☐ Pay Coupon App	licant ( <i>in</i>	come informa	tion <u>not</u> requi	ired)					
Family Gross Income: (All sources before taxes) Annual Monthly									
Documentation Provided: ☐ Bank statement/W2 ☐ Income Award letter ☐ Other- Specify below (VDDHH approval re						pproval required)			
	Α	PPLICANT	ACKNOW	<b>VLED</b>	<b>GEMENT AND</b>	<b>SIGNAT</b>	URE		
I understand and agre	e that:								
	1. All information provided above is accurate. 5. VDDHH is not responsible for my telephone or internet bill.								
2. Providing false information may result in denial of my TAP  6. I accept responsibility for the equipment, including repairs and									
application and any equipment issued must be returned.  maintenance costs.									
3. If I move before I receive my equipment, I will inform VDDHH of my new address.  7. All equipment issued has a minimum one (1) year warranty. Some devices have longer warranties (Specialist can provide more details).									
4. My personal information may be shared with D/HH Specialists for  8. If I do not qualify for equipment at no cost, I have the option of									
equipment delivery. paying the state contracted cost for equipment.									
SIGNATURE OF	APPLI	CANT (parent/gua	ardian if applicant is <	18 years of	age) DATE				
Relationship to Applicant (if applicable):									

APPLICANT TAP EQUIPMENT SELECTION  (To be completed by Certifier)									
Alerting device:				CAPTIONED TELEPHONE:					
Alerting device ac	cessory:			CELL PHONE ACCESSORY:					
Amplified telepho	ne:			OTHER:					
Assistive listening device:				ттү:					
						•			
		CERTIF	ICATION C To be complet			BILITY			
the self of the title w	an a I'		☐ Deaf ☐ Deaf-Bline		ind	☐ Hard of Hearing			
I certify that this T	AP Applic	cant is:	☐ Other (Spec				☐ Person w/ difficulty speaking		
In accordance with TAP Regulations, I am			□ D/HH Specialist		Audiologist	□ Doctor	☐ Speech Language Pathologist	☐ DBVI Specialist	
eligible to certify t	nis applic	cation as a/an:	☐ Hearing Aid Specialist		DARS nselor	☐ Other (S	☐ Other (Specify)		
Certifier's Name:				Certifier's Title:					
State License #: (if applicable)				Age	ncy:				
Address:									
Phone Number:									
SIGNATURE OF CERTIFIER					DATE				