

Nebraska Public Service Commission Nebraska Specialized Telecommunications Equipment Program ("NSTEP") Application Package

To Interested Applicants:

The Nebraska Specialized Telecommunications Equipment Program is designed to offer monetary assistance to Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Deaf/Blind, and Speech disabled Nebraskans in purchasing specialized telecommunications equipment, such as amplified telephones, TTY/TT's, phone amplifiers and signaling devices.

The complete application package consists of the following documents:

- Application form (Required);
- United States Citizenship Attestation Form (Required);
- Application Completion Guidelines;
- Program Policies and Procedures;
- CapTel (Captioned Telephone) Information Sheets;
- Participating Vendors Who Sell Equipment;
- Frequently Asked Questions (Provided upon request).

The voucher instructions are comprised of the following packets:

- Packet #1 – Voucher Handling Instructions – Non-Wireless Devices. Provided with the voucher when non-wireless devices and/or signaling/receiving devices are selected;
- Packet #2 – Procedures for Selecting Wireless Devices. Provided with the voucher when wireless devices are selected.

If you need additional assistance in selecting the proper model for your needs, the Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (NCDHH) has an in-office demonstration area to assist you. Call 1-800-545-6244 to make an appointment at either of their locations.

****Note** Two (2) individual per household may be the owner of telecommunications equipment at one time and you cannot reapply for assistance more than once every three (3) years.**

****Also Note** The program does not reimburse applicants directly for equipment previously purchased. The program pays vendors for voucher redeemed by the applicant.**

****SPECIAL NOTE ON WIRELESS DEVICES** The following guide can assist you in selecting wireless devices. Your selection is limited to smartphones and your providers are: 1) T-Mobile; 2) Verizon or; 3) Viaero wireless.**

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Guidelines For Selecting Wireless Devices Listed By Provider:

1. T-Mobile. You can use the following link to assist in your selection: <https://www.t-mobile.com>. Please note, you cannot order online or at a T-Mobile store but you should follow Packet #2 instructions for mailing your voucher;
2. Verizon Wireless. Go to <http://www.verizonwireless.com>. Hoover the pointer device over 'Shop' and then select the 'Smartphones' item under 'Devices' category. You must present your voucher to a Verizon company store in order to receive your device;
3. Viaero wireless (NE Colorado Cellular). Go to the following link to assist in your selection: <http://www.viaero.com>. You must present your voucher to the retail store in order to receive your device;

****Note** You cannot order your wireless device online. Follow the instructions in Packet #2 once you receive your voucher for ordering devices and redeeming your voucher from your selected wireless provider.**

Please review the attached "Application Completion Guidelines" referred to in the application package prior to submitting the required documents to address indicated below.

Also, you can choose to submit the application and United States Citizenship Attestation Form electronically to the following link: psc.trs@nebraska.gov.

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P.O. Box 94927
Lincoln, NE 68509-4927
State-Wide Toll Free: 800-526-0017 (Voice)

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Nebraska Public Service Commission