



Top Computer and Smart Device Apps for Students who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing



RMTC-DHH has created a list of six categories of applications to consider for assistive technology (AT). The categories listed can help in providing accessible instructional materials (AIM) for students who are deaf/hard of hearing (DHH). RMTC-DHH does not recommend one specific app for computers or smart devices, therefore, the categories are listed alphabetically with a few trusted apps in each category.

1. ASL Dictionaries

American Sign Language (ASL) dictionary apps are available for both computers and smart devices. Electronic sign language dictionaries that do not access the internet may be used on state assessments. See the [Florida Department of Education Assessment Guide](#) for further guidance.



ASL Dictionary

The ASL Dictionary app has over 5000 signed words. It has a feature that allows the dictionary to be used without internet access.

2. ASL Media

There are a variety of ASL story apps and additional ASL media apps available. For more information on additional ASL media, see the RMTC-DHH FAQ, "[Where can I find ASL stories and other ASL media?](#)"



StorySign

StorySign is a free mobile app that aims to help children who are DHH read by translating the text from selected books into sign language.



VL2 Storybook Apps

The VL2 Storybook apps are created by the Motion Light Lab at Gallaudet University. Children can watch many different stories in ASL or start reading it in English.



Halo AR

Halo AR is a free mobile app that allows anyone to create with augmented reality by connecting digital content with the physical world. Follow [@RMTC_DHH](#) for three sample collections in ASL. See the [Halo AR handout](#) for more information.

3. Captioning

Captioning apps are available for computers and smart devices, including apps that provide speech-to-text captions and apps that allow users to caption privately made media. See the [RMTC-DHH Captions](#) page for more information.

Described and Captioned Media Program (DCMP)

DCMP is a free classroom and remote learning resource to provide AIM to students with sensory disabilities. The content may be customized to include captions, descriptions, ASL, and print.





Google Live Caption



Live Caption is a tool for generating captions. It can detect the voice of the media being played on the phone and automatically generate captions.

Microsoft Translator



Microsoft Translator is a free, personal translation app for more than 70 spoken languages, used to translate text, voice, conversations, camera photos, and screenshots.

4. Expanded Skills

The purpose of the Expanded Skills Standards referenced in [Rule 6A-1.09401](#), Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), for students who are DHH is to enable them to apply concepts, knowledge, and skills related to their individual hearing levels in educational, home, community, or employment settings. The apps listed below can be used to support one or more of the Expanded Skills Standards.

CARDZILLA

CARDZILLA allows users to communicate across distances and pass messages silently.



My World

My World is a pediatric counseling tool designed to help children talk about their hearing levels.



Rule the School

Rule the School has several different apps to increase the self-advocacy skills of students who are DHH.



5. Families of Students who are DHH

Many apps exist to support families but two specifically designed by national outreach organizations for the DHH community are the following:

Parent Advocacy



The Parent Advocacy app helps families to understand their child's rights and to prepare them to work with the school in the best interest of their child.

Hands & Voices



The Hands & Voices app is from the non-profit organization, Hands & Voices. For 90 days families will receive daily tools to help navigate raising a child who is DHH.

6. Speech and Auditory Training

Students whose families have chosen to use listening and spoken language require speech and auditory skills training. There are several apps available for auditory skills training and auditory rehabilitation. Two include:

Advanced Bionics



The rehAB Catalogue app gives an overview of all uniquely designed (re)habilitation resources offered by Advanced Bionics for hearing assistive technology users.

Leo's World



The Leo Interactive Book is about a lion who is DHH. Children can follow Leo's adventures and share his stories with family and friends.