

March 19, 2020

Families,

Many resources are being shared with us regarding acquiring technology devices for students.

The Georgia Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing offers free iPad to all qualified students. An application forms are attached here in English and Spanish. Their website is a great place to go to dig into information. The website can be translated to Spanish by clicking the language button on the home page. <https://www.gcdhh.org/gatedp>

GCDHH also offers other devices for students which are listed here.

**iPad with Sorenson VRS app pre-downloaded:** The iPad does not come with any parental controls (Parents will need to install them themselves). iPads come with Sorenson VRS already downloaded. Students can make calls with a Video Relay Interpreter to anyone with a phone number. The iPad is available to any Deaf individual over the age of 5 who uses ASL as their primary means of communication. There is a one-month processing time for the iPad at the manufacturer.

**Quattro Pro 4:** This is a personal amplifier that comes with a Bluetooth option and an FM neck loop option. This can benefit students who use amplification devices for better quality communication at home.

**Visual Alerting System:** The SonicAlert Home Aware includes a flashing doorbell, a built-in smoke detector, a smart phone alert, a landline phone alert, a lamp plug, and a bed shaker for the alarm clock. The SonicAlert Home Aware is available to anyone with at least slight hearing loss.

Requirements for obtaining a device:

1. **Fill out the application attached here.** The application includes a Certificate of Need that needs to be filled out by a professional who has knowledge of the hearing loss. This can be signed by your child's teacher or audiologist. You can reply to this email and we will connect you to the appropriate person and help you with this step.
2. **Attach proof of Georgia Residency:** This can be a photo of your be a driver's license or a utility bill.
3. **Attach proof of income:** This is a program for individuals who are at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines (there is a chart online at [www.gcdhh.org/gatedp](http://www.gcdhh.org/gatedp)). Families or individuals will need to show proof of income. This could be a W-2, a pay stub, a tax return from last year, or even an SSI award letter. Photos of any of these documents are acceptable.
4. **Attach proof either internet, cell phone, or landline phone bill:** (Only one is needed.) The program is funded by the surcharge on these bills, so the program requires that the participants have been paying the surcharge.

Though GCDHH's offices are closed, they are actively accepting applications! Email your child's application and documents directly to Haley Vaughn, [hvaughn@gcdhh.org](mailto:hvaughn@gcdhh.org). If you prefer you can also fax the application using this eFax number: 470-231-1673. \*\*Do not use the fax number on the application.

Haley is eager to help our AASD families get what they need to support their child's learning. She will process your application and ship equipment to your home.

Please let Marie know if you have any questions.

Marie Dickinson [mdickinson@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:mdickinson@doe.k12.ga.us) or 706.331.6314