Telecommunications Adaptive Devices (TAD) Program

The aim of the Telecommunications Adaptive Devices (TAD) program is to provide equal access to telecommunications for individuals with disabilities other than deafness, deaf-blind, hard of hearing or speech impairment.

Devices such as fully voice-activated telephones, smart devices, emergency dialer phones, picture-dialing phones, large-button phones and other equipment may be provided to help bridge the gap when it comes to distance communicating. Device setup and training is also available.

Published by the South Dakota Department of Human Services
1,000 copies published at an approximate cost of $0.24 per copy

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TAD (for people with disabilities other than deafness, deaf/blind, hard of hearing or speech impairment): dhs.sd.gov/drs/deafserv/TAD_drs.aspx

TED (for people with the disabilities of deafness, deaf/blind, hard of hearing or speech impairment): dhs.sd.gov/drs/deafserv/tedp.aspx

S.D. Department of Human Services

811 E 10th Street
Department 21
Sioux Falls, SD 57103-1650

Phone: 605-367-4657
Toll Free: 800-265-9679
TTY: 605-367-5330
Fax: 605-367-5327
E-mail: infodhs@state.sd.us

South Dakota DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

DHS: Enhancing the quality of life of people with disabilities.

Tel: 800-265-9684

Telecommunications Adaptive Devices (TAD)

The South Dakota Department of Human Services provides telecommunications devices for individuals with disabilities.

South Dakota DHS DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Telecommunications Adaptive Devices (TAD)

The S.D. Department of Human Services (DHS) offers devices through the Telecommunications Adaptive Devices (TAD) program to provide equal access to telecommunications for people with disabilities. Similar to the Telecommunications Equipment Distribution (TED) program – which helps purchase devices for people who are deaf, deaf-blind, hard of hearing or speech impaired– TAD helps purchase adaptive devices for people with all other disabilities. TAD also provides necessary device training.

What is TAD?

The Telecommunications Adaptive Devices (TAD) program provides certain assistive telephone equipment for people with disabilities other than deafness, deaf-blind, hard of hearing or speech impairments. The TAD program will also provide setup and training as needed so participants are able to effectively operate the telecommunication devices.

Who is eligible?

An individual must meet the following criteria to be eligible:

- Must be a resident of South Dakota;
- Must have a disability other than deafness, hearing impairment, or speech disability (documentation that confirms the disability and supports the need for a telecommunication device is required);
- Must have the necessary service to use the device (home phone service, cellular service, etc.); and
- Financial need applies to eligibility for certain devices.

How do I apply?

Applications are available online at dhs.sd.gov (search for "TAD" or "TAD application") or can be mailed upon request by calling 800-265-9684.

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