How Do I Apply?

- Call our office for an application, or download the form at: drme.org/deaf-services/tep
- Complete, sign and return the TEP application form, along with:
  - Proof of disability AND documentation of total annual income for all household members.
  - Additional information required for hearing aid option.
- DRM will review your application and if you are eligible, we will help select equipment that best meets your needs.
- If you qualify for the Lending Program, we will send the phone directly to your door! Training and support is available for all equipment.
- If you are approved for Cost-Share, the equipment will be sent after we receive payment.
- Demonstration phones are available for testing in our Falmouth office. Make an appointment today!

Disability Rights Maine is supported by grants from the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, the Center for Mental Health Services, the Rehabilitation Services Administration, the Social Security Administration, the Federal Communications Commission, the State of Maine, Acadia Hospital, the MCLSFC, the Maine Health Access Foundation, and private donations.

Disability Rights Maine is a 501(c)(3) corporation. Donations are tax deductible and gratefully accepted.

www.drme.org
WHAT IS TEP?

DRM’s Telecommunications Equipment Program (TEP) provides communication solutions to anyone who has a barrier that prevents them from using standard phone equipment. Through a simple application process, DRM staff will determine the best amplified, captioned, large button, picture dial, or voice-activated phone to meet your needs; a hearing aid option is also available for low-income clients, ages 65 and older.

ELIGIBILITY LEVELS

- **Lending**: For people with limited income
  - No cost to clients
  - Equipment can be borrowed for as long as it is needed
- **Cost-Share**: For people with moderate income
  - Cost is based on a sliding-scale
  - Client pay a one-time fee that may be as low as $50-$75

CAPTIONED TELEPHONE

- For people with some degree of hearing loss.
- Provides written, word-for-word captions of everything the other person says on an adjustable screen.

- Captions can be turned on or off
- Font size and color is adjustable
- Internet and analog models available

HEARING AIDS

Low-income clients, ages 65 and older, may qualify to choose either an adaptive telephone OR a single telecoil-equipped hearing aid. Individuals who complete the TEP application and appear to qualify for the hearing aid option will receive a letter notifying them of their eligibility.

CAPTEL

CORDED AND CORDLESS AMPLIFIED PHONES

- Phones are available for individuals with mild, moderate, or severe hearing loss, as well as people with other disabilities.

- Available options include:
  - Adjustable tone and volume
  - Large, back-lit buttons
  - Talk-back dialing
  - Photo dial
  - Caller ID
  - Amplified answering machines
  - Speakerphone
  - Hands-free
  - Assistive listening devices
  - Neckloop
  - Hearing aid & cochlear implant compatible

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