

Help America Hear Program - FAQs:

1. How does someone apply for a hearing aid?
In order to apply, you will need to include all the paperwork outlined on page two of the application. You can download the latest version here:
http://www.foundationforsightandsound.org/help_america_hear_program.html

2. Who is eligible for a hearing aid?
Those who make less than \$35,000, have hearing aid-treatable moderate to profound hearing loss and no other financial means of purchasing hearing aids.

3. How long does it take for approval for a hearing aid?
The entire application process takes anywhere between 60-120 days.

4. What is the degree of hearing loss to be eligible?
Moderate to profound as determined by a Specialist

5. What types of hearing tests are required?
An Audiogram Exam which includes: binaural speech scores, air, bone masking, mcl and ucl levels. (Have your examiner initial each item on the checklist included in the application to ensure all tests were completed).

6. Who pays for the audiogram?
You are responsible for the cost of the hearing test. Although, many insurance companies do not cover hearing aids, several do cover testing. If you have insurance coverage currently, call the number on the back of your insurance card.

7. Who contacts the hearing aid provider?
Once your documentation is reviewed by our committee and your approval is finalized, *we will contact you* with a provider within 50 miles of your home who has agreed to fit you.

8. If I don't have a tax return what other income proof can I provide?
Social Security or Social Security Disability Year-End Statements. In cases where medical expenses exceed income, receipts are required

9. What kind of hearing aids do you provide?
We provide ReSound brand-new digital hearing aids.

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10. Is the application fee refundable?

No, the application fee is non-refundable. We pre-screen each application carefully before official review to ensure the applicant will qualify before we process payment. The only exception made occurs when it is determined that an applicant does not require two hearing aids. If they sent in the fee for two aids, they will be reimbursed half the fee.

11. If I have insurance can I still apply?

Yes, if you have insurance (*read the FAQ below) your application will be considered a Tier II application and the fees will be higher than Tier I.

12. What is considered insurance?

When an insurance company pays out on a claim, it is considered insurance. Sometimes an insurance company will offer a benefit that is a discount to the applicant. This is NOT insurance. We can evaluate on a case-by-case basis as the insurance companies have made this benefit (which is really a discount) confusing to the applicant.

13. What is the Photo Release form?

**By signing this form we at the Foundation For Sight and Sound can use whatever media (letters, photos etc) an applicant sends to us. Here are some examples:
<http://www.foundationforsightandsound.org/testimonials.html>**

14. What am I entitled to once I receive my hearing aids?

You are entitled to 5 follow-up visits to adjust your aids. These five visits must occur within a year of receiving your aids. This is a sufficient number of follow up visits as most only require 3-4 follow-ups.

15. What additional costs can I expect beyond the application fee?

You may be charged for batteries, additional accessories or additional testing as deemed necessary by the hearing health care provider.