

NC Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

National DeafBlind Equipment Distribution Program (NDBEDP)

June 2023

National DeafBlind Equipment Distribution Program (NDBEDP)

Also known as iCanConnect (iCC)



Refreshable Braille Display



iPhone



Refreshable Braille Display

- Established by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in an effort to comply with the 21st Century Video and Communications Accessibility Act (CVAA).
- Administered by Division of Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DSDHH) through partnership with Division of Services for the Blind (DSB).
- Main purpose: Distance Communication
- Income-based and applicants must be DeafBlind

SOURCE: www.icanconnect.org

Qualification Criteria: DeafBlind

Vision

- Central visual acuity of 20/200 or less in the better eye with corrective lenses
- Field defect where peripheral diameter of the visual field is no greater than 20 degrees
- A progressive visual loss with a prognosis leading to one or both of these conditions

Qualification Criteria: DeafBlind

Hearing

- Has a chronic hearing impairment so severe that most speech cannot be understood with optimum amplification OR a progressive hearing loss having a prognosis leading to this condition

OR

- A combination of impairments described under **HEARING/VISION** that cause extreme difficulty in attaining independence in daily life activities and employment.

Income Eligibility

- Total family/household income must be below 400% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines as released in 2023.

- Based on Household Size:

1 = \$58,320

2 = \$78,880

3 = \$99,440

4 = \$120,000

5 = \$140,560

For each additional person, add \$20,560



SOURCE: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Income Eligibility

- Those who can provide documentation that they are currently enrolled in a federal program with an income eligibility requirement that does not exceed 400% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines are automatically income eligible.
 - Medicaid
 - Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
 - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as Food Stamps
 - Federal public housing assistance or Section 8
 - Veterans and Survivors Pension Benefit



Equipment Selection

- Must be for DISTANCE COMMUNICATION
- Options depend on consumer's skill level and needs
- Eligible for ONE type of computer AND ONE type of mobile device
- Also, any additional devices or software needed to make the computer and mobile device accessible
- Includes accessories to protect and maintain the equipment (protective cases, warranties)

I am interested, how do I apply?

- Contact your local Regional Center

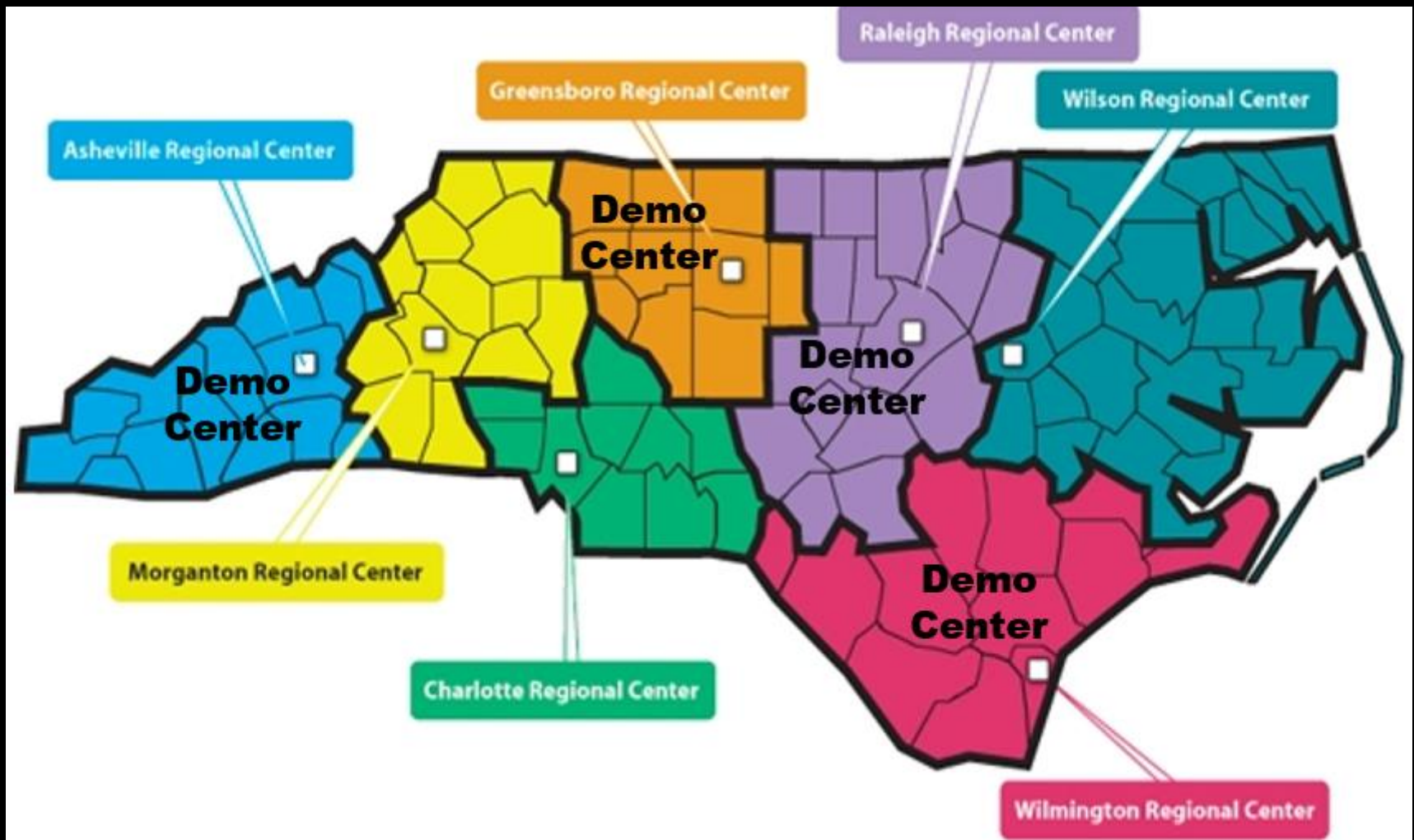
<https://www.ncdhhs.gov/assistance/hearing-loss/regional-centers-for-the-deaf-hard-of-hearing>

- Contact Nichole Leonardz, NDBEDP Administrator

<http://www.icanconnect.org/how-to-apply/north-carolina>



DSDHH has 4 Demo Centers



The NDBEDP in NC is
entering its eleventh year

We have successfully served
301 consumers since 2013

Questions/Answers

WWW.NCDHHS.GOV/DIVISIONS/DSDHH

NDBEDP Consumer Interest Form

WWW.ICANCONNECT.ORG/NORTH-CAROLINA

Nichole Leonardz, NDBEDP Administrator

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DeafBlind Services Specialists

Contact us

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