

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

National Deaf-Blind Equipment Distribution Program (NDBEDP)

June 2021

National Deaf-Blind Equipment Distribution Program (NDBEDP)

Also known as iCanConnect (iCC)



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 2021.

- Based on Household Size:

1 = \$51,500

2 = \$69,680

3 = \$87,840

4 = \$106,000

5 = \$124,160

For each additional person, add \$18,160



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)
 - Food Stamps
 - Federal public housing assistance or Section 8
 - Veterans and Survivors Pension Benefit



Equipment Selection

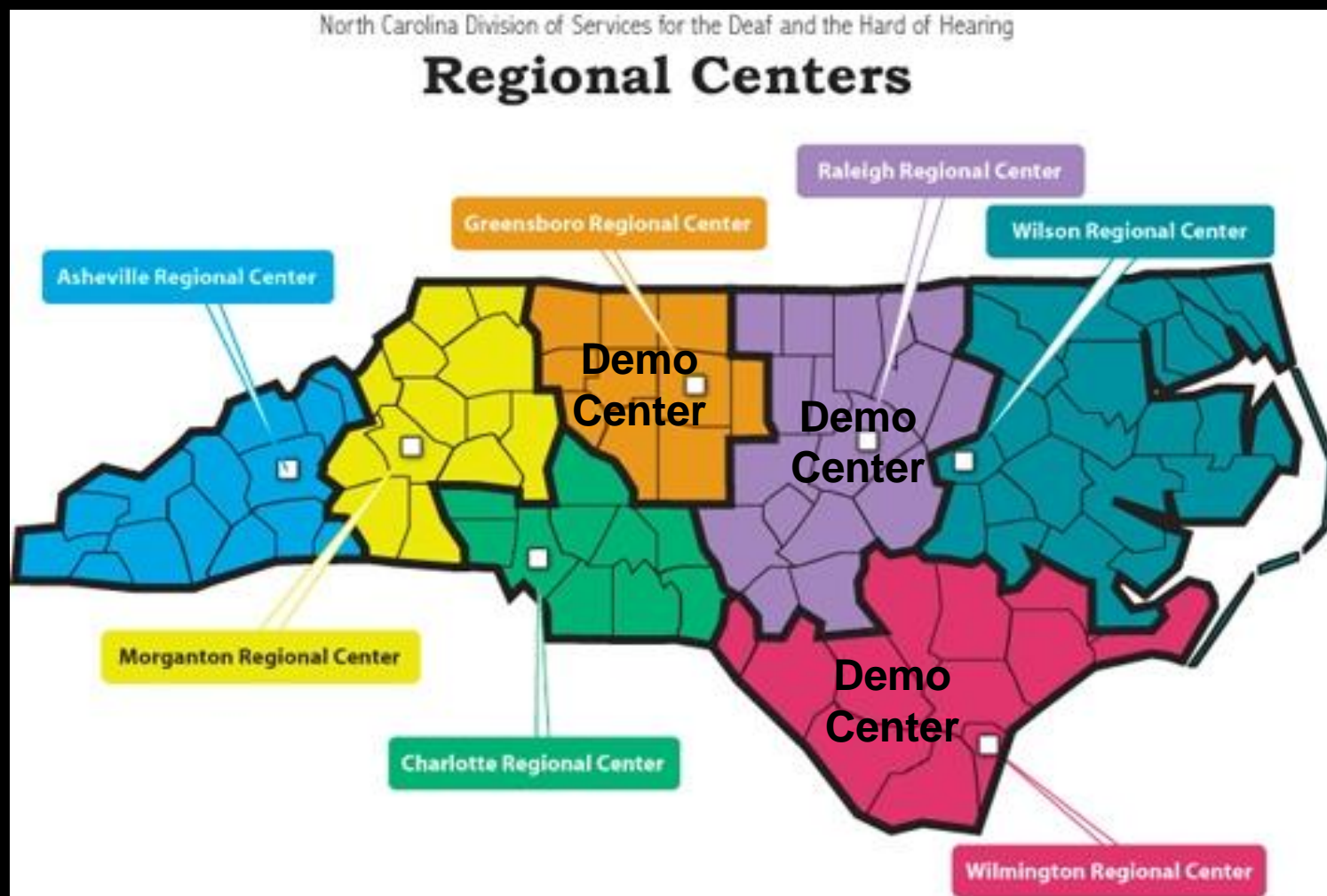
- Depends on consumer's skill level and needs
- Must be for DISTANCE COMMUNICATION
- Can get ONE type of computer AND ONE type of mobile device
- AND any additional devices or software needed to make them accessible
- AND accessories to protect and maintain the equipment.

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 3 Demo Centers



The NDBEDP in NC is
entering its tenth year

We have successfully served
273 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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Deaf-Blind Services Specialists

Contact us

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