



HEAR NOW Program

APPLICATION 2014

Valid through December 15, 2014





Dear Applicant,

Thank you for contacting the HEAR NOW Program of Starkey Hearing Foundation for hearing aid assistance. Our hope is to provide hearing aids to those permanently residing in the U.S. who meet the criteria and are approved for assistance. The program is designed to assist those who have **no other resource** available to them. HEAR NOW is a program of last resort. Other options for assistance include: family support, insurance, state Medicaid program, vocational rehabilitation, school district, VA, church groups, state or local programs. Please call the HEAR NOW office to check your eligibility.

Assistance comes through manufacturer gifts, hearing health care providers in your area and donors across the U.S. The hearing health care provider is not reimbursed for his/her work with the HEAR NOW program. We deeply appreciate the time, effort and generosity they commit to HEAR NOW clients. We trust you will treasure the dedication and commitment of these generous individuals.

If the applicant has family support or **funds** available in money market accounts, mutual funds, 401(k) plans, IRAs, CDs (certificates of deposit), checking/savings accounts, stocks, bonds, T-bills or property, **this may not be the program for you**. HEAR NOW considers all these when determining eligibility. Only those who fall within the program guidelines for income, assets and hearing loss can be considered for assistance. The current processing fee with the application is \$125 per hearing aid requested. The hearing health care provider will assist the applicant in determining the number of aids needed to help the applicant hear better. Every applicant is asked to call HEAR NOW to discuss their eligibility for the program. Please call 1-800-328-8602 (ask for HEAR NOW) to discuss this with a program representative.

* The application processing fee will be returned if an application is denied.

** Application materials are viewed by HEAR NOW staff only.

*** When eligibility is determined, financial papers are shredded.

****Names and address of applicants are never sold or shared with others.

INFORMATION TO CONSIDER BEFORE COMPLETING THE HEAR NOW APPLICATION

- 1. Income Guidelines:** All income figures are NET. NET is the amount you actually receive in your check(s) regardless of source.

2014 Income Guidelines

PERSONS IN HOUSEHOLD	48 CONTIGUOUS STATES AND D.C.	ALASKA	HAWAII
1	\$19,547	\$24,447	\$22,505
2	\$26,477	\$33,110	\$30,467
3	\$33,407	\$41,772	\$37,430
4	\$40,337	\$50,435	\$46,392
5	\$47,267	\$59,097	\$54,335
6	\$54,197	\$67,760	\$62,317
7	\$61,127	\$76,422	\$70,280
8	\$68,057	\$85,085	\$78,242
EACH ADDITIONAL PERSON	\$3,960	\$4,950	\$4,550

- 2. Application and Order Processing Fee:** \$125 for one (1) hearing aid **OR** \$250 for two (2) hearing aids.

- 3. In determining eligibility, HEAR NOW considers the following:** funds available from all sources, assets and hearing loss.

a. Household Size (Household is defined as those living together or dependent on each other).

b. Net Monthly or Annual Income from all in the household who have income.

Possible sources of income are:

- Social Security and SSI
- Public Assistance
- AFDC
- Wages
- Interest from Stocks, IRAs, 401(k)s
- Alimony
- Disability
- Old Age Pension
- VA Pension
- Welfare
- Work Pension
- Black Lung Payments
- Child Support

c. Assets (include, but not restricted to)

- Checking
- Annuities
- Savings
- Stocks/Bonds
- Money Market Accounts
- IRA/401(k)
- CDs
- Burial Accounts
- Reverse Mortgage
- Home Equity Loan
- Property

HEAR NOW reserves the right to change eligibility criteria without prior written notice.

HOW TO COMPLETE THE PROCESS

- 1. Read the application completely.**
- 2. Call Hear Now to discuss eligibility for the program.**
 - The number to call is 1-800-328-8602 (ask for Hear Now).
 - Tell the representative you wish to discuss your eligibility for the program.
- 3. Find a hearing health care provider in your area who works with Hear Now.**
 - Hear Now does not provide referrals to local offices.
 - Check your yellow page listings for Hearing Aids.

Choose offices closer to you.

 - Make some calls to those offices to ask if anyone in that office works with the Hear Now program.
 - Schedule an appointment for a hearing test.
 - Have the practitioner complete pages 8 and 9 of the application.
 - Obtain a copy of your hearing test results from the practitioner.
- 4. Complete pages 4, 5, and 6 — the applicant's signature is required on page 6.**
- 5. Complete page 10 — either the primary physician signs the top portion of the page or the applicant can sign the bottom of the page.**
- 6. Gather income verification for all those in the household** (Income includes all funding from all sources).
- 7. Gather copies of bank statements —**
 - Statements are needed for each account belonging to each individual in the household (most recent six months).
 - A copy of each page of each statement is required (if your bank statement includes copies of your checks, these must also be submitted).
- 8. Gather the other necessary support documentation as outlined on page 5.**
- 9. Include a Money Order or Cashier's Check for the processing fee (\$125 per hearing aid) payable to: Starkey Hearing Foundation.** (Staple Cashier Check or Money Order to page 4 of application.)
(Personal checks are not accepted.)
- 10. DO NOT SEND ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS; THEY WILL NOT BE RETURNED TO YOU.**
- 11. Mail all materials to:**

Hear Now Program
6700 Washington Ave. S.
Eden Prairie, MN 55344
- 12. Once you have mailed the application to HEAR NOW, please wait at least 5 weeks before making a call for a status check of your application.**

*Additional information may be needed after initial review of the application.

**Hear Now reserves the right to change criteria at any time without prior written notice.

GENERAL INFORMATION

(Please Print Clearly)

Date: _____

Applicant's Name: First _____ Middle _____ Last _____

Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____ Social Security Number: _____ ☐ Male ☐ FemaleMarital Status: ☐ Married ☐ Single ☐ Divorced ☐ Widowed ☐ Separated

Number in Household: _____ (Household is defined as all those living together or dependent on each other.)

Mailing Address:

Street: _____ Apt. #: _____

City: _____ County: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

If applicant is a Minor, Parent/Guardian's Name(s): _____

Person, if other than applicant, completing this form. If Minor, list Parent/Guardian's Information.

Name: _____ Relationship to Applicant: _____

Phone: _____

INCOME

If applicant is a Minor, list Parent/Guardian's income information.

List all sources of income (i.e., salary, social security, alimony, child support, pension, stocks, bonds, etc.) for all in the household.

Applicant:

A. _____ \$ _____ Month or Year (Circle One)
Source of IncomeB. _____ \$ _____ Month or Year (Circle One)
Source of Income

Spouse/Other:

C. _____ \$ _____ Month or Year (Circle One)
Source of IncomeD. _____ \$ _____ Month or Year (Circle One)
Source of Income

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Applicant Name: _____

MARK 1 BOX FOR EACH ITEM. Unanswered questions will delay the process.

Do you currently have:	Yes	No	
Checking Account	☐	☐	If yes, provide all pages of 6 months of current bank statements
Savings Account	☐	☐	If yes, provide all pages of 6 months of current bank statements
CD(s)	☐	☐	If yes, provide most recent statement
Stocks/Bonds	☐	☐	If yes, provide most recent statement
Annuity	☐	☐	If yes, provide most recent statement
IRA/401k	☐	☐	If yes, provide most recent statement
Money Market Account	☐	☐	If yes, provide most recent statement
Burial Account	☐	☐	If yes, provide most recent statement
Are you a Medicaid recipient?	☐ Yes	☐ No	

What health insurance company provides your coverages?

Name of Company: _____

Does your health insurance offer a benefit for hearing aids? ☐ Yes If yes, what benefit? _____

☐ No

☐ Don't know

HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION:

Household is defined as all those who live together or are dependent on each other.

Number in Household: _____

List names of individuals in household.

Name

Age of Person

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Employment Status: ☐ Employed ☐ Other ☐ Retired

Name of Current Employer: _____

Phone: _____ How long have you been employed there? _____ (Years/Months)

RELEASE OF INFORMATION

I understand the information I submit to HEAR NOW concerning my annual income, family size, family resources, insurance, medical history and all financial information are subject to verification by HEAR NOW and/or their agents. This verification will be done by phone, letter, e-mail or credit check. **I understand that if I knowingly omit or submit false information, I will be denied consideration for assistance at any point during the process.**

Applicant Name: _____ Spouse's Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Applicant Signature: _____ Spouse's Signature: _____

(If Minor, Parent/Guardian signature required.)

If signed by Power of Attorney (POA), please send copy of POA. The laws of the state of Minnesota shall govern the resulting transaction and any claim or dispute arising out of such transaction.



Dear Hearing Health Care Provider:

HEAR NOW, the U.S. program of Starkey Hearing Foundation, is committed to helping low income individuals who lack the resources to obtain needed hearing aids. Because the program works only with the help of generous, dedicated practitioners who care about the members of their community, your support of HEAR NOW clients is deeply appreciated. Practitioners are asked to waive their customary fees for fitting and follow-up for the first year of warranty coverage. You may assess your normal fee for the initial evaluation.

While interested practitioners are asked to donate their time and services to do the fitting and follow-up for the first year of warranty coverage, HEAR NOW provides the hearing aids to be fitted in your office. The Client Data Sheet (CDS) is an integral part of your client's application. An applicant's file is not complete without the CDS (pages 8 and 9). The application is reviewed when the Client Data Sheet, audiogram, Client Application and support documents are received in the HEAR NOW office. It is helpful if all documents are sent at the same time.

Practitioners willing to waive their customary fees for fitting and follow-up for the first year and are licensed to dispense hearing aids in their state are eligible to work with the program. It is necessary to have practitioner licensure information on record at HEAR NOW. Please provide this information on the Client Data Sheet and the hearing aid selection form for each client. If the client is approved for hearing aid assistance you will be contacted by HEAR NOW with instructions regarding the ordering process. It is preferable that impressions are kept in the practitioner's office until authorization to order hearing aids/earmolds is received from HEAR NOW.

HEAR NOW provides only BTE aids and RICs. Earmolds are provided to those who need them. All instruments provided through the program come with at least a one year warranty for repair. **It is strongly recommended that extended warranty coverage for repair be purchased through the provider's office. Loss and Damage is not provided on Hear Now aids, but this coverage can be purchased through the provider's office.**

The program has grown significantly over the years. It is expected that as the program continues to be discovered, the requests for assistance will continue to grow. Clients are asked to wait at least five (5) years before reapplying for new hearing instruments.

HEAR NOW reserves the right to change eligibility criteria at any time without written notice.

CLIENT DATA SHEET – MEDICAL/AUDIOLOGICAL INFORMATION**To be completed by the provider FITTING AIDS FOR CLIENT** (Please Print Clearly)

Name of Client: _____ Date of Birth: _____

PLEASE ATTACH: Air and Bone Conduction Audiogram, SRTs, MCLs and UCLsIs the client currently aided? ☐ YES ☐ NO If yes, list make/model and how old? _____When requesting only **one (1) aid**, which ear are you fitting? (Check One) ☐ LEFT ☐ RIGHT

Testing is to be completed before the client sends the application to HEAR NOW.
Client needs a copy of the audiogram to send with the application.

I agree to become an associate of HEAR NOW for this client. I agree to provide services in accordance with state/federal guidelines. I understand that associates who receive hearing aids from HEAR NOW for their client agree to provide the services related to the fitting and follow-up without charge to the client for the first year of warranty coverage. HEAR NOW does not ask associates to waive any of their customary evaluation/hearing assessment fees. Charges related to the initial hearing evaluation are the client's responsibility.

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS SECTION FOR EACH CLIENT. THANK YOU.

Ship to Account #: _____

Name of Professional: _____

Name of Business: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

State Licensure/Registration #: _____

ASHA #: _____ F-AAA #: _____ IHS #: _____ BC-HIS #: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

E-mail: _____

Patient Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

SHIP TO Acct #: _____

Style of aid recommended for this patient (Circle One) **BTE** **RIC**

Number of aids requested for this patient (Circle One) **1** **2**

If needing only one aid, for which ear (Circle One) **Right** **Left**

X Series BTE Options

Level of Technology (Circle One) **70** **90** **110**

Power of BTE (Circle One) **Standard** **Power** **Power +**

X Series RIC Options

Level of Technology (Circle One) **70** **90** **110**

Receiver Options

Standard (Circle One) **40** **50** **60**

Embedded Receivers (Circle One) **60** **71**

Receiver Length (Circle One) **1** **2** **3** **4** **5**

Number of Ear Molds Needed (Circle One) **1** **2**

Color (circle one) **Champagne** **Sterling** **Slate** **Bronze** **Onyx** **Pearl**

Also Need:

☐ **Software** ☐ **Cables** ☐ **Boots**

☐ **Slim Tubing** — Indicate Length _____

☐ **Ear Buds:** **Small** _____ **Medium** _____ **Large** _____
 Open _____ **Occluded** _____

☐ **Hear Clear**

One of the following **MUST** be completed and submitted with the application.

MEDICAL CLEARANCE FOR HEARING AID USE

To be signed by client's Primary Physician

Date: _____

Patient Name (please print): _____

The patient listed above has been medically examined and may be considered a candidate for hearing aid use.

Physician Name (please print): _____

Physician Signature: _____

OR

WAIVER OF MEDICAL CLEARANCE FOR HEARING AID USE

To be completed and signed by the client

Date: _____

Client Name (please print): _____

I understand that it is in my best interest and recommended by HEAR NOW and the Food and Drug Administration to receive a medical examination before acquisition of hearing aids. I choose not to receive a medical examination before acquiring hearing aids.

Client Signature: _____



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