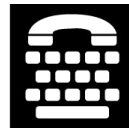


# ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY



Students who are deaf or hard of hearing have specialized needs that are not covered in the general curriculum. Expanded core curriculum goals were developed to fill that gap. One of the identified skills areas is “TECHNOLOGY”.

**“In order to fully understand how to use technology, the student needs to be taught about the various types, how to properly use, maintain and troubleshoot, and where to obtain the technology. These skills must be learned and mastered to maximize their use of technology and to gain access to all areas of their life. In order for students to master these skills, there needs to be instruction and service in the area of technology.”** (Expanded Core Curriculum Iowa, 2019)



With North Dakota Governor, Doug Burgum, proclaiming that March 4, 2020 is Assistive Technology Awareness Day, the North Dakota School for the Deaf/ Resource Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing School Age Outreach Department decided it was a perfect time to share information about assistive technology for individuals with differentiated hearing.

Students with hearing loss should always be learning about assistive technology that helps them. This learning should be starting from an early age by understanding their amplification and how to troubleshoot problems. This learning could be simply observing assistive technology being used and/or using a specialized alarm clock to wake them up during elementary school. Below are a few compensatory skills that students with differentiated hearing should have by the time they leave high school...

- ◆ Knows name, title and role of people who provide services
- ◆ Aware of resources and can research further (media, library, websites, etc.)
- ◆ Aware and can access support organizations and agencies for people with hearing loss (North Dakota School for the Deaf/Resource Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Vocational Rehabilitation, Lions Club, Sertoma, Hands & Voices, local support group, SSI, etc.)
- ◆ Understands how to access captioning and its benefits
- ◆ Aware of and has experience with alerting devices and emergency procedures (fire, doorbell, phone, monitors.)
- ◆ Aware and have experience with communication devices for Deaf/hard of Hearing (video relay, video phone, captioned phones, personal communication devices)
- ◆ Aware of technology to access information (speech-to-text services/interpreting)
- ◆ Understands the rules associated with use of technology in playing sports