# Deaf and Hard of Hearing Quick Guide: COVID-19

## General Guidance

Students who are deaf or hard of hearing receive information through multiple means including auditorily, visually, and/or tactiley. Assistive technology (AT) and built-in instructional supports provide them with the access they need to live, learn, and play in their educational environment.

It is important to note, the AT or built-in instructional supports typically should be used to support the student regardless of their environment.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact Janice Carson (janicec@uidaho.edu) from Idaho SESTA and Paula Mason (paula.mason@iesdb.org) from IESDB. In addition, Joelynne Ball (joelynne.ball@iesdb.org) at IESDB is a critical contact for interpreting services and COVID-19 impact.

### Padlet

**Accessible Online Environments**

https://idahoat.padlet.org/idahoat1/a18ge8psqf15

**AT and Instructional Supports for Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing**

https://idahoat.padlet.org/idahoat1/7xj6w8yr272p1zcp

**IESDB D/HH Consulting Teachers Padlet**

https://padlet.com/emilyturner1/rm3w2pt87s9t

## Support Considerations

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<tr>
<td>Where can I access national information focused on COVID educational supports?</td>
<td>American Sign Language:</td>
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<td>• Idaho Interpreters Directory: <a href="https://cdhh.idaho.gov/interpreter-directory/">https://cdhh.idaho.gov/interpreter-directory/</a></td>
<td>• Microsoft Teams</td>
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<td>• Online Interpreting: An Interpreter’s Guide to Zoom in the Classroom/Meetings</td>
<td>• Skype</td>
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<td>• Cisco Webex,</td>
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<td>• GoToMeeting Business and Enterprise Subscribers</td>
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<td>• GSuite Subscribers Google Hangouts</td>
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<td>• Streamer</td>
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<td>General Accessibility</td>
<td>Captioning:</td>
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<td>How do my students access instruction and instructional materials in an online environment?</td>
<td>There are two options for captioning services; artificial intelligence (AI) and human-generated. Depending on the platform you are using and subscription plan, AI captioning may be a feature available.</td>
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Updated 03/2021
### Human Generated Captioning

Unfortunately, there are currently no free services that allow for captioning of all video conferencing attendees in Zoom or Adobe Connect; for both platforms individuals may designate a captioner or utilize a third-party captioning service.

There are workarounds for AI-generated captioning both during the meeting and after a recording is created (if a recording is made).

- Presenters can utilize AI-generated captioning in Google Slides and Microsoft PowerPoint 365 while presenting, however this will not usually capture and caption the other attendees of the meeting and will not differentiate between speakers if it does.
- Captioning after a recording is made, requires content creators can add them using YouTube’s automatic AI captioning service, however processing time depends on the length and complexity of the audio, and this also will not differentiate between speakers.
- [How to Caption Your Videos](#) by Tina Childress, AU.D., CCC-A

### Described and Captioned Media Program (DCMP):

Over 8,000 free captioned and described educational videos. Educational content is carefully customized to serve the needs of K-12 students, as well as adult students studying to meet the needs of blind and deaf students.

[https://dcmp.org/](https://dcmp.org/)

### Assistive Technology

#### What are some types of AT can my students use?

**Hearing Assistive Technology (HAT)**
American Speech-Language-Hearing Association

**FM Systems**
FM stands for frequency modulation. An FM system is like a tiny radio station with its own frequency. An FM system has two parts. One part is a microphone that the speaker wears. The microphone sends a signal to a receiver. You wear the receiver on your ears or in your hearing aids. This lets the speaker's voice go directly to you, making it easier to hear.

**Infrared Systems**
Infrared systems use light waves to send sounds across a room. The system changes sound into light and sends it to a receiver. The receiver turns the light waves back into sound. The receiver can be in your hearing aid or worn alone.

**Induction Loop Systems**
Induction loop systems work with hearing aids. The loop wire goes under the carpet or in the ceiling. The wire connects to a microphone. Electrical currents move through the wire when someone talks into the microphone. This creates an electromagnetic field in the room. You switch your hearing aid to the "T" or telephone setting. Your hearing aid picks up the signal so you can hear the speaker.

**Volume Adjustment Systems**
This can be done through headphones, for light enhancement, or speakers.

### Assistive Technology to Interact with Content or Spoken Communication

**Speech recognition programs**
These apps or software change speech into text that you can read.

- [Dragon Professional](#)
- [Dragon Anywhere](#)
- [Otter](#)

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**Verbit**
- Just Press Record
- Google Gboard
- Speechnotes
- Transcribe
- Windows 10 Speech recognition

*Word Prediction Supports Writing*

**Ghotit**
- Windows 10 Word Prediction
- iPad
- Word Prediction Apps

*Graphic Organizers Visually Assist in Organizing Thoughts or Curriculum Content*

**Bubble**
- Popplet
- Storyboard That
- MURAL

*Digital Story Telling Provides Visual Supports in Story Writing*

**Make Beliefs Comix**
- Book Creator
- Imagine Forrest

### Resources

**State**
- Idaho SESTA
  - [https://idahosesta.org/](https://idahosesta.org/)

  Idaho Assistive Technology Project AT Lending Libraries:
  - [https://idahoat.org/](https://idahoat.org/)
  - [https://idaho.at4all.com/](https://idaho.at4all.com/)

  Idaho Educational Services for the Deaf and Blind:
  - [https://www.iesdb.org/](https://www.iesdb.org/)

  Idaho Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
  - [https://cdhh.idaho.gov/](https://cdhh.idaho.gov/)
  - [https://cdhh.idaho.gov/assistive-technology/](https://cdhh.idaho.gov/assistive-technology/)

  Idaho Training Clearing House Assistive Technology:

  Idaho Deaf or Hard of Hearing Guidance Handbook

  Idaho National Deaf/Blind Equipment Distribution Program (iCan Connect Idaho)
  - [https://idahoat.org/consults/db-program](https://idahoat.org/consults/db-program)

  Children and Youth with Deaf-Blindness
  - [https://idahocdhd.org/Projects/CYDB](https://idahocdhd.org/Projects/CYDB)

**National**
- Clerc Center
  - [https://www3.gallaudet.edu/clerc-center/our-resources/for-families.html](https://www3.gallaudet.edu/clerc-center/our-resources/for-families.html)

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<td><strong>Odyssey Magazine:</strong></td>
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