



## Relay Hawaii Equipment Program (RHEP) Guidelines

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The purpose of the Relay Hawaii Equipment Program (RHEP) is to provide equal access to telephone service. Established and overseen by the Hawai'i Public Utilities Commission (PUC), the RHEP provides specialized equipment to Deaf, Hard of Hearing, or Speech Impaired individuals who are unable to use a standard telephone. T-Mobile manages the RHEP as the contracted provider of Relay Hawaii.

Individuals are responsible for maintaining the phone service (local landline).

The RHEP will provide each qualified applicant a communication device for landline service (TTY, VCO, HCO, and STS). Landline equipment is the property of the state and eligible for replacement every five years. The RHEP will provide one piece of equipment per subscriber line (one for landline).

### Criteria Eligibility for the Equipment Program

- ❖ Applicant must be a Hawai'i resident and complete an application form.
- ❖ Applicant must have a hearing loss of 40 decibels or greater as certified by a doctor or an audiologist's report or have a communication disorder which severely interferes with communicating effectively over the telephone as certified by a physician or speech-language pathologist.
- ❖ The applicant must maintain a landline service (landline equipment only).

### How Do I Apply for the RHEP and Receive Equipment?

- ❖ Complete the application in full and enclose the required medical certification.
- ❖ Select the equipment that best meets your needs.
- ❖ Email, mail, or fax the completed application(s) to the RHEP.
- ❖ The landline equipment application and supporting documentation will be reviewed.
  - The information will be entered into a database system: date, name, address, telephone number, state ID or driver license number, equipment type and serial number of the equipment.
- ❖ New equipment will be sent directly to the user via FedEx or UPS.

*If you have special needs, which are not met by the equipment offered, please contact the Relay Hawaii Customer Relations Manager to discuss your needs. T-Mobile will make every effort to accommodate your needs with specialized equipment available within the same general cost range as standard equipment.*

## Who is Responsible for Maintenance and Repair of the Equipment?

All landline equipment is the property of the RHEP and will be repaired and replaced as appropriate by the RHEP. If the individual experiences any problems with the landline equipment, they should contact the Relay Hawaii Customer Relations Manager for assistance. Landline equipment will be repaired or replaced at no charge to the user. The Relay Hawaii Customer Relations Manager will provide assistance to answer questions and will refer to the correct resource for resolution.

## When Does a Person Become Ineligible?

- ❖ When the recipient is no longer living in the State of Hawai'i on a full-time basis.
- ❖ When there is no longer landline service in the individual's household.
- ❖ When the recipient becomes incapable of using the equipment (decline in the recipient's ability, death, etc.).

The landline equipment must be returned to the RHEP.

## When You Receive Your Equipment, You Agree to the Following:

- ❖ The equipment obtained may not be sold, loaned, or transferred out of the possession of the applicant.
- ❖ If the recipient should move to a different address, Relay Hawaii will be notified immediately.
- ❖ If the recipient should move out of the State of Hawai'i or become incapable of using the equipment, the landline equipment must be returned to the RHEP.
- ❖ Recipient must notify the local police if the landline equipment is stolen. A copy of the police report must also be sent to the RHEP.
- ❖ The RHEP or its agents are not liable for any damage that may result from this equipment or its use.
- ❖ Recipient will be liable for the cost of the landline equipment in the event that it is lost or badly abused and not repairable.

## Landline Devices Available:

- ❖ **Ultratec Superprint 4425A**  
TTY phone for typing and reading using Relay Hawaii 711 Service
- ❖ **Ultratec Uniphone 1140**  
Hearing Carry-Over (HCO) phone, for listening and typing using Relay Hawaii 711 Service, or Voice Carry-Over (VCO) phone, for speaking and reading using Relay Hawaii 711 Service.
- ❖ **Speech-to-Speech Phone**  
Speech-to-Speech (STS) phone to use with Relay Hawaii 711 Service

