

Hearing Aid Programs

Medicaid

- Covers cost of hearing aids and accessories for children ages birth through 21
 - Hearing aids must be provided through approved Medicaid product vendors
 - No restriction on type of device but pays a flat rate of \$575.00 per hearing aid, regardless of instrument purchased
 - Does not purchase FM systems
 - Requires valid Patient First referral
 - Frequency of purchase:
 - Hearing aids – 1 per ear 1 time per year
 - Repairs – 1 repair per hearing aid, every 6 months
 - Earmolds – 1 per ear, every 4 months
 - Batteries – 1 pack per hearing aid, every 2 months
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Children's Rehabilitation Services (CRS)

<http://www.rehab.state.al.us/children.html>

- Operates under Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services
- Serves children ages birth through 21
- Provides multitude of services including but not limited to:
 - Audiology
 - Speech pathology
 - Physical & occupational therapy
 - Medical clinics
 - Craniofacial clinics
- Audiology services
 - Hearing clinics, including diagnostic evaluations
 - Vendors out services in some counties to approved CRS vendors
 - Hearing aids, earmolds, and accessories
 - Does not purchase FM systems
 - Does not purchase cochlear implants
- No financial restriction, but operates on sliding fee scale
- Referral made through direct referrals to CRS offices or through Child Find

Schwab Fund

- Operates through UAB Hearing Clinic
- Provides hearing aids for children and adults that have no financial or insurance means of obtaining hearing aids
- Strict financial guidelines
- Applications made directly to UAB Hearing Clinic
- Referrals can be made direct from patient families, other audiology clinics, and schools

Charity League Scholarships

<http://hs.chsys.org/default.asp?ID=2>

- Operates under Children's Hospital Charity League Hearing and Speech Clinic
- Available to families that receive direct patient care from the Charity League Hearing and Speech Clinic and Children's HEAR Center
- Karen Hynds Charles Scholarship
 - Assists in the cost of hearing aids, earmolds, and FM systems
 - Strict financial qualification guidelines
 - Covers up to 50% of the cost, depending on income, with a maximum of \$1250 per hearing aid and \$1500 per FM system
- Patricia Whitehurst Scholarship
 - Provides hearing aids for children that have suffered hearing loss as a result of chemotherapy for cancer and treated at Children's Hospital, unless insurance is available to cover the cost
 - No financial qualification guidelines
 - Covers 100% of the cost
- Cochlear Implant Equipment Scholarship
 - Assists in the cost of accessories and equipment for cochlear implants
 - Strict financial qualification guidelines
 - Covers up to 50% of the cost, depending on income, with a maximum outlay of \$250 per child per year