



What is Relay Iowa?

Relay Iowa is a specialized service that guarantees all citizens access to prompt, professional and accurate communication through the telephone. Consumers of these specialized services, specifically individuals who are deaf, deaf-blind, hard of hearing or have difficulty speaking, can communicate on the telephone via TTY, Voice Carry Over (VCO), Hearing Carry Over (HCO), Speech-to-Speech (STS), Visually Assisted Speech-to-Speech (VA STS), Spanish and Captioned Telephone. This helps ensure that they are able to connect with family, friends or businesses with ease.

How does relay work?

Dial 711 or the toll-free number provided below to connect with Relay Iowa. A Communication Assistant (CA) will ask for the area code and the number of the person you wish to call and will begin relaying the conversation. Generally, the CA will voice the typed message from the text telephone (TTY) user to the person on the other end. The CA then relays the spoken words by typing them back to the TTY user. All calls are held strictly confidential. Specialized relay services are also available for individuals who have difficulty speaking and for Spanish-speaking residents.

Captioned Telephone

Captioned Telephone is ideal for individuals with hearing loss that can speak for themselves. A captioned telephone works like any other telephone would. Yet one essential difference allows users to listen to their phone conversations while reading word-for-word captions of what's being said to them. To call a Captioned Telephone user, dial: 877-243-2823 (English) or 866-217-3362 (Spanish).

How do I apply for specialized equipment?

The Iowa Equipment Distribution Program, called Telecommunications Access Iowa (TAI), helps pay for specialized equipment for residents of Iowa who are deaf, deaf-blind, hard of hearing or have difficulty speaking. Qualified individuals can receive a voucher for approximately 95% of the average cost of specialized telephone equipment. To apply online, go to: www.teleiowa.com or call 800-606-5099 (V/TTY).

Access Numbers:

Dial 711 or
TTY: 800-735-2942
Voice: 800-735-2943
VCO: 800-735-4313
Spanish: 800-264-7190
Speech-to-Speech: 877-735-1007
VA STS: 800-855-8440

Customer Care:

English V/TTY: 888-516-4692
Spanish V/TTY: 866-744-7471
IARelay@HamiltonRelay.com
RelayIowa.com

Relay Iowa and Telecommunications Access Iowa (TAI) are both programs of the Iowa Utilities Board.



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