

Article - State Finance and Procurement

Subtitle 9. Telecommunications Devices AND DISTRIBUTION OF ACCESSIBLE INFORMATION for Disabled Individuals.

3-901.

(a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

(b) "Board" means the Governor's Advisory Board for Telecommunications Relay as defined under § 3-801 of this title.

(c) "DISTRIBUTION OF ACCESSIBLE INFORMATION" MEANS COMPUTERIZED AUDIO INFORMATION, INCLUDING NEWSPAPERS, PROVIDED TO PERSONS ELIGIBLE FOR SERVICE FROM THE MARYLAND STATE LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND AND PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED.

(D) "Program" means the program developed and administered by the Department in consultation with the Board and the Governor's Office for Individuals with Disabilities to provide financial assistance for the purchase of specialized customer premises equipment (SCPE) by eligible program participants.

[(d)](E) "Program participant" means a person who:

(1) is a resident of the State;

(2) is certified by a licensed professional as having a disability which seriously limits or prohibits the use of the basic telephone network without specialized customer premises equipment;

(3) is certified by a licensed professional as being able to use specialized customer premises equipment for which application is made;

(4) meets the financial eligibility requirements established by the Governor's Office for Individuals with Disabilities as a recipient of:

(i) Transitional Emergency Medical and Housing Assistance (TEMHA);

(ii) Supplemental Security Income (SSI); or

(iii) Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC); and

(5) at the time of application is not receiving similar services which are available and can be provided in a timely manner through another program.

(F) "QUALIFIED ENTITY" MEANS A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION WHICH:

(I) PRODUCES AUDIO EDITIONS OF DAILY NEWSPAPERS, AVAILABLE FOR INTERSTATE DISTRIBUTION USING HIGH-SPEED COMPUTER AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY; AND

(II) PROVIDES A MEANS OF PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION AND READER REGISTRATION ON THE INTERNET.