

Steve Sisolak
Governor



Richard Whitley
Director

State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services

Aging and Disability Services Division
Communication Access Services program



Helping people. It's who we are and what we do.



Agenda

- 1) Planning Team
- 2) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)
- 3) Communication Access Service Centers (CASC)
- 4) Priorities for New Funding Cycle
- 5) Community Outreach and Feedback





Planning Team

Rique Robb – ADSD Deputy Administrator (CC)

Jeff Duncan – ADSD Chief II (LV)

Adrienne Navarro - ADSD Chief I (CC)

Cheyenne Pasquale - ADSD Chief I (LV)

Salvatore Fiorentino – CAS Program Manager (LV)

Jennifer Montoya – CAS Interpreter Program Supervisor (CC)

Khianti Thomas – Executive Director of D/HH Commission (LV)

Kristi Martin - Social Services Manager, Grants Management (LV)

Danielle Cooper – Grant Project Specialist (LV)

Lisa Torres – Grant Project Specialist (CC)





Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

What is Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)?

The NOFO provides the background, ADSD priorities, and instructions for potential applicants to apply to be the provider of services. It contains all the information an applicant needs to compete for the subaward. The NOFO is released to the public and is open to all non-profits, public agencies, and for-profit businesses to apply if they are interested in providing the services outlined in the NOFO. The competitive process is typically every two years, although last year we extended the current subaward by one year to allow for additional planning.

Where does funding come from?

Funding for this opportunity comes from the Telecommunication Devices for the Deaf (TDD) surcharge collected by the Public Utilities Commission (PUC).





TDD Surcharge

The TDD surcharge is collected by the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) on wired and wireless telephone lines in Nevada. The rate of the surcharge is set by the PUC.

- **Current Rate** = 6 cents per line
- **Rate Cap** = 8 cents per line
- Total funding available fluctuates based on the number of lines each year.

The TDD Surcharge Funds:

- Relay Services
- State Interpreters/Mentoring
- Deaf Commission Executive Director
- Communication Access Service Centers





NOFO Timeline





Communication Access Service Centers (CASC)

What are Communication Access Service Centers (CASC) ?

A provider, or multiple providers, whether it be a non-profit, public agency and for-profit business that has ability to provide services defined under NRS 427A.797 for deaf, hard of hearing and speech impaired in Nevada.

What services are defined under NRS 427A.797 ?

- Access to Services (education, employment, health and social services)
- Language Acquisition
- Telecommunication Equipment & Assistive Technology Distribution
- Hearing Aids (amended per NRS 427A.610)





Back to Basics

Due to services defined under NRS 427A.797, moving forward the NOFO and resulting subawards will only be to provide the 4 main services required by NRS.

Why are we going “back to basics”?

- Decreased TDD surcharge lines revenue
- TDD surcharge cap
- Intent of NRS 427A.797





Priorities for New Funding Cycle

- **Service Regions**

- **North** – Washoe, Carson, Douglas, Storey, and Lyon
- **South** – Clark, Lincoln, Nye, and Esmeralda counties
- **Rural** – All others

- **Network Structure**

- Multiple subawards
- Emphasize partnerships with other organizations
- Ensure statewide access

- **Service Categories and Priorities**

- **Access to Services** – 35% of funding
 - Navigation Assistance
 - Case Management
- **Telecommunications Equipment & Assistive Technology** – 35% of funding
 - Distribution
 - Training
- **Language Acquisition** – 30% of funding
 - Mentoring and Instruction to children and families





Community Outreach and Feedback

Community Feedback is Critical to Set Priorities!

- **Zoom Workshop**

- December 2, 2020

- **Other Options**

- Information and materials posted online from November 30, 2020 to December 11, 2020.
- Feedback can be provided via:
 - *Sign mail*
 - *Email*
 - *Online form*
 - *Videophone*





Questions?





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Acronyms

- ADSD – Aging and Disability Services Division
- DHHS – Department of Health and Human Services
- CAS – Communication Access Services
- DCN – Deaf Centers of Nevada
- NRS – Nevada Revised Statutes
- CASC – Communication Access Service Centers
- NOFO – Notice of Funding Opportunity
- TDD - Telecommunication Devices for the Deaf
- PUC – Public Utilities Commission

