

## A Deaf person's guide to applying for Access to Work Funding

### What is Access to Work?

Access to Work is Government funding that provides a full range of support to anyone who has a disability or has a physical or mental health condition that makes it more difficult for them to do their job without some additional support or equipment. To be able to apply, you have to have a paid job or be self employed, have a job interview, be about to start a new job or starting work experience. You will not be expected to pay for the help or equipment that is identified as needed to support you.

#### 1. You have to:

- live in the UK
- have a disability or health condition (physical or mental) that makes it hard for you to do parts of your job or get to and from work
- be 16 years old or over
- have a paid job, be self-employment, have an apprenticeship, a work trial or work experience

#### 2. Examples of help

- Counselling & coaching
- Equipment changes or specialist equipment
- Provides interpreters for BSL users or notetakers
- Gives awareness training to the people you work with

#### 3. Fill in Access to work application

[Get support in work if you have a disability or health condition \(Access to Work\): Apply - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

**You will need your national insurance number to be able to do this.**

#### 4. After you have applied

Once you've applied, an Access to Work adviser will contact you to discuss your application and next steps. It may take 3-4 weeks for someone to contact you. An adviser may also contact your employer to discuss how Access to Work can support you. They will not contact your employer until they've agreed this with you first.

An assessor may visit your workplace to assess your needs.

You may get an offer of support, which could include a grant. If it does, you'll be told how much you will receive and for how long.

#### 5. Renewing

You will be contacted 12 weeks before your funding runs out so your needs can be reassessed. It may be that your needs have changed and you require different support.

# Things you might want to consider for Access to Work

When you fill in the Access to Work form and speak to the advisor , these are just some examples of things that may help.

## Smoke alarm / carbon monoxide detector/ door bell

These can be wired in or portable, They can be extra loud and with flashing lights.



Equipment that could be used at work

## Speech to text apps

This can help deaf people by providing a live transcript of what is being said in meetings or online meetings.

Some example apps

Otter AI - <https://otter.ai/edu>

Live transcribe for android – <http://www.android.com/intl/enuk/accessibility/live-transcribe/>

Live transcribe for iso – <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/live-transcribe/id1471473738>

**Interpreter for BSL**  
DSA can be used to fund a BSL interpreter for meetings or training.

## Alarm clocks/watches

You may need an alarm/watch to wake you up in the morning. Some need to be plugged in and some need a battery.



Alarm clocks - Extra loud, vibrating pad, flashing light or a combination



Vibrating alarm watch

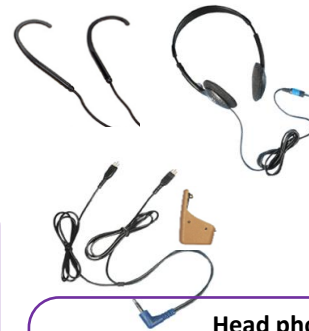
## Equipment that could be used in the work place



### Table mics/ Roger Select

You can use more than one in the work place and put around them around the room. You will need also need a Roger X and connector shoe for each hearing aid for it to work.

You will need to talk to your audiology as they may have to activate more settings in your hearing aid.



### Head phones

You may need to talk to your audiologist about headphones as they may need to activate more settings in your hearing aid for them to work.



Personal loop system



Digital recorder to record meetings to listen to again later