# Can a hearing loop be used by someone without a hearing aid?

Yes, headsets are available to someone who does not have a hearing aid. Headsets should be available for public use and are very helpful in many acoustically challenging venues.

## Where can hearing loops be used?

In any noisy place where it's hard to hear. Many situations and spaces can benefit from a loop: theaters, churches, auditoriums, classrooms, ticket counters, drive-thru windows, banks, doctor's offices, information desks, pharmacies—even home TVs.



# Where can I find hearing loops in Washington State?

Many locations in Washington State offer hearing loops, including Town Hall Seattle, the Seattle Rep, the Bellevue and Seattle City Council, Bellevue Arts Museum, multiple churches, and Office for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (ODHH) and Department of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) offices. For a full, updated list, visit www.loopwashington.org.



**Get in the Hearing Loop** is an educational campaign to increase awareness about hearing loss, hearing aids, hearing assistive technology, telecoils, hearing loops and public hearing access.



Washington State Association

#### Resource for People with Hearing Loss.

The Hearing Loss Association of America-Washington State Association is the state's leading advocacy organization for 650,000 state residents with hearing loss. HLAA-WA is an all-volunteer, consumer organization that provides support, information, and education for people with hearing loss.



**Loop Washington** is an initiative of the Hearing Loss Association of Washington and part of the national **Get in the Hearing Loop! Campaign.** 

Would you like to see a Hearing Loop in your community? Contact us for ways you can help.

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# Making Washington the most hearing accessible state in America

#### **INDUCTION LOOP**





This international symbol is displayed at facilities that offer the hearing loop.

#### The Need

Of the 48 million Americans who experience hearing loss, many need assistive technology to communicate effectively and safely every day. People with hearing loss and auditory processing disorders require hearing assistive technology (HAT) and communication support to hear, process, and to understand speech and information.

Assistive listening systems that are hearing aid compatible (HAC), such as hearing loops, are required for ADA compliance. These technologies can be used with or without hearing aids.

#### The Problem

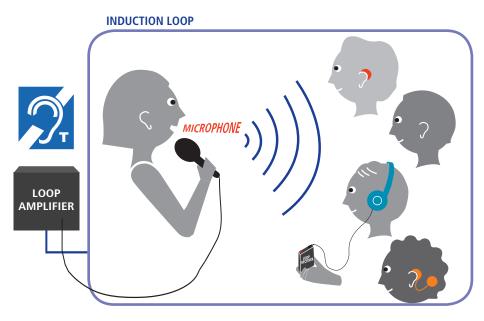
Few publically available assistive listening systems work effectively. Lack of consistent access creates barriers and places the burden on those with the disability. Requiring people with hearing loss to request, locate and wear an additional device is often unsuccessful--equipment is not standardized, maintained, or available; staff are not trained; microphones are not used; and compliance standards are not met.

## **International Symbol for Hearing Access**



When you're out and about, look for this international symbol of access for hearing loss. The "T" means a Hearing Loop is available. When you see a "T", turn your device to the telecoil setting.

# Hearing Loops Easily Deliver Quality Sound to More People



#### The Better Solution

Seamless access to hearing assistive technology makes it easier for people to use. Simple, user-friendly, built-in, and universal, hearing loops deliver immediate, personalized, and discreet hearing assistance. The only assistive listening system to transmit clear sound directly to hearing aids, loops are the international standard for universal hearing access using one's own hearing device or cochlear implant.

Hearing loops are the most discreet way for people with hearing loss to participate and engage just as others do. A loop turns hearing aids into wireless earphones that broadcast sound customized to

each listener's hearing loss, essentially doubling the effectiveness of a hearing aid or cochlear implant. Listeners say it's as if the speaker is inside their head. Hearing loops cost-effectively deliver quality sound to the greatest number of users with the least effort.

## **Hearing Accessible Community**

Loops are an investment in a community's ADA-mandated communication infrastructure. Loops are the most-loved and most-used hearing assistive technology.