Hearing Aid Compatible Mobile Handsets

Pursuant to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), Bristol Bay Cellular Partnership offers hearing aid compatible cellular phones. Following is a list of phones that have been tested and rated "M" or "T" for Hearing Aid Compatibility (HAC).

HAC APPROVED PHONES:

DEVICE	MODEL	FCC ID NUMBER	HAC
iPhone 6s	A1633	BCG-E2946A	M3/T4
iPhone SE	A2275	BCG-E3042A	M3/T4
iPhone 13 Mini	A2481	BCG-E3994A	M3/T4
iPhone 14	A2649	BCG-E8138A	M3/T4
Samsung A14	SM-A146U	ZCASMA146U	M3/T3
TCL Flip 2	4058G	2ACCJN059	M4/T4

Note: This page provides information about the hearing aid compatibility requirements for wireless phones. *For information about hearing aid compatibility for wireline telephones, visit Hearing Aid Compatibility for Wireline Telephones. For information about hearing aid compatibility for wireline ACS telephonic CPE (such as VoIP phones), visit Hearing Aid Compatibility for Wireline ACS Telephonic CPE.*

Mobile wireless service providers and device manufacturers are required to offer a specific number of handsets that are compatible with or do not cause interference with hearing aids and cochlear implants.

How does the FCC determine whether a wireless handset is hearing aid-compatible? The FCC uses a technical standard to determine whether a handset is hearing aid-compatible. The new technical standard is known as the 2019 ANSI standard, and devices that meet it will be simply labelled as "hearing aid-compatible." Although companies may sell devices that meet the 2019 ANSI standard now, and the FCC will require new devices to meet the ANSI 2019 standard starting in December 2023, consumers will still be able to purchase devices certified under older technical standards beyond that point. These standards use an M/T rating system. The "M" rating is for reducing interference with hearing aids operating in acoustic mode—from M1 to M4, with M4 being the best. The "T" rating is for their ability to operate with hearing aids that contain a telecoil (a tightly wrapped piece of wire that converts sounds into electromagnetic signals) and

operate in inductive coupling mode—from T1 to T4, with T4 being the best. The FCC considers a handset to be hearing aid-compatible if it is rated at least an M3 (for acoustic coupling) and at least a T3 (for inductive coupling).

How should I choose a handset? To choose which handsets work best for them, consumers have the right to test handsets inside the store and should understand the store's return policy and restocking fees. In addition, consumers may determine whether a handset has been certified using the 2019 ANSI standard and, if not, its M and T ratings by reviewing the following FCC databases. Handset manufacturers file Hearing Aid Compatibility Status Reports annually using FCC Form 655. These reports contain information about the hearing aid-compatible handsets that they offer. Service providers file annual compliance certifications using FCC Form 855 and provide on their websites additional information about the hearing aid compatibility capabilities of the handsets they offer. For more information on viewing and filing reports and certifications, visit Filing Hearing Aid Compatibility Reports and Certifications.

Do mobile handsets that are hearing aid-compatible have to meet a volume control requirement? The 2019 ANSI standard introduces a volume control requirement that ensures hearing-aid compatible handsets produce sound levels for persons with hearing loss (including persons with and without hearing aids). Mobile handsets that meet the 2019 ANSI standard, including this volume control requirement, will be labeled as such on their package label.