



PARENT & INFANT FINANCIAL AID PROGRAM—2025

Overview

The Parent & Infant Financial Aid Program gives financial aid to families of infants and toddlers ages birth through 4 who have been diagnosed with a moderately-severe to profound hearing loss. Families must be working toward a spoken language outcome for their child. Awards are given to assist with expenses such as auditory support services, speech-language therapy, technology, pre-school fees/tuition, etc. Families should be committed to a listening and spoken language approach for their child's listening, speech, oral communication and cognitive skills.

These awards are made one time per year. Award recipients may apply for this program again in future years. Award amounts vary; over the past three years, awards have ranged from \$300 to \$2,000.

Eligibility Criteria

In order to be eligible for this program, applicants must meet all of the following criteria:

- The child's fourth birthday must be **before** December 31, 2025.
- The child must have a documented bilateral hearing loss or auditory neuropathy.
Note: Children with unilateral (one-sided) hearing loss or unilateral auditory neuropathy do not qualify.
- The child's hearing loss must be within the moderately-severe to profound range. *Children with cochlear implants meet this eligibility requirement.* The child must have an unaided Pure-Tone Average (PTA) of 55dB or greater in the better hearing ear in the speech frequencies of 500, 1000, 2000 and 4000 Hz. *
**This may not apply for children who have been diagnosed with Auditory Neuropathy. For information on required documentation for AN, please see the "documentation" section on the next page.*

Formula for calculating the PTA:

On the unaided audiogram, look at the results for the better hearing ear at 500, 1000, 2000 and 4000 Hz and add those four numbers together, then divide that total by four. The result is the Pure Tone Average. To be eligible for this award, the child's PTA must be 55dB or greater.

- Parents must be committed to and working toward a listening and spoken language outcome for the child.
- The child and family must reside in the United States (including territories) or in Canada; if in the United States, parents must provide a Social Security or Tax ID number.
- Parents/guardians should be able to clearly outline their need for financial assistance and plans for using award funds.

NOTE: All applicants will be given a free nonprofessional membership to AG Bell.

- Documentation of hearing loss.
 - **For infants and toddlers who use hearing aids** – you must include an unaided audiogram performed within the last 12 months. If your child is younger than 1 year of age and has not yet had an unaided audiogram performed, you must include a copy of the ABR (and the OAE, if performed) along with the report from the audiologist diagnosing the hearing loss in the moderate to profound range. **Please Note: we cannot accept your application without this information. No exceptions will be made.**
 - **For infants and toddlers with a cochlear implant** – You must include the most recent programming or audiological report. If your child uses a cochlear implant and a hearing aid, only a CI report is required. If you don't have a programming report, an appropriately marked audiogram will be accepted. **Please Note: we cannot accept your application without a programming/audiological report or audiogram. No exceptions will be made.**
 - **For infants and toddlers who have been diagnosed with Auditory Neuropathy and who do not have a cochlear implant** – You must include an unaided audiogram performed within the last 12 months and a report from the audiologist diagnosing AN with recommendations. If an audiogram is not available, you must include a copy of the ABR (and the OAE if available) along with the report from the audiologist diagnosing AN with recommendations. **Please Note: we cannot accept your application without this information. No exceptions will be made.**

You will need two letters of recommendation.

- Letter of recommendation from a professional (Audiologist, Speech Language Pathologist, Auditory Verbal Therapist, Teacher of the deaf, Doctor, etc.) **PLEASE NOTE: This is separate from the audiogram or CI programming report; an audiological report or evaluation is NOT a letter of recommendation.**
- Letter of recommendation from a non-relative who is familiar with the family, your commitment to a listening and spoken language outcome and, in general terms, the family's financial need.

Two separate letters of recommendation from different people are required for an application to be considered for an award.

Application Deadline

The deadline for applications is August 19, 2025, at 11:59pm EST. We will not accept any applications after the due date or extend the deadline. Thank you for understanding. If there are any questions or concerns, please email Emerson at financialaid@agbell.org. *It may take a few days to respond, so please ask any questions as early as you can*

Administrative Processes

Once the application has been reviewed for eligibility and completeness, we will forward all eligible applications to the selection committee. The committee will review the applications and determine awards. We will then send you an award notice by email. Please note that all communications are via e-mail; if you do not provide an e-mail address, you will not receive notifications from AG Bell.

All decisions of the selection committee are final.