

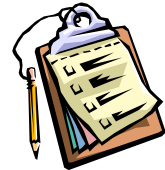


Planes, Trains and Automobiles: Travel Tips for People with Hearing Loss

Tina Childress, MA, CCC-A
HLAA 2011
Washington, DC

What we're going to cover

- Travel by Plane
- Travel by Train
- Travel by Automobile
- ALDs
- What to Pack
- Power Supplies
- Lodging
- What to do in case of Emergency



Travel by Plane

Checked Luggage Scanner

- This machine is stronger than carry-on bags
 - May affect processor or map



Travel by Plane

X-ray machine

- Don't put your equipment directly onto conveyor belt or in the plastic bins
 - May generate static electricity
- Place spare processor in its case or inside another bag – switch off and remove battery



Travel by Plane

Walk-through Metal Detector

- You CAN walk through with one, or even two, hearing aids or ear level CI processors
 - In fact, the TSA suggests keeping your HA or CI on
- Body-worn CI processor has more metal and may set off alarm
 - If you are going to take off your processor, make sure to inform the TSA staff



Travel by Plane

Walk-through Metal Detector

- MAY hear distorted sound when walking through scanner
 - Turn down your volume
 - Carry your ID card
- Can ask for a full body pat-down of your person and a visual and physical inspection of the exterior component while it remains on your body

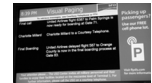


Disability Notification Card for Air Travel

Travel by Plane

Getting ready to board the plane

- When you check in, let them know that you have hearing loss and see if they can put that in your traveler profile
- Sign up for alerts to go to your cellphone/ Smartphone
- **YOU** are responsible for letting the gate staff know that you have hearing loss
 - Very important for last minute gate changes, delays or cancellations
 - Often forget ☹



Travel by Plane On the plane

- HAs and CIs will NOT interfere with the plane's navigational instruments
 - Can keep on the entire time even when they ask to "turn off all electronic devices" during takeoff and landing
- Listening to music or watching movie during flight
 - Use your connectivity options or bring a set of headphones
 - We still need captioning!



Travel by Air Communication

- If traveling alone, inform your seat partner that you have hearing loss in the event of emergency announcements
- Inform the flight attendant
 - Gate announcements
 - Emergency announcements
- Consider use of ALDs
- Check for your equipment before de-planing



Travel by train At the station

- While waiting to board the train, be sure to let a gate attendant know you have hearing loss in case of changes, delays or cancellations
- Be very visually aware of your surroundings, especially near train track intersections



Travel by train Communication

- If you are traveling alone, consider telling someone that you have hearing loss in case of a public announcement
- Consider use of ALDs
 - Trains can be very noisy!



Travel by Automobile

Communication

- “Wow – deaf people can drive?!?!?”
- Strategic seating
- Consider an extra wide rearview mirror
- PLEASE pull over for texting, emailing or extended conversations
- Turn on light for better lipreading
- Consider use of ALDs

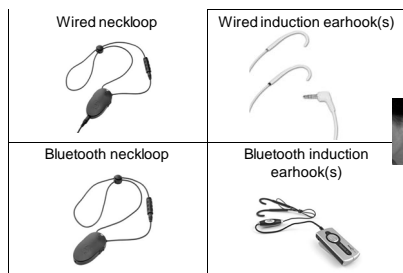


ALDs (Assistive Listening Devices)

- Lapel microphone
 - Clip on other person's seatbelt
 - Clip it on your leg for listening to car audio if speaker is in the car door
- Personal ALD or FM system
- Loop system



ALDs (Assistive Listening Devices) Hands-free access to phone or media player



What to pack



- ASSUME YOUR LUGGAGE WILL BE LOST
 - “What do I need to keep my hearing aid/cochlear implant going?”
 - Put these items in your carry-on
- Extra CI equipment
 - Charger (for outlet and for car), batteries, alternative power options
 - Cables, earhooks, headpieces, spare processor
- Extra HA equipment
 - Batteries, charger (if using rechargeable batteries)
 - Earmold blower
 - Cleaning tools for wax

What to pack



- Drying system
 - If electric, don't forget a converter if traveling internationally!
- Zip-lock plastic bags
- Water-resistant hat or cap, padded pouch
- Printed copy of your hearing aid settings or map if you will be gone a long time
 - This way if you need a replacement, the audiologist doesn't have to work from scratch
- Phone number to your manufacturer's Customer Care/Service
- Paper and Pen in case your HA or CI isn't working

Power Supplies



- Check with your manufacturer to confirm overseas compatibility of your charger
 - Most have transformers (gets you to the right voltage) – all you need is the correct sized plug



www.voltagevalet.com

Country	Plug	Outlet	Voltage	Freq. Hz.	Notes/Adapters
Albania	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Algeria	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Andorra	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Angola	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Antigua	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Argentina	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Australia	I	3	240	50	170, 180
Austria	C	2	230	50	170, 180
Azerbaijan	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Bahamas	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Bahrain	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Bangladesh	D	3	230	50	170, 180
Barbados	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Belarus	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Belgium	C	2	230	50	170, 180
Belize	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Benin	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Bhutan	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Bolivia	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Bosnia	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Brazil	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Bulgaria	C	2	230	50	170, 180
Burkina Faso	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Burundi	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Cambodia	D	3	230	50	170, 180
Cameroon	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Canada	A	2	120	60	170, 180
Cape Verde	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Casakhstan	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Cayman Islands	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Czech Republic	C	2	230	50	170, 180
Dominican Republic	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Dominica	B	2	230	50	170, 180
DRC	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Ecuador	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Egypt	B	2	230	50	170, 180
El Salvador	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Equatorial Guinea	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Eritrea	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Estonia	C	2	230	50	170, 180
Ethiopia	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Faroe Islands	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Fiji	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Finland	C	2	230	50	170, 180
France	C	2	230	50	170, 180
Gabon	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Gambia	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Georgia	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Germany	C	2	230	50	170, 180
Ghana	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Greece	C	2	230	50	170, 180
Greenland	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Grenada	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Guatemala	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Guinea	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Guinea-Bissau	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Guyana	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Haiti	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Honduras	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Hong Kong	D	3	230	50	170, 180
Hungary	C	2	230	50	170, 180
Iceland	B	2	230	50	170, 180
India	D	3	230	50	170, 180
Indonesia	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Iran	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Ireland	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Israel	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Italy	C	2	230	50	170, 180
Jamaica	B	2	230	50	170, 180
Japan	A	2	100	60	170, 180
Jordan	B	2	230	50	170, 180

Travel Training Manual (Gallaudet)

<http://bit.ly/evUuFI>

Laurent Clerc National Deaf Education Center
Gallaudet University

Students on the Go: A Travel Training Manual

Overview

The ability to travel independently in the community helps to promote the development of autonomy in adolescents. Students who possess the knowledge and skills associated with independent travel have increased access to community events, including after school activities and employment (Bar-Lev, 1999).

Travel training is a comprehensive, intensive instruction designed to teach students how to travel safely and independently on public transportation (Groce, 2000). Students may receive training at any age, though it occurs typically between 12-14, depending on their maturity level and ability to act responsibly.

This travel training manual was designed to support you in training students to travel safely and independently wherever their destination may be. It will assist you in working with individual students to meet their specific travel

Lodging and the ADA



- Hotels and motels must also provide built-in communication features in a certain percentage of guest rooms. These features include:
 - Visual alarms in guest rooms that are connected to the building's emergency alarm system.
 - Visual notification devices in guest rooms to alert persons with hearing impairments to incoming telephone calls and door knocks or bells.
 - Electrical outlets to facilitate the use of text telephones.
- These communication features are required in hotel facilities built or altered after the effective date of the ADA. They are also required in hotel facilities built before the effective date of the ADA to meet the ongoing obligation to remove physical and communication barriers to the extent possible without much difficulty or expense. Hotels and motels may also use portable visual alarms and communication devices to satisfy these requirements (ADA Standards 9.3.2).

<http://www.usdoj.gov/crt/ada/hotelcombr.htm>

Lodging ADA hotel kit



- "Use it or lose it"
- Request it when you make your reservation (i.e., ahead of time)
- May need to describe to hotel staff
- Check to make sure it works
- Can contain visual fire alarm, TTY, vibrating alarm clock, strobe light door knocker
- Ask for "Accessible Room"
 - Caveat: does not mean all of the items above are present

Lodging

- Let them know that you are deaf in case of emergency – they can do this in your profile
 - Consider not using the bolt lock
 - Consider giving them permission to enter your room
- If traveling with someone else, give them one of your room keys
- Your headpiece magnet, cell phone and cell phone case can demagnetize the strip on the hotel key



Lodging

- Considering bringing your own alarm – clock, watch, cell phone, PDA
- Closed captioning can be tricky
 - May need to ask for the specific TV remote, not the universal remote that is provided



What to do in case of emergency

- Driver's License
 - Each state website should have information for "Persons with Disabilities"
 - e.g., "Application for Illinois Disabled Person Identification Card"
 - Register for your Emergency Contact Database
 - This is where I entered information about being deaf
 - Ask for a caduceus sticker
 - Research any kind of deaf identification
 - Code on your driver's license
 - Special visor card



What to do in case of emergency

- Patient Emergency Identification Card
 - Contact your manufacturer or look in the materials you received at initial stimulation
 - Keep next to (or in front of) your Driver's License or State ID
- ID jewelry or portable medical record storage
 - Google "medical alert jewelry"



What to do in case of emergency

- Create your own Emergency Medical Identification card
 - <http://www.medids.com/free-id.php>

EMERGENCY MEDICAL IDENTIFICATION	
Courtesy of MedID.com® Haria C Childress DOB: 05/25/1970 2203 Aspen Drive Champaign, IL 61821 tina.childress@gmail.com 217-352-5256 h - 217-898-0790 • Blood Type: Insurance: Health Alliance HMO • See ins. cards in wallet Emergency Contacts: Matthew Childress - Husband - 217-721-8599 • 217-244-1815 Michelle Mantjes - Sister - 217-840-6926 • 217-239-9991 Physicians: Michael A. Novak - otolaryngologist - 217-283-3130 Jeffrey Swearingen - PCP - 217-383-3170 Carle Hospital - Urbana, IL	
Conditions / History: DEAF: Uses cochlear implants to hear Medications: None Allergies / Others: BILATERAL COCHLEAR IMPLANTS NO MRI or MONOPOLAR CAUTERY Allergies - Penicillin, Aspirin Organ Donor Card Printed: 11/7/2010 Courtesy of MedID.com®	

Information to include

- "Deaf", "deaf" or "hard of hearing"
- Use "cochlear implant(s)" or "hearing aid(s)"
- Specific to CI recipients:
 - NO MRI
 - NO MONOPOLAR CAUTERY
 - Name and phone number to CI surgeon/clinic

What to do in case of emergency

- Add a listing for "ICE" (In Case of Emergency) on your cell phone, pager and/or PDA
- How would you contact someone in case of emergency?
 - Voice, text or email
 - Onboard, paid service like OnStar



True or False ?

- = It's better to leave all of your accessories (e.g., batteries, cables) in your checked baggage
- = Power supplies are universal
- = You can walk through a metal detector with your ear-level processor
- = All hotels have ADA kits, know where they are and how they work
- = All cochlear implants are MRI compatible
- = It's a good idea to keep your medical ID card next to your driver's license
- = ALDs are a great way to hear better in noisy environments