



DeafTEC: Technological Education Center for Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Students is a National Science Foundation Advanced Technological Education National Resource Center. DeafTEC's goal is to increase the number of deaf individuals in highly skilled technician jobs in which there continues to be underrepresentation and underutilization of such individuals in the workplace.

DeafTEC is housed at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID), the first and only two-year technical college in the United States for deaf students. NTID was established in 1965 on the campus of the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT), a prominent four-year technical university in Rochester, NY, to reverse the long history of underemployment and unemployment among our nation's deaf citizens.

Professional Development

Workshops. DeafTEC provides professional development onsite and online for high school teachers, community college faculty, and employers to improve access to learning and STEM technician employment for deaf individuals.

- For high school teachers and community college faculty, workshops on universal design for learning and best teaching practices and instructional materials and strategies to help deaf students improve writing and math skills.
- For community college faculty, workshops aimed at improving instruction and services for student veterans with hearing loss.
- For employers, workshops on developing the sensitivity and skills to create an inclusive workplace for deaf/hh employees to succeed.

Conference Participation. DeafTEC partners with national conferences to broaden the understanding of how disability inclusion can build a stronger STEM workforce.

- In 2021, DeafTEC will send teams from 20 community colleges to AHEAD's Equity and Excellence Access in Higher Education Conference.
- In 2022, DeafTEC will send six educators to participate in sessions with business diversity leaders at the Disability:IN Annual Conference & Expo.

Online Resources

DeafTEC website (deaftec.org) provides a comprehensive collection of resources for high schools and community colleges that educate deaf and hard-of-hearing students in STEM-related programs, and for employers hiring deaf individuals.

- *Teaching and Learning.* Extensive resources on effective strategies and best practices for teaching deaf students, both online and onsite, with an emphasis on universal design for learning, and instructional materials and strategies for writing in the STEM disciplines and supporting math instruction.
- *STEM Employment.* Resources for employers on hiring and the inclusion of deaf individuals, and a self-paced *Working Together: Deaf & Hearing People* online course. For students, a nine module course to guide them through the job search process.
- *Curriculum.* STEM career awareness curriculum for teachers designed specifically for deaf students.

Project Good to Go: Teaching Student Veterans with Hearing Loss website (good2go.org) provides resources for community college faculty to address the unique academic challenges that student veterans with hearing loss face in STEM programs.

Note: The term deaf in this document is used in an all-inclusive manner to include people who may identify as deaf, deafblind, deafdisabled, hard of hearing, and late-deafened.



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