

Where Do I Go For More Information?

- www.cartinfo.org
- <http://cart.NCRAonline.org>



Prepared by the National Court Reporters Association
Communication Access Realtime Translation (CART) Task Force

Statistics

Over 28 million Americans have some form of hearing loss. The Americans with Disabilities Act mandates the elimination of discrimination against people with disabilities. Under the ADA, CART is recognized as an assistive technology that affords "effective communication access."



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Communication Access Realtime Translation



Providing Equal Access to People Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing



National Court Reporters Association

What Is CART?

Communication Access Realtime Translation (CART) is a word-for-word speech-to-text interpreting service for people who need communication access. It benefits people who are late-deafened, oral deaf, hard of hearing, or who have cochlear implants. Culturally Deaf individuals also make use of CART in certain situations. Unlike computerized notetaking or abbreviation systems, which summarize information for consumers, CART provides a complete translation of all spoken words and environmental sounds, empowering consumers to decide for themselves what information is important to them.

A CART provider uses a steno machine, notebook computer and realtime software to render instant speech-to-text translation on a computer monitor or other display for the benefit of an individual consumer or larger group in a variety of settings. A CART provider is sensitive to the varying needs of consumers and has had training in conveying a speaker's message, complete with environmental cues. Increasingly, CART is being provided remotely via the Internet or a telephone connection.

CART is also referred to as *realtime captioning*.

CART Environments

- Business, government and educational functions
- Classrooms
- Courtrooms
- Religious services
- Senior citizen meetings
- Conventions and conferences
- Doctor appointments
- Banking and investment transactions
- Weddings, funerals and other personal events
- Civic events, such as town council meetings
- Cultural presentations, such as Broadway shows
- Recreation or entertainment events
- Anywhere communication access is needed

Benefits

- **Equal Communication Access** ... in your personal and professional life or that of a loved one
- **Independence** ... to decide what is important in the material presented
- **Freedom** ... of choice regarding setting, display options and seating
- **Confidence** ... to join in conversations, knowing all words and environmental sounds are captured
- **Ability** ... to fully participate in life



“

I'd like to thank you for all your help during the last semester. I got an A in all my classes — a first for me — and a part of the merit is definitely yours.

Deaf Ph.D. student

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Thank you for making sense out of my otherwise chaotic world.

Business professional

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If you want to be the best, use the best.

Late-deafened adult

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This semester was the first time I used captioning in my classes, and I was amazed at how much I had been missing. It has helped me tremendously, and I want to make sure that captioning remains available to me through my university years.

Deaf student

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