

Providing equal access for people who are deaf or hard-of-hearing

CART communication access realtime translation

CART benefits people who are late-deafened, oral deaf, hard of hearing, or who have cochlear implants.

What is CART?

CART stands for Communication Access Realtime Translation, a word-for-word speech-to-text service that displays complete translation of all spoken words and environmental sounds to faithfully communicate the integrity of the message. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) mandates the elimination of discrimination against people with disabilities. Under the ADA, CART is recognized as an assistive technology that affords “effective communication access.”

CART is provided by a CART captioner who uses a steno machine, a computer, and realtime software to provide instant speech-to-text translation on a computer monitor, laptop, tablet, or smartphone for the benefit of an individual consumer or larger group in a variety of settings. Increasingly, CART is being provided remotely via the internet or a telephone connection. CART is also referred to as realtime captioning.

Where is CART beneficial?

- Classrooms (K-12 and post-secondary)
- Corporate and government functions
- Community events
- Conventions and conferences
- Religious services
- Courtrooms
- Weddings, funerals, and other personal events
- Museums and theatrical events
- Anywhere communication access is needed

Why CART?



One out of three 65-year-olds have hearing loss



60 percent of people with hearing loss are in the workforce



Hearing loss is the number one war disability



20 percent of adults in the U.S. report some hearing loss



80 percent of people who could benefit from hearing aids do not get them



Hearing loss is the third most common physical condition

Who does CART?

A CART captioner receives training before passing both a written test and demonstrating they can write at 180 words per minute with 96 percent accuracy. A CART captioner's training in conveying a speaker's message, complete with environmental cues, makes them sensitive to the varying needs of consumers. When hiring a certified CART captioner, consumers want to look for the Certified Realtime Captioner (CRC) credential.



**CERTIFIED
REALTIME
CAPTIONER**

How can I find a CART captioner?

Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing and their advocates can find certified captioners online at NCRASourcebook.com.

NCRA's CaptioningMatters.org, a website for consumers of captioning services, is a resource that helps individuals, institutions, and organizations find CART services and stay on top of the latest developments in the CART and captioning industry.



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