

ACUTA Alert: FCC Seeks Comment on Hearing Aid Compatible Wireless Cell Phones

ACUTA members who serve students and other constituents with hearing disabilities may be interested in a recent Request for Comments from the Federal Communications Commission.

The FCC Wireless Telecommunications Bureau has released a Request for Comments on Wireless Hearing Aid Compatibility ("HAC"), for the purpose of collecting feedback from hearing impaired users on whether current rules on HAC cell phones are adequate.

The deadline for filing comments on this matter has been changed to January 12, 2007, and reply comments are due January 31, 2007. The Public Notice and information on how to file comments may be accessed at: http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-06-2285A1.pdf. To file electronic comments via the Internet go to <http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs> and enter docket number 06-203.

You may also wish to bring this matter to the attention of the campus office that deals with disability issues, and consider whether your institution would like to submit comments based on the experiences of those within your academic community with hearing disabilities who use HAC cellular handsets.

ACUTA Legislative/Regulatory Affairs Committee