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disAbility Resources
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Frequency Modulated (FM) Systems

An FM system is a wireless, portable device that uses radio transmission to send sounds from a transmitter to a receiver. With most FM systems, the instructor wears a microphone (transmitter) and the student wears a receiver. When the instructor speaks, the speech signal is transmitted to the student's FM receiver, eliminating background noises and allowing the student to receive the spoken message directly.

There are different options for students to connect to FM:

- Earphones or Ear Buds: for those who don't wear hearing aids.
- Neck loop: A neck loop is worn around the neck. This is for users who have a telecoil on their hearing aid or cochlear implant processor.
- Individual FM receiver: This individualized receiver is for people with behind-the-ear hearing aids. It hooks directly onto hearing aid or cochlear implant processor.

During a class, the instructor will be asked to wear the small microphone/transmitter. **The student will bring all necessary equipment (the microphone/transmitter and receiver) to each class session.**

For maximum benefit, the microphone should be centered and no more than 6 inches from the speaker's mouth.

