

Voice and Message Banking Companies:

Some companies (see below) provide samples of completed voices. It is encouraged to visit and listen, as a synthetic voice will still sound different from a natural human speaking voice. The ALS Center at the University of Miami has no financial relationship with any of the listed companies.

1. Acapela/My Own Voice:

Type: Voice and message banking, donated voice from the community

Time: 2-3 hours or longer depending on the need for voice breaks

Languages: Arabic, Danish, Dutch, Dutch (BE), English (Australia), English (UK), English (US), French, French (Canada), German, Italian, Norwegian, Spanish, Spanish (North American), Swedish

Price: \$999 to download your voice

Used with: Windows, Android, and iOS, SAPI for 3rd party Speech generating devices

2. Model Talker:

Type: Voice and message banking, donated voice from the community

Time: It is recommended to complete at least 400 phrases (about 2 hours running speech) for an “acceptable” voice quality. The “Standard Inventory” gives you the best voice quality and is 3155 phrases which can take 12-16 hours. You can choose to complete somewhere between the minimum and the “Standard Inventory” for a voice quality somewhere in between. Creating a “Custom inventory” allows you complete message banking.

Languages: English

Price: \$100 US Dollars to download your voice

Used with: Windows, iOS and Android mobile devices, SAPI for 3rd party Speech generating devices

3. Cere Voice Me:

Type: Voice banking (“voice cloning”) & donated voice from the community

Time: 2 hours depending on the need for voice breaks

Languages: English, Spanish, French, Swedish, Italian and Romania

Price: £500 (~\$615 US Dollars) paid for upfront

Used with: Windows SAPI5 TTS or MacOS. The final voice can be tweaked for preference prior to download.

4. Vocal ID:

Type: Voice banking and message banking, donated voice from the community (“bespoke”).

Time: 6-7 hours depending on the need for voice breaks (running speech: 2-3 hours’ worth)

Languages: English

Price: Preview your voice for \$29 and purchase your voice \$1400 US Dollars

Used with: MyVocalID app and touch chat app for iOS, My Vocal ID app for Android, Tobii and PRC speech generating device

5. MyMessageBanking: by Boston Children’s Hospital in partnership with Tobii Dynavox

Type: Message banking uploaded via voice recording system (i.e. Zoom Voice recorder).

Time: There is no minimum time needed for this. If you reach 700-800 phrases, you may “double dip” and use your recorded messages to create a synthesized voice. Please speak with your Speech Pathologist for more information.

Languages: Any language may be used to message bank. Double dipping is limited to currently available languages.

Price: Free

Used with: May be uploaded on nearly all speech generating devices

Assistance:

The following companies may be able to provide funding assistance, as voice banking is not covered by insurance:

Team Gleason

Web: <https://teamgleason.org/voicebanking/>

Phone: (504) 934-1037

Always for ALS

Web: <https://www.alwaysforalsinc.org/>

Phone: (561) 568-4441

The ALS Association-

Web: http://webfl.alsa.org/site/PageNavigator/FL_8_CareAssistGrants.html

Phone: (888) 257-1717