

DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING

ALIEF MONTESSORI COMMUNITY SCHOOL

101815

Template update May 2020

Legal Framework: DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING

[Related Resources](#)

Broad Category: EVALUATION

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

A student is considered for eligibility of special education services once they have been identified as having a documented hearing loss in compliance with Deaf or Hard of Hearing (DHH) protocols and an educational need as identified in the Full Individual Evaluation.

- Deafness Definition: A hearing impairment that is so severe that the child is impaired in processing linguistic information through hearing, with or without amplification, that adversely affects a child's educational performance
- Hearing Impairment Definition: An impairment in hearing, whether permanent or fluctuating, that adversely affects a child's educational performance but that is not included under the definition of deafness in this section
- The disability must be documented professionally.
 - Otolological Examination - Performed by an otolaryngologist (ENT), or by a licensed medical doctor, when documentation from an otolaryngologist is not reasonably available
 - Audiological Evaluation Performed by a licensed audiologist. The evaluation data must include a description of the implications of the hearing loss for the student's hearing in a variety of circumstances with or without recommended amplification
- The Deaf or Hard of Hearing disability must have an adverse impact on educational performance.

Multidisciplinary Team

When evaluating for suspected Deaf/Hard of Hearing (D/HH), the trained multidisciplinary team (MDT) includes a group of qualified professionals that collects or reviews evaluation data in connection with the determination of the child's eligibility. This group should include, but is not limited to, a Deaf/Hard of Hearing Teacher & the Educational Diagnostician, Licensed Physicians, and the child's [enrolled general education](#) teacher. Should special circumstances arise, MDT will include necessary specialized professionals such as the need for a bilingual examiner.

It is best practice for the D/HH Teacher to complete their evaluation first so that they may make recommendations for accommodations or modifications to the other evaluators during the testing process. The [Diagnostician](#) and the D/HH Teacher will collaborate with one another to

DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING

ALIEF MONTESSORI COMMUNITY SCHOOL

101815

obtain the consent to release confidential information from the parent to communicate with the otolaryngologist and audiologist. Information to be obtained from the medical professionals includes:

- Otolological evaluation (Part A)- An otological examination performed by an otolaryngologist (ENT), or by a licensed medical doctor with documentation that an otolaryngologist is not reasonably available is required to qualify as a student with a hearing impairment.
- Audiological (Part B)- An audiological evaluation performed by a licensed audiologist is required to qualify as a student with a hearing impairment. This evaluation must be current within the last year.

The Campus Referral Designee (CRD) or Campus Special Education Representative (CSER) will obtain consent from the parents/guardians to request Part A and Part B medical professionals. The procedures and materials used for the assessment and placement of the child who is deaf or hard of hearing must be in the child 's preferred mode of communication.

A Communication Assessment completed by a certified teacher of the Deaf/Hard of Hearing that includes an assessment of:

- Audiological
- Functional listening skills
- Expressive and receptive language
- Speechreading skills
- The child's primary mode of communication

STAFF RESPONSIBLE:

District Level: Special Education Director, Diagnostician, LSSP, Deaf/Hard of Hearing Teacher, Related Services Personnel

Campus Level: Administrators, Counselors, Campus Referral Designee (CRD), Campus Special Education Representative (CSER), Teachers, Parents

TIMELINES FOR IDENTIFYING DISABILITY CONDITIONS:

- Legal Framework
- Child Find Process
- Annual training for general education and special education staff

EVIDENCE OF PRACTICE:

- Forms or checklists used
- List of qualified evaluators with appropriate licenses and certifications
- Copies of evaluations
- Medical Documentation

DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING

ALIEF MONTESSORI COMMUNITY SCHOOL

101815

- Prior Written Notice of Proposal or Refusal to Evaluate
- Written consent for evaluation
- D/HH Eligibility Form Part A - Otological
- D/HH Eligibility Form Part B - Audiological

EXTERNAL RESOURCES

Texas Project First: Deaf/Hard of Hearing

Texas Hands and Voices

Supporting Success for Children with Hearing Loss

National Institute for the Deaf

Specialized Telecommunications Assistance Program (STAP)