

Deaf or Hard of Hearing

Definition:

A child with a hearing disability shall have a deficiency in hearing sensitivity, as demonstrated by an elevated threshold of auditory sensitivity to pure tones or speech where, even with the help of amplification, the child is prevented from receiving reasonable benefit from general education.

Criteria:

A deficiency in hearing sensitivity shall be one of the following:

- An average pure tone hearing loss, in the speech range (500-2000 Hz) of at least 30 dBHL in the better ear which is not reversible with a reasonable period of time.
- An average high frequency, pure tone hearing loss of at least 35 dBHL in the better ear or two or more of the following frequencies: 2000, 4000, or 6000 Hz.
- A unilateral hearing loss if at least 35 dBHL which is not reversible within a reasonable period of time.

Criteria for a hearing disability preventing the child/student from receiving reasonable benefit from general education shall include one or more of the following:

- Sound-field word recognition (unaided) of less than 75% of quiet as measured with standardized open-set audiometric speech discrimination tests presented at average conversational speech.
- Receptive and/or expressing language delay as determined by standardized tests.
- An impairment of speech articulation, voice, and/or fluency.
- Delay in reading comprehension due to language deficit.
- Significant discrepancy between verbal and non-verbal performance on a standardized intelligence test.
- Poor academic achievement.
- Inattentive, inconsistent, and/or inappropriate classroom behavior.

Note: A Communication Plan is required for all children/students with a hearing disability.

CDE Resources & Information

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdesped/SD-Hearing.asp>

Additional Resources and Information

<http://handsandvoices.org>

Hands & Voices is a nationwide non-profit organization dedicated to supporting families and their children who are deaf or hard of hearing.

<http://clerccenter.gallaudet.edu>

Gallaudet University - Laurent Clerc National Deaf Education Center: Working for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children throughout the United States

<http://www.aspencamp.org>

Aspen Camp of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

<http://www.dcmp.org>

Captioned Media Program (CMP): Free-loan captioned media; Video/CD_ROM/Internet Streaming

<http://www.deafchildren.org>

The American Society for Deaf Children

<http://www.csdb.org>

Colorado School for the Deaf and Blind

<http://www.deafresources.com>

An online store.

<http://www.raisingdeafkids.org>

This website has a lot of information about children who are deaf and hard of hearing. Most of the information is about helping parents understand their child's deafness and showing them how to help their child succeed.

Specific Description of Department Services

Audiological Services

Adams 12 Five Star Schools provides complete audiological services including diagnostic and management services of children with hearing concerns, age birth through 21 years of age.

D/HH Services

Once it has been determined that a child/student qualifies for special education under a hearing disability, services can be provided through Itinerant or Center-Based programming. A student's program components are determined based on needs at the IEP meetings, with respect for family goals and the child's current primary communication mode. The components of the program available to the student may include:

- Auditory Skills Development
- Oral Speech Development
- Language Development
- Academic & Cognitive Development
- Social-Emotional Development
- Transition Planning

Itinerant Services

The district provides itinerant services for Deaf and Hard of Hearing (D/HH) students' age preschool through 12th grade (or 21 years of age). This program includes students with mild to profound hearing losses. These students primary communication modality is oral and most attend their home school. The itinerant program provides a variety of service delivery. These range from monitor and consult to daily direct services. The services are determined by the student's needs.

Center-Based Services

Three public schools in Adams 12 Five Star Schools house a unique program for Deaf and Hard of Hearing (D/HH) students' age preschool through 12th grade (or 21 years of age).

- Mountain View Elementary houses the program for preschool through 5th grade
- Westlake Middle is the site for the middle school program
- Legacy High is the center-based program for high school students

These programs include children with mid to profound hearing losses. These students have a variety of primary communication modalities. A small number of students with normal hearing may also be serviced through the program based on unique individual communication needs. The D/HH center-based programs provide a full continuum of service delivery. These range from being fully mainstreamed to self-contained classes. All five Adams County School Districts (Adams County #1, 12, 14, 27J and 50) have an option to refer students to the Center DHH programs.

Sign Language Interpreter Services

Sign interpreters provide interpreting and tutoring services to students who are deaf or hard of hearing based on their IEP's for general classroom access, extra-curricular, etc.

All interpreters hired by Adams 12 Five Star Schools hold a Colorado Educational Interpreter Certificate of Verification (CEIC). This certifies that the interpreters have passed both a skills and knowledge assessment and met the Colorado standards for educational interpreters.

Deaf staff members of District 12, and other deaf adults needing interpreting services, may call the District Interpreter Request Line. In order to streamline the process of requesting interpreting services of deaf parents of your students for meetings, staffing, parent/student/teacher conferences, please call 720-972-4444, express mailbox 800597#, at least three days in advance of your activity and leave a message with the following information:

- Your name, position and phone number
- Name and grade of student
- Parent Name
- Type of activity for which you need interpreter services
- Location of activity
- Start and ending time
- Any special considerations
- Please verify communication preference (ASL, Oral, or English Based Sign System) if you have this information

We realize that emergencies can arise and will do our best to accommodate your needs. Please remember that district interpreters are working with deaf and hard of hearing students in classes during the school day. Whenever possible we ask that you schedule meetings after 3:00pm.

This voice mail will not be checked during summer break.