

Early Childhood Services Specifically for Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH) Children

This document is to serve as an introduction to some agencies that provide services to and support, for DHH children.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)	Local Education Agency (LEA) (please complete this column with home school district information)	 Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Education	 INDIANA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF	 St Joseph HEARING + SPEECH
Who do I contact?		CDHHENetwork@health.in.gov	Admissions@isd.k12.in.us	SchoolServices@sjid.org
What is the website?		https://www.in.gov/health/cdhhe/	https://www.deafhoosiers.com/	https://sjid.org/
Do you offer transition testing?		Yes. We work collaboratively with the Local Education Agency (LEA) to provide technical assistance, which may include any necessary testing in accordance with special education law.	No. The Indiana School for the Deaf (ISD) does not offer comprehensive transition testing.	No. St. Joseph Hearing + Speech does not offer comprehensive transition testing.
How is placement considered for services? A placement decision or recommendation, after determining if your child is eligible for services, is made by the Case Conference Committee.		The Center is not an educational placement. We provide support and resources no matter where your child receives their education in the state of Indiana.	Placement at ISD may be considered for a child who is eligible for Deaf and Hard of Hearing special education services and is able to learn to communicate using American Sign Language (ASL), with or without amplification.	Placement at St. Joseph may be considered for a child who is eligible for Deaf and Hard of Hearing special education services, uses personal amplification devices (hearing aids, cochlear implants, etc.), has auditory access to speech frequencies, and has a delay in listening, language, speech, or social skills.
Can I take a tour or schedule a classroom visit?		-----	Yes. Please contact: Admissions@isd.k12.in.us Voice: (317) 550-4858 Videophone: (317)493-0479	Yes. Please contact: SchoolServices@sjid.org (317) 471-8560
What is a brief description of the program?		The Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Education (CDHHE), also known as "The Center," was established through Indiana Code 20-35-11 and opened on July 1, 2013. CDHHE is housed within the Indiana Department of Health and works with families and professionals to ensure that DHH children and students in Indiana receive important follow-up and other services. The Center is designed to serve all children ages birth through school exit.	ISD's Early Childhood Education (ECE) program provides a full-day, bilingual learning environment for natural language acquisition and to develop proficiency with ASL, English and preacademic skills. Licensed DHH teachers provide opportunities for learning in a visually accessible setting through structured play which builds pathways for thinking, creativity, flexibility, empathy and many life-long skills. Related services include support for ASL, audiology, occupational and physical therapy and speech-language therapy. ISD serves 330+ students from ages 18 months through high school and provides a range of social activities, including sports, clubs and organizations.	St. Joseph offers a full continuum of Listening and Spoken Language intervention ranging from consultation, to direct therapy services at your local public school, to on-site, full day preschool programming at our Indianapolis campus. The preschool program offers instruction from a Teacher of the Deaf trained in LSL and up to 30 minutes of one-on-one LSL therapy every day. Additional services include weekly audiology support, music therapy, occupational therapy and physical therapy. Classrooms are acoustically treated and have a low student to teacher ratio. Part-time enrollment options are available as well.

- **What is “Transition”?** Moving from program to program is called transition. Transition at the age of 3 may include early childhood special education services and/or other community services.
 - <https://www.in.gov/doe/files/Spread-the-Word-First-Steps-to-Preschool-Special-Education-Transitions.pdf>
 - <https://www.in.gov/health/cdhhe/programsservices/transition/>
 - Information in this [booklet](#) will explain the steps in the transition process.
 - <https://www.in.gov/doe/students/special-education/early-childhood-preschool/>
 - Indiana Department of Education’s [Navigating the Course: Finding Your Way through Indiana’s Special Education Rules](#) has sections related to transition
- **Who is responsible for my child’s transition from First Steps?** Your Local Education Agency (LEA), otherwise known as your home school district where your family lives (<https://www.findmyschool.us/>)

• **Date(s)/Time(s) for Initial Evaluation(s):** _____

Location of Evaluation(s): _____

• **Date/Time for Initial Case Conference:** _____

Location of Case Conference: _____

• **TRANSITION MEETING NOTES:**

