School Hearing Screening FAQs for Screeners



Are school hearing screenings required?

August 2025

Hearing screenings should be completed for all students in accredited public and accredited non-public schools for students in the required grades: first, fourth, seventh and tenth; students newly enrolled in a school district and students with reported or observed hearing difficulties. Please review the Indiana Hearing Screening Guidelines for more details about procedures and follow-up required.

Why is it important that screenings be completed?

Hearing screening is important. Annually, hundreds of children in Indiana are identified as deaf or hard or hearing after the age of three. Classroom learning, communication and social skills are all dependent on auditory access in the general education classroom. Auditory access significantly impact a student's learning progress. Students who are deaf or hard of hearing, regardless of degree of hearing loss, may benefit from accommodations and services to access classroom learning and conversations.

Where can we get assistance for hearing screenings?

Administration of hearing screenings require training. Staff typically suited for this role include audiologists, speech language pathologists, teachers of the deaf and hard of hearing, and school nursing staff. In addition, you can consider contracting with local audiologists or regional universities or programs with speech, language, hearing or nursing students interested in assisting with school screenings. Many local health departments have school health liaisons who can assist with school hearing screenings. Please contact the <u>Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Education</u> or the <u>Early Hearing Detection and Intervention</u> program for assistance with training staff or for more questions.

Who should be notified when a child does not pass the hearing screening?

Parents should be notified in writing about the results along with recommendations for follow-up. A child who does not pass a hearing screening should be referred to an audiologist or physician who can complete a full audiological evaluation. There may be a medical condition present that requires treatment or the child may have a hearing loss that requires intervention. Please find below a link to FAQ for parents that can be included in the results for students who do not pass their school hearing screening.

How do we screen students who are learning virtually?

Schools should work with parents to determine a time when students can come to school to obtain their hearing screening.

RESOURCES

- FAQ for parents after school hearing screening
- Hearing Screening Equipment recommendations
- Hearing Screening videos and equipment tips
- Indiana Hearing Screening Guidelines 2025



