

# Connections

A publication of the Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Education

Volume 9, Issue 8

Audiology

## School Hearing Screenings



According to Indiana Code ([IC 20-34-3-14](#)), each school corporation is required to complete hearing screenings for students in first, fourth, seventh and tenth grades, as well as students transferring into that district. In addition, hearing screenings are to be completed when concerns regarding a student's hearing arise.

Records of all testing are to be maintained by the school corporation. These can provide information that may assist in diagnosing and treating any student's hearing loss. This is in alignment with the Child Find mandate ([IAC 7-40-1](#)) requiring districts to have procedures to locate, identify and evaluate students who may be in need of special education and related services.

### Screening Considerations

As school districts create procedures to ensure they are providing hearing screenings in accordance with IC 20-34-3-14, here are a few things to consider:

1. Who conducts hearing screenings in each school building?
2. When are the initial and follow-up screenings scheduled?
3. How is a family notified regarding their child's results?
4. Who submits hearing screening data?
5. How does the school receive follow-up diagnostic information from families?

### Need assistance?

The Indiana Department of Health (IDOH) has an initiative to make mobile units available for school hearing screenings. Any school nurse, administrator or school liaison who would like to request an IDOH mobile hearing screening unit should contact the school liaison in their county or Lorrie Ramsey, IDOH chief nurse consultant, at [backtoschool@health.in.gov](mailto:backtoschool@health.in.gov). An [online request form](#) may also be completed on the IDOH website.



### Remember!

A hearing screening is not an audiogram. A screening indicates whether further diagnostic testing needs to be completed. A screening can be completed by anyone trained to conduct one (nurse, SLP, audiologist, and others). An audiogram is completed through diagnostic testing by a licensed audiologist.

### Follow Up Considerations for Teachers of the Deaf/Hard of Hearing

- Become familiar with your schools' hearing screening procedures
- Collaborate with screeners to assist with follow-up efforts
- Observe students in the educational setting to look for impact on access
- Follow-up with families of children who refer via email, phone and letter
- Connect families with local resources for follow-up testing
- Obtain consent to release information to communicate with audiologist/ENT
- Obtain records and assist in initiating an educational evaluation if appropriate

### Need Assistance with Diagnostic Follow Up?

There are pediatric audiology providers across the state. Many of these providers participate in our Hearing Aid Assistance of Indiana ([HAAPI](#)) program and are listed [here](#). When families are challenged to connect with a local audiology provider, our Center can assist schools in completing audiology testing using mobile audiology equipment and/or our [mobile unit](#) that is equipped with equipment and a sound booth. You will find the steps to request assistance from our Center on our [Mobile Unit landing page](#).

## Resources

### Screening/diagnostic tips and tools

[School Hearing Screenings - Tips & Tricks](#)

[Recommended Follow Up & Rescreen](#)

[Supporting Success for Children with Hearing Loss - Observation Record of Students are D/HH](#)

[EHDI PALS - Find an audiologist near you!](#)

[Hearing Aid Assistance Program of Indiana \(HAAPI\)](#)

### Templates

[Hearing screening form and referral letter](#)

[Hearing Screening Follow Up Tracker](#)

### Educational Impact

[Supporting Success for Children with Hearing Loss - Impact of Hearing Loss on Child Development and School Performance](#)

[Supporting Success for Children with Hearing Loss - Relationship of Hearing and Listening and Learning](#)

To **promote**, **protect**, and **improve** the health and safety of all Hoosiers

