



Supporting Students who are Deaf or Hard-of-Hearing

Office of Special Education

Overview

Students who are Deaf or hard of hearing are a heterogeneous group with unique and varied needs requiring a continuum of educational programs and services. Considerations for this population tend to focus on mode of communication and ensuring communication access in the educational environment, which is critical. However, meeting the educational, social, emotional and cultural needs of students who are Deaf or hard of hearing is broader and more complex.

In August 2019, two pieces of New Jersey legislation were signed for the purpose of supporting children who are Deaf or hard of hearing and their unique needs, the New Jersey Deaf Students Bill of Rights and the Working Group on Deaf Education.

Data and Statistics

More than 90%

of children who are Deaf or hard of hearing are born to hearing parents ([NIDCD](#))

About 2 to 3 out of every 1,000 children

in the United States are born with a detectable level of hearing loss in one or both ears ([NIDCD](#))

59% of children

with unilateral hearing loss or single-sided deafness had some sort of academic or behavioral problem at school ([Vila & Lieu, 2016](#)).

Promising Practices

1 Optimizing Outcomes for Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing: Educational Service Guidelines (NASDSE, 2019)

This resource reflects the diversity of the deaf and hard of hearing student population, the range of services and supports that must be available, and the idea that "one size does not fit all."

2 Postsecondary Outcomes and Success for Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing (NDC)

The National Deaf Center (NDC) shares information, networks, and strategies to improve continuing education and training for deaf people.

Resources



Deaf or Hard of Hearing from the Office of Special Education (NJDOE)



New Jersey's Deaf Student's Bill of Rights (Click [here](#) for additional language translations)



The Required Communication Plan for IEPs or 504s (NJDOE)

Working Group on Deaf Education

The [working group](#) on Deaf education was organized to examine, research, and make recommendations related to the early linguistic development of children from birth to five years of age who are Deaf or hard of hearing. Children who are Deaf or hard of hearing are at high risk of experiencing language deprivation.



Assessment Guide for Language and Literacy Development



A Parent Resource Guide



Language Acquisition Rating Scale for Children Birth to Five Years of Age who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing (used for annual reporting)