



Deaf or Hard of Hearing Support 2024-2025 Program Profile

Description

The Deaf or Hard of Hearing classroom program is designed for students, ages 5-21, with an educational and medical diagnosis of hearing impairment. The program supports students whose degree of hearing loss and communication needs require intensive support regardless of modality of communication, including auditory/oral, American Sign Language, and total communication. All classes provide academic instruction and instruction to promote communication and language development. The elementary program includes instruction in self-help and readiness skills, in addition to coaching in self-advocacy, assistive technology, and the use of an interpreter where appropriate. The secondary programs also include instruction in self-advocacy related to hearing loss, communication and assistive technology. Transition plans for high school students may include pre-vocational, vocational, and post-secondary skills. Depending upon the student's schedule, instruction may also include advocacy related to ADA, 504 Plans, accessing interpreter and agency services, and Deaf community and culture. Students engage in learning in inclusive settings as much as possible.

Placement Criteria

- Educational and medical diagnosis of hearing impairment
- Cannot be adequately supported at level 1 & 2 services
- Requires intensive support and total communication, which may include spoken language and/or American Sign Language
- May require extensive case management, including interagency coordination
- May require D/HH peer group to promote social-emotional development and interactions

Exit Criteria

IEP Team decision, based on participation in regular education environment; transfer of skills in general education curriculum or alternate curriculum; independent communication skills

Location

District classroom with access to same age peers for inclusion purposes

Staffing

- Full time teacher (maximum of 8 students - 1:8:1)
- Full time paraprofessional

Services included in tuition fee

- Audiology services designed to provide consultative support to school personnel related to students' audiology needs
- Audiology services to provide ongoing support to and maintenance of amplification systems as per student IEP
- Collaboration with inclusion teachers
- Intensive, direct and explicit instruction in the general or alternate curriculum based on the assessed needs of the learner
- Benchmark assessments, such as DIBELS Next, as appropriate for the individual student
- Assessments with norms for Deaf/HH populations
- Progress monitoring to assess progress toward IEP goals
- PSSA/PASA/Keystone administration
- Transition planning for students ages 14-21

IEP Services not included in tuition fee*

- Qualified Sign Language Interpreter services
- Speech and language services, including direct service, SSP and IEP maintenance
- Unique, individualized assistive technology needs
- Audiology services for evaluations/re-evaluations
- FM Assistive Listening System Evaluation and Trial
- Transition/Vocational assessment
- Transition/Vocational support services based on student's age, level of need, and identified post-school outcomes
- Psychiatric consultation and assessment
- Autism support
- MDS support
- Blind & Visually Impaired support
- Occupational Therapy services
- Physical Therapy services

- Technical support from program-specific Educational Consultant
 - Behavior management system
 - Positive behavior support
 - Comprehensive positive behavioral support planning, including Functional Behavior Assessments, functional behavioral analyses when necessary, and development of Positive Behavior Support Plans
 - Social Work services to facilitate intensive case management of mental health services or crisis intervention
 - Social Work Programmatic Consultation
 - Specialized software programs designed to meet students' unique needs
 - Access to enrollment in online courses (CAOLA) for course credit or credit recovery as per IEP team decision
 - Technology hardware and software with associated technical support (videophone system, TDD, SmartBoard, etc.)
 - Community-based instruction
 - Facilitation of interpreters and/or transportation for extracurricular activities
 - Specialized training for all staff
 - Foundational support from sign language interpreters to provide students access to communication in general, non-instructional, school activities
 - Nursing support to develop health plans and coordinate with host district, including mandated health screenings
 - Psychological services by professional fluent in American Sign Language if available (eval/re-eval, IEP meetings, individual counseling, etc.)
 - Psychological Programmatic Consultation
 - Occupational Therapy Consultation (Elementary only)
 - Speech & Language Programmatic Consultation
 - Adaptive Physical Education**
 - Case management
 - Program supervision
 - Interagency Coordination Consultation
- Extended School Year (ESY) services
 - Personal Care Assistant (PCA)
 - Functional Analysis

*** May be provided by host district
Additional fee assessed