

Instructions for School-Based Screenings

Per authorization of the [Code of Virginia, Section 22.1-214](#), all students in the division must undergo certain health screenings upon entry and at periodic intervals to determine if further evaluation is warranted. The screening requirement for all students enrolled in the school division is below.

- 1) All children within 60 administrative working days of initial enrollment in a public school through grade 3, shall be screened in the following areas to determine if formal assessment is indicated:
 - Speech, voice, and language;
 - Fine and gross motor
- 2) All children within 60 administrative working days of initial enrollment in a public school in all grades shall be screened in the following areas to determine if formal assessment is indicated if such screening was not completed as part of a recent physical exam or at a previous school within the past 2 years:
 - Vision
 - Hearing
- 3) Vision and hearing screening is required for all Bright Stars and Head Start pre- K students who have not had such screening as part of their school entrance physical exam. Students who did not pass the vision and/or hearing screen at the time of the physical exam are required to be screened again at school.
- 4) Vision and hearing screening is required for all K students who have not had such screening as part of their school entrance physical exam. Students who did not pass the vision and/or hearing screen at the time of the physical exam are required to be screened again at school.
- 5) Vision and hearing screening is required for all students in grades 3, 7 and 10. This screening shall be scheduled by 60 administrative days of the start of school and must be completed by 1 month prior to the end of the school year.

The principal may determine which school-based personnel are responsible for the various screenings. Suggestions include:

- Classroom teacher for fine and gross motor screening
- Speech language pathologist for speech, voice and language
- Speech language pathologist for hearing screenings in primary grades and in secondary grades, if available
- School nurses for vision and hearing when the SLP is not available to conduct the hearing screening

The procedures for each screening can be found in the [Virginia School Health Guidelines](#).

- Speech, Voice, Language (p. 178)
- Fine and Gross Motor (p. 195)
- Hearing (p. 166)
- Vision (p. 180)

See [Vision and Hearing Screening Criteria for Passing](#).

All screenings must be documented on [the Screening Summary Form](#) and in Power School. A hard copy of the screening summary form shall be placed in a student's cumulative record.

Referral and Follow-Up Process

- 1) Parents of all students who do not perform satisfactorily on a vision screening and subsequent re-test (within two weeks to one month) must be notified in writing in the family's preferred language. Note: a referral means only that there is sufficient deviation in the student's visual condition to justify a more complete examination by a qualified eye specialist.
- 2) Every attempt should be made by school health personnel to work with parents to encourage, follow-up care with a vision or hearing specialist (optometrist, ophthalmologist or audiologist).
- 3) Nurse or SLP should keep a list of all students who did not pass the screening and subsequent follow-up with the date a written notice was sent.
- 4) Nurse or SLP shall provide a copy of the referral letter to Bright Star or Head Start coordinator, and place a copy in the student's cumulative record.
- 5) Nurse may work with teacher, program coordinator, FSW or other support to ensure follow-up care.

Please note that a summary report of the screening results for students in grades kindergarten, third, seventh and tenth must be turned in by 1 month prior to the close of the school year.