



Hearing Screenings

Hearing screenings are mandated by the Illinois Department of Public Health for all Early Childhood, Kindergarten, 1st through 3rd Grades, and Special Education students. Screenings are also done by teacher referral.

- Hearing screening services shall be provided for all preschool children 3 years of age or older in any public or private educational program or licensed child care facility.
- Hearing screening services shall be provided for all school age children who are in grades K (kindergarten), 1, 2, 3, are in any special education class; have been referred by a teacher; or are transfer students. These screening services shall be provided in all public, private and parochial schools. Hearing screening is recommended in grades 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12.
- In lieu of the screening services required in subsections (a) and (b) of this Section, a completed and signed report form, indicating that the child has had an ear examination by a physician and an audiological evaluation completed by an audiologist within the previous 12 months is acceptable.
- In cases of known hearing loss, an audiological evaluation completed by an audiologist within the previous 12 months may be accepted instead of threshold monitoring services.
- Hearing screening services in public, private, and parochial schools shall be provided annually for all special education children using screening methods contained in Section 675.120 of this Part.
- The parent or legal guardian of a student may object to hearing screening tests for their children on religious grounds. If a religious objection is made, a written and signed statement from the parent or legal guardian detailing such objections must be presented to the local school authority. General philosophical or moral reluctance to allow hearing screening will not provide a sufficient basis for an exception to statutory requirements.

(Source: Amended at 24 Ill. Reg. 56, effective March 20, 2000)