What your school audiologist can (and cannot do) for your child

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Overview of topics covered

- What is Special Education?
- How does the process work?
- Changes to IDEA, Title II and Section 504 of ADA
What is Special Education?

- IDEA
- Defined by Washington Administrative Code
What is Special Education

- Specially designed instruction
  - Definition: Specially designed instruction means adapting, as appropriate to the needs of an eligible student, the content, methodology, or delivery of instruction
- Related services
- Supplementary aids & services
Special Education Eligibility

- Overview of the special education process
- How is eligibility determined?
- Eligible/ineligible – then what?
Special Education Eligibility

- Referral
  - From 0 – 3 agency to school district
  - From parent to Child Find
  - From parent or school professional to school based intervention team
Special Education Eligibility

- Referral to decision
- Decision to assess or not to assess
- Decision to assess $\Rightarrow$ eligibility evaluation
- Decision not to assess $\Rightarrow$ 504/classroom accommodations
Special Education Eligibility

- Eligibility evaluation
  - Team of school based professionals to assess child
  - Gathering of data related to child’s current functioning in educational environment
Special Education Eligibility

- Evaluation
- Decision re: eligibility
  - Eligible
  - Ineligible
Special Education - IEP

- After eligibility determination is made, an IEP is written based on the evaluation report
- Consider specially designed instruction & accommodations
  - Accommodations help
IEP/504 CHECKLIST: ACCOMMODATIONS AND MODIFICATIONS FOR STUDENTS WHO ARE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING

Name: __________________________ Date: __________________________

Note: Accommodations provide access to communication and instruction and are appropriate for 504 or IEP services; modifications alter the content, the expectations, and the evaluation of academic performance and are generally provided through an IEP as part of specialized instruction. This checklist contains many supports and services that should be reviewed to comply with IDEA Special Factors (34CFR300.324(6)(a)).

Personal and Assistive Hearing Technology Accommodations
☐ Personal hearing instrument (hearing aid, cochlear implant, bone anchored, tactile device)
☐ Personal hearing assistance technology (HAT) (hearing aid + HAT)
☐ HAT only (without personal hearing instrument)
☐ Classroom sound distribution system (CSD)

Assistive Technology Accommodations
☐ Videophone or Text Phone
☐ Alerting devices
☐ Other: __________________________

Communication Accommodations
☐ Priority seating arrangement:
☐ Ensure student’s attention prior to speaking
☐ Reduce auditory distractions (background noise)
☐ Reduce visual distractions
☐ Allow student time/assistance to locate speaker in small or large group setting
☐ Enhance speechreading conditions (avoid hands in front of face, mustaches well-trimmed, no gum chewing)
☐ Present information in simple, structured, sequential manner
☐ Enunciate speech clearly
☐ Allow extra time for processing information
☐ Repeat or rephrase information when necessary
☐ Frequently check for understanding
☐ Use speech to text software (speech recognition)
☐ Provide interpreting (e.g., ASL, signed English, cued speech, oral)

Instructional Accommodations & Modifications
☐ Visual supplements (overheads, charts, vocabulary lists, lecture outlines)
☐ Interactive whiteboard (e.g., Smart Board, Mimio)
☐ Classroom captioning (CART, CPrint, TypeWell)
☐ Continuous and/or series for television, video, movies

Physical Environment Accommodations
☐ Noise/reverberation reduction (carpet & other sound absorption materials)eQual322.60
☐ Special lighting
☐ Room design modifications:
☐ Flashing fire alarms/smoke detectors

Curricular Modifications
☐ Modified reading assignments (shorten length, adapt phonics-based instruction)
☐ Modified written assignments (shorten length, adjust evaluation criteria)
☐ Extra practice
☐ Pre-teach, teach, post-teach vocabulary, concepts
☐ Strategies to adapt oral/aural curriculum/instruction to accommodate reduced auditory access
☐ Supplemental materials to reinforce concepts of curriculum
☐ Alternative curriculum
☐ Expanded core curriculum:
  ☐ advocacy/self-determination
  ☐ audiology (understanding hearing loss and resulting communication accommodations, technology options (HAT, connectivity)
  ☐ assistive technology
  ☐ communication (pragmatics, language)
  ☐ Deaf studies
  ☐ disability rights
  ☐ functional skills
  ☐ family education
  ☐ listening skill development
  ☐ ASL/Sign language
  ☐ social-emotional skills
  ☐ transition planning

Evaluation Accommodations & Modifications
☐ Reduce quantity of tests
☐ Alternate tests or methods
☐ Reading assistance with tests for clarification of directions, language of test questions (non-reading items)
☐ Extra time
☐ Special setting
☐ Other

Other Needs/Special Considerations

IEP resources

- http://www.Successforkidswithhearingloss.com
- http://www.k12.wa.us/specialed
- Your local school district’s website
Updates to Title II of the ADA

- **Title II** – prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in all services, programs, and activities provided to be public by State and local governments, except public transportation services.

- **504** – a part of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 that prohibits discrimination based on disability. Section 504 is an anti-discrimination, civil rights statute that requires the needs of students with disabilities be met as adequately as the needs of the non-disabled are met.

- **IDEA** – the law that outlines rights and regulations for students with disabilities in the US who require special education.
Updates to Title II of the ADA

- Schools are required to ensure that communication for students who are deaf and hard of hearing "are as effective as communication for others" [ADA Title II 28 C.F.R. 35.160 (a)(1)] through the provision of appropriate aids and services.
Many changes have occurred and many more on the horizon
Work with your school district to make your child's school experience positive
Understand hearing loss is high incidence in your life
Educate yourself so you can educate others