



<p><b>Title:</b> Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Education DAE Processing Procedures</p>	<p><b>Policy #:</b> IDOH-WCF-Center-DAE</p>
<p><b>Scope:</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> All Staff</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Limited Staff:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Education</p>	<p><b>Approvals:</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Lindsay M. Weaver</i></p> <hr style="width: 80%; margin: auto;"/> <p style="text-align: center;">Lindsay M. Weaver, MD, FACEP</p>
<p><b>Effective dates:</b> 01-Jul-25 to 30-Jun-26</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>June 30, 2025</u></p> <p>Date</p>

## Purpose

To ensure Diagnostic Audiology Evaluation (DAE) forms provided by the Indiana Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) program are processed systematically and align with IC 20-35-11 as a means to promote positive outcomes for deaf and hard of hearing children in Indiana.

## Definitions

Diagnostic Audiology Evaluation (DAE): comprehensive assessment of hearing performed by an audiologist

## Policy Statement

The Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Education aids in receipt of timely support and intervention for deaf and hard of hearing children at time of identification through processing of Indiana Diagnostic Audiology Evaluation (DAE) forms.

## Procedures and Responsibilities

Indiana Code requires universal newborn hearing screenings for infants born in Indiana. Physicians and audiologists are required to report identification and information for needed follow up to the Indiana EHDI program. This information is received via a Diagnostic Audiologic Evaluation (DAE) form. Per a data sharing agreement, Indiana EHDI shares DAE forms with the



Center to assist in their mandated activities of observing and following deaf and hard of hearing children and providing family support.

Upon receipt of a DAE form, the Center staff create a child file in the Center's database. The database populates a referral to Indiana First Steps which is sent electronically by Center staff to the First Steps system point of entry (SPOE) office overseeing that area of the state. That referral triggers connection from the SPOE to the family for intake into the early intervention system.

When the SPOE informs the Center that the family is unresponsive, typically through email or phone call, the Center shares that information with the Indiana EHDI program. Indiana EHDI initiates efforts to reach families to ensure they are not lost to follow up.

When audiology results on the DAE form are inconclusive, the Center connects with the Indiana EHDI program who supports the identification of deaf and hard of hearing children in a timely manner. This connection includes determining additional steps needed to support identification in a timely manner.

The Center follows up quarterly with each SPOE on referrals which were not confirmed to enroll in the First Steps early intervention system or to be unresponsive.

The Center supports EHDI's data reporting annually by providing early intervention data.

## Legal Authorities and References

IC 16-41-17-2(b) Subject to subsection (d), every infant shall be given a physiologic hearing screening examination at the earliest feasible time for the detection of hearing impairments. ...

(d) If a parent of an infant objects in writing, for reasons pertaining to religious beliefs only, the infant is exempt from the examinations required by this chapter.

IC 16-41-17-6(a) The state department shall provide forms on which the results of tests performed on each child for the disorders listed in section 2 of this chapter shall be reported to the state department by physicians and hospitals.

IC 16-41-17-10(a) The state department shall develop the following:

- (1) A registry for tracking and follow-up of all newborns and individuals for screening.
- (2) A centralized program that provides follow-up, diagnosis, management, and family counseling and support, including equipment, supplies, formula, and other materials, for all infants and individuals identified as having one (1) of the disorders listed in section 2 of this chapter.



- IC 20-35-11-4 (1) Observe and follow children who are deaf and hard of hearing from:
- (A) birth through three (3) years of age, in collaboration with the early hearing detection and intervention program and the office of the secretary of family and social services; and
  - (B) three (3) year of age through twenty-one (21) years of age and who are enrolled or preparing to enroll in early intervention services, preschool, elementary, or secondary school, in collaboration with the department
- (2) Provide family support from birth through twenty-one (21) years of age by any of the following:
- (A) Connecting families to existing public and private resources for information and services, which may include any of the following:
    - i. First Steps agencies
    - ii. Deaf mentors
    - iii. Interpreting agencies
    - iv. Hearing health care professionals
    - v. Educational professionals

## Forms

[Diagnostic Audiology Evaluation \(DAE\) form](#)