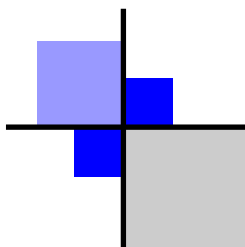


Questions? Contact

SERVICE COORDINATOR

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DIRECTOR OF OUTREACH

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Mission Statement

South Dakota School for the Deaf was established in 1880 to serve children identified as deaf or hard of hearing. Since that time, SDSD has worked to provide quality educational programs and outreach services for children and their families.

The school's mission includes providing a deaf educational program using American Sign Language (ASL) in the Harrisburg Public Schools, consultation to families and educational teams statewide, and comprehensive student evaluations including audiology and hearing screening.

SDSD serves as a resource for families and local schools by providing a specialist in the education of deaf and hard of hearing children as a member of the educational team.



South Dakota School for the Deaf
WWW.SDSD.SDBOR.EDU

Revised 7/6/17

SDSD Multidisciplinary Evaluation Services

All services are available for current SDSD Outreach clients at no cost. Services can be requested by parents, guardians, or local education agencies through SDSD Outreach Consultants.



Main Campus
2001 E. 8th Street
Sioux Falls, SD 57103
Phone: 605.367.5200



West River Campus
2138 Jackson Blvd
Rapid City, SD 57702
Phone: 605.791.7839

Eligibility & Requests

South Dakota School for the Deaf (SDSD) can provide multidisciplinary evaluations for school districts and local education agencies (LEA) serving children identified as deaf or hard of hearing. To be evaluated by SDSD, a child must be a SDSD Outreach Program client. SDSD does not charge a fee for multidisciplinary evaluation services.

If a child is eligible for an evaluation through SDSD, all members of the child's educational team (LEAs, parents, and SDSD Outreach Consultant) should discuss this opportunity together before contacting SDSD.

To request an evaluation, speak with the child's SDSD Outreach Consultant. Evaluation requests should be submitted at least two months prior to a child's re-evaluation date. SDSD offers five evaluation sessions a year and makes every effort to accommodate requests but cannot guarantee evaluation availability when late requests are submitted.

Schedules

Typically, the entire evaluation process takes two days. The length of time needed to administer individual tests will vary based on a child's age and the number of tests to be completed. Test sessions can be long and sometimes tiring for children; therefore, breaks are allowed as needed.

A child's evaluation schedule may allow time for additional appointments (medical checkups, cochlear implant mapping, etc.) only if they do not interfere with the evaluation process. Please discuss your need to attend outside appointments with the SDSD Service Coordinator.

Tests

Multidisciplinary evaluation services include: *initial evaluations, three year re-evaluations,* and on an *as needed basis* as determined by LEAs, family, and SDSD Outreach Consultants in coordination with SDSD's Outreach Director. Evaluations provide eligibility determination information, student specific recommendations, and educational resources.

The SDSD evaluation team is comprised of highly qualified professionals who have substantial experience in the areas of hearing loss and additional disabilities. Evaluations are designed to assess a child's achievement across several areas including:

- Cognitive
- Speech/Language/Listening
- Behavior/Social Skills
- Audiology
- Academics
- Transition (age 13 or older)
- American Sign Language

SDSD evaluators administer, score, and analyze a child's tests. The information is then compiled, a comprehensive report written, and a final report provided to parents/guardians, LEAs, and Outreach Consultant.



Partners

Parents and school district personnel are essential contributors to achieving a successful evaluation. Their knowledge and insights regarding a child are valuable pieces of the process which the evaluation team relies upon. Failure to provide this information can negatively impact the final evaluation report and even diminish its effectiveness and relevance.

Partner contributions:

- Complete protocols/forms and mail to SDSD **before** test sessions.
- Review evaluation schedule; contact SDSD when schedule conflicts arise.
- Bring child's personal listening equipment (HA, BAHA, CI, FM system) in good working order and fully charged.
- Be prepared to discuss child's medical, audiological, and educational history with members of the evaluation team.

Timelines

The timeline from testing to receipt of a final report is typically four weeks. SDSD is committed to providing a comprehensive report within this timeframe and makes every effort to deliver a final report on or before the LEA's due date. However, timelines may be impacted and result in a new delivery date due to the following uncontrollable circumstances:

- Late return of test protocols and forms by parents and/or school personnel
- Unexpected schedule conflicts
- Technology issues
- Illness

