

SOUTH DAKOTA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

Mission

South Dakota School for the Deaf (SDSD) 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 support services for these children and their families.

The school's mission includes providing educational programs such as the Bilingual

program in the Harrisburg Public Schools, consultation to families and educational teams statewide, and comprehensive student evaluations including audiological services and hearing screenings.

SDSD serves as a resource to families and local schools by providing a specialist in hearing loss as a member of a child's educational team.

Contacts

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Locations

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Audiological Services



www.sdsd.sdbor.edu

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Audiological Services

SDSD has three licensed and certified audiologists who perform diagnostic audiological evaluations at no cost for children (ages birth to 21 or prior to high school graduation) who reside in South Dakota. Services can be provided at the SDSD on-site clinics in Sioux Falls and Rapid City, or off-site with the use of the mobile diagnostic hearing lab.

DIAGNOSTIC HEARING EVALUATIONS

Tympanometry:

determines middle ear function. It also provides information regarding possible fluid behind the eardrum.

Otoacoustic Emissions (OAEs): determines the function of the outer hair cells within the cochlea.

Auditory Brainstem Response Testing (ABR): provides an approximation of neural synchrony in the auditory pathways, from which an indirect estimate of hearing capabilities can be made.

Audiometry: the assessment of the range and sensitivity of a child's hearing capabilities. Depending on child's

age and capabilities, behavioral observation audiometry, visual reinforcement audiometry, or conditioned play audiometric techniques may be utilized.

SCHOOL HEARING SCREENINGS

Audiometry Screening:

hearing is screened at predetermined frequencies/decibel levels utilizing an overall pass/refer criteria.

Tympanometry

Screening: determines middle ear function, with a pass/refer criteria.

Otoacoustic Emissions

Screening: determines the function of the outer hair cells in the cochlea with a pass/refer criteria.



AMPLIFICATION AND FM SERVICES

- Cleaning and checking of amplification devices
- On- and off-site troubleshooting of FM systems
- Ear mold impressions for new ear mold fabrication.



Mobile Lab Services

The purpose of the SDSD mobile hearing lab is to expand audiology services and educational outreach to all children identified as deaf or hard of hearing across the state of South Dakota. The mobile lab has been providing services since January 2010.

SDSD can also assist with school hearing screenings at no cost. School districts that are interested in scheduling hearing screenings through the mobile lab are encouraged to contact SDSD via email at hearingtest@sdsd.sdbor.edu.

In-Services and Presentations

School district officials interested in staff training opportunities related to hearing loss may contact SDSD. Outreach consultants can provide school staff with information about the best practices for educating students identified as deaf or hard of hearing.

SDSD also performs classroom demonstrations to increase sensitivity to the needs of students with specialized hearing needs. This is especially helpful for children who may be the only deaf or hard of hearing student in their school.

More Information

For additional information on any SDSD services or to request services for a child, call 605.367.5200. **More resources available at www.sdsd.sdbor.edu.**