HEARING IMPAIRMENT

I. Definition
Hearing Impairment means an impairment in hearing, whether permanent or fluctuating, that adversely affects a child's educational performance but does not include Deafness.

A hearing impaired child shall have one (1) or more of the following characteristics:

(a) Inability to communicate effectively due to a Hearing Impairment;

(b) Inability to perform academically on a level commensurate with the expected level because of a Hearing Impairment; or

(c) Delayed speech and/or language development due to a Hearing Impairment.

II. Evaluation
The characteristics identified in the Hearing Impairment Definition are present.

Evaluation Procedures
A comprehensive evaluation performed by a multidisciplinary team using a variety of sources of information that are sensitive to cultural, linguistic, and environmental factors or sensory impairments to include the following:

(1) Audiological evaluation;

(2) Evaluation of speech and language performance;

(3) School history and levels of learning or educational performance;

(4) Observation of classroom performance; and

(5) Documentation, including observation and/or assessment, of how Hearing Impairment adversely affects the child's educational performance in his/her learning environment and the need for specialized instruction and related services (i.e., to include academic and/or nonacademic areas).

Evaluation Participants
Information shall be gathered from the following persons in the evaluation of Hearing Impairment:

(1) The parent;
Standards for Special Education Evaluation & Eligibility

The following standards for special education evaluation and eligibility shall be effective July 1, 2017.

(2) The child’s general education classroom teacher (with a child of less than school age, an individual qualified to teach a child of his/her age);

(3) A licensed special education teacher;

(4) A licensed medical provider (i.e., licensed physician, physician’s assistant or licensed nurse practitioner) or audiologist;

(5) A licensed speech language pathologist; and

(6) Other professional personnel (e.g., speech language teacher, school psychologist), as indicated.