



Montana OPI Hearing Conservation Program

The purposes of the Hearing Conservation Program (HCP) are as follows:

- To identify children with educationally significant hearing losses through hearing screening, on-site audiology procedures, and comprehensive hearing evaluations.
- To assist schools and parents in determining appropriate educational placement and interventions.
- To serve as a consultant to school personnel, parents, and students regarding potential educational effects of an identified student's hearing loss and the function of hearing aids and assistive listening devices.
- To provide consultative services regarding hearing aids, cochlear implants, assistive listening devices, and, where appropriate, classroom acoustics.
- To provide education, as needed regarding the prevention of hearing loss.
- To provide follow-up support to children, families, and schools.

District	HCP Audiologist	Medical Professional	Parent/Guardian
Contact audiologist when a student who requires HCP services moves into their district	Contact each district prior to the start of a new school year to inform them of their HCP contact. This can be done through email, letter, zoom, phone call etc.		When applicable, provide information to the school district about student's hearing concerns.
Coordinate with HCP audiologists for available dates prior to scheduling child find activities.	Participate in child find screenings. Provide hearing screening for preschoolers who are enrolled in public school or do not attend child find screenings.		
May request participation in/for IEP/504 meetings. Prior notice must be given sufficiently in advance.	Provide case manager with evaluation results and/or recommendations as needed or appropriate.		May request participation in/for IEP/504 meetings. Prior notice must be given sufficiently in advance.

District	HCP Audiologist	Medical Professional	Parent/Guardian
Contact audiologist for staff trainings.	<p>Provide training for school personnel who conduct hearing screening in the HCP area as well as in-services regarding the degree and implications of a hearing loss, proper use and care of device.</p> <p>Provide information about assistive listening devices.</p>		
<p>Screen school-age students as per guidelines.</p> <p>Notify HCP audiologist of those students who need audiologic evaluations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate school age students who are referred from screenings. • Monitor students with identified hearing loss. • Follow up screening after middle ear condition. • Referral to Medical Professional and notify parent or guardian of referral. • Provide timely and educationally relevant report of evaluation. • Ensure the proper fit and functioning of hearing aids, assistive listening devices, external components of a cochlear implant. 	<p>Medical evaluations are performed by physicians and are essential for proper diagnosis and treatment of children suspected of having ear or vestibular disease.</p> <p>Medical services are not provided by the Hearing Conservation Program.</p>	Responsible for the cost of any medical evaluation conducted.

District	HCP Audiologist	Medical Professional	Parent/Guardian
<p>Consider the following categories when determining the need for services in IEP/504 meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Assessment for Amplification and/or Assistive Listening Devices ● Amplification ● Speech and/or Language Evaluation ● Auditory/Listening Skills Training ● Counseling ● Audiological Monitoring ● Academics ● Least Restrictive Environment ● Classroom Acoustics ● Special Services (interpreters, note-takers, etc.) ● Related Evaluations/Services ● Consultation ● Curriculum Modification(s) and Accommodations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provide audiological recommendations to be used for the needs assessment for amplification and/or assistive listening devices, educational implications and recommendations for instructional and social needs. ● Interpret audiological results. ● Coordinate with other service providing agencies as appropriate. 		
<p>Maintaining hearing screening records and individual students' audiological records as a part of their educational records. The decision as to where the audiological records for students will be maintained is the decision of the district and should be done in accordance with district policies.</p>	<p>Record keeping requirements for contracted services provided by the HCP audiologist: HCP audiologist will submit the accountability report to the OPI on a monthly basis, in the manner set forth by the OPI.</p>		