

Language Assessment Program-Deaf/Hard of Hearing

The LAP-DHH is a program of the Kansas School for the Deaf.
450 E. Park Street; Olathe, KS 66061; 913-210-8149

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the language assessment program for deaf/hard of hearing children (LAP-DHH)?

In accordance with K.S.A. 75-5397e, a language assessment program was established to assess, monitor, and track the language developmental milestones of each child who is deaf or hard of hearing from birth through age eight in Kansas.

As part of the program, an annual language assessment shall be provided for each of these children for the purpose of achieving age-appropriate language development and providing data-driven interventions. The assessments will evaluate ASL and/or English based on your child's needs.

How are the assessments performed?

After receiving written parent consent, a specialist from the LAP-DHH program will come to your school and/or the child's home to do the assessments in the child's preferred language(s). These assessments will be done in collaboration with the child's team and with the family. The LAP-DHH specialist will provide a written report to staff and parents explaining assessment results.

Who does the assessments?

The Kansas School for the Deaf (KSD) will secure and train the LAP-DHH specialists who will be conducting the assessments. All LAP-DHH specialists must meet certain qualifications and go through training in order to be eligible to give the assessments.

When are the assessments performed?

A LAP-DHH specialist will be evaluating the children in your program/school every six months either through formal assessments or progress monitoring. Your specialist will share the testing protocol and timeline with you.

What happens with the results?

Specific assessment results will be shared with the child's family and support staff. Combined results of all deaf/hard of hearing children birth through age eight will be shared with the Kansas State Legislature.

What is the cost?

There is currently no cost to participate in this program.

Is this program just for children who are receiving special education services?

No, this program is for *any* child who is deaf/hard of hearing (DHH) birth through age eight regardless of whether they have an IFSP, IEP, or 504 plan including those who might not currently qualify for additional support.

When will children be assessed?

2019-2020: All children who are DHH ages birth to three who receive early intervention services through KSD's Sound START program, all children three to eight who attend KSD and all children ages three to eight who have been observed or evaluated by KSD's Outreach Program.

2020-2021: All children who are DHH in Kansas ages birth to three.

2021-2022: All children who are DHH in Kansas ages three to five.

2022-2023: All children who are DHH in Kansas ages five to eight.

If you have further questions, feel free to contact Angie Walker, LAP-DHH Coordinator at 913-343-0103 or awalker@kssdb.org.

The limits of my language are the limits of my world.

~Ludwig Wittgenstein

