

## **HEARING IMPAIRMENT**

### **1. 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 child shall have one or more of the following characteristics:

- (1) inability to communicate effectively due to a Hearing Impairment;
- (2) inability to perform academically on a level commensurate with the expected level because of a Hearing Impairment;
- (3) delayed speech and/or language development due to a Hearing Impairment.

### **2. Evaluation**

The characteristics identified in the Hearing Impairment Definition are present.

#### Evaluation Procedures

Evaluation of Hearing Impairment shall 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 impacts the child's educational performance in his/her learning environment.

#### Evaluation Participants

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

- (1) the parent;
- (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) an audiologist or licensed physician;
- (5) a licensed speech/language teacher or specialist; and
- (6) other professional personnel, as indicated.