

Targeted Grade Levels*

It is important to perform hearing screening on young child populations in order to identify those with late onset or progressive hearing loss. In many states there also continues to be a significant proportion of infants who fail newborn hearing screening that are lost to follow up.

Only by screening in early childhood educational, childcare, and medical settings will previously undiagnosed children with educationally significant hearing loss be identified.

School entry hearing screening at preschool and kindergarten will identify less than 1/4 to less than 1/2 of students with newly identifiable hearing loss.

Approximately 90% of new hearing losses will be identified if grades PS – 3 are screened; the remaining 10% that will be missed by not screening higher grades are likely to have a large proportion of emerging high frequency hearing loss, as evidenced in the two districts that did screen for high frequency hearing loss in grades 5 and higher.

In addition to the minimum grades screened above, more students with previously unidentified hearing loss will be found if grade 2 is added rather than another secondary grade.

*Per American Academy of Audiology, Childhood Hearing Screening Guidelines,
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