

Early Childhood through High School Educational Programs

All school districts are required to provide an education to Deaf and Hard of Hearing students. Some provide those services within their own district, others are a part of a Special Education Cooperative that offer services to students from many areas. The programs listed in this directory are Special Education Co-Ops or Individual Schools or Districts that provide instructional programming in addition to itinerant programs. Contact your local school district to inquire about specific programming within your area.

To help families and educational personnel find existing programs close to home, the Early Childhood through High School Programs are listed by geographical areas. ITHI divides the state into 12 such areas. A map is provided on the next page. An alphabetical index is also available in the back of the booklet.

Modes of Communication - The goal of educational programming is to provide language that is based on student needs and preference. The modes that are checked within the following school listings are those that are currently used within each program. Of course the modes used may change as student needs change. For the purpose of this directory, the “modes of communication” are defined as:

Total Communication- A combination of sign language and voice where all or part of a message may be signed as well as spoken, May also incorporate gestures, pictures, or any means necessary to get a message across. It does not intend that all strategies be incorporated equally or used at the same time. A common form of TC in deaf education is simultaneous communication ("simcom")-the use of spoken words simultaneously with a signed version of all or part of the spoken utterance.

Sign Language, English Based – Sign language that is presented in English word order. May incorporate English as well as ASL signs. Includes Signed English, Conceptually Accurate Signed English, & SimCom, as examples. Generally the teacher and /or the students communicate using English based sign language.

ASL- American Sign Language, following the distinct grammar rules and syntax of ASL.

Cued Speech—A mode of communication which uses hand cues along with the natural mouth movements of speech which allows all of the phonemes of a spoken language to be clearly accessible. Cued Speech uses 8 consonant handshapes combined with 4 vowel locations which can be used to cue any word as it is spoken. The system may be used with or without voice, as it complements any auditory signal being received by a child using an implant, hearing aid, or other assistive device.

Auditory Oral Program in Instructional Setting – Self contained classroom settings where speech, lip reading and listening are exclusively used as the mode of communication. Sign language is not a feature of this setting.

Auditory Oral in Itinerant / Resource Setting – One on one or small group setting within a regular mainstream program where speech, lip reading, and listening are the primary modes of communication.

Within this directory, all educational services are assumed to be provided by teachers of students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing. “Types of Services” are defined as:

Itinerant Services – One on one or small group instruction given to students within their home school or local programming by a **Certified Teacher of Deaf /HH**. These services are generally given by a teacher who travels from school to school or district to district. Report card grades are given by the students’ mainstream teachers.

Resource Classes- Resource classes are in house classrooms where students can go for additional help from a **Certified Teacher of Deaf /HH**. The teachers generally do not travel from school to school and may or may not assign grades to the students.

Instructional /Self-Contained Classes – Instructional classrooms are housed within a building and provide academic instruction from a **Certified Teacher of Deaf /HH** and are responsible for assigning report card grades to the students.

Residential – Students attend school and live on the premises.

ITHI Geographical Areas: