

***Educational Resources For  
Children Who Are Deaf And Hard of Hearing  
And Families in Virginia***

**Virginia Disability Commission  
November 28, 2017**

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# ***Virginia Child Count Trends***

**(Ages 2-21)**

<b>DEAF &amp; HARD OF HEARING</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
<b>Primary</b>	<b>1,404</b>	<b>1,477</b>	<b>1,511</b>	<b>1,468</b>
<b>Secondary</b>	<b>493</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>544</b>	<b>577</b>
<b>Tertiary</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>198</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,049</b>	<b>2,051</b>	<b>2,255</b>	<b>2,243</b>

<b>DEAF- BLINDNESS</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
<b>Primary</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>21</b>

***Source: Virginia Special Education Child Count Data  
2013-2016***

# ***Academic Performance***

## ***2015-2016***

		% Passed
<b>SOL Reading</b>	All Students	<b>71</b>
	All Students With Disabilities	<b>35</b>
	Deaf/Hard of Hearing	<b>42</b>

<b>SOL Mathematics</b>	All Students	<b>68</b>
	All Students With Disabilities	<b>37</b>
	Deaf/Hard of Hearing	<b>51</b>

# *Exit Status*

2016 Deaf & Hard of Hearing Graduates	Standard Diploma	Advanced Studies Diploma	Special Diploma (Applied Studies)	Modified Standard Diploma
<b>Total: 81</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>Less than 10</b>

# *Indicator 7: Early Childhood Outcomes Data for 2016-2017*

2016-2017 Hearing Impaired – 35 children exited Early Childhood Programs

- **Outcome 1: Social emotional skills**
  - 97% made progress
  - 51% functioning at age expectations or slightly below
- **Outcome 2: Acquisition and use of knowledge and skills** (e.g., problem solving, reasoning, thinking, literacy, numeracy, , spatial relations)
  - 100% made progress
  - 48% functioning at age expectations or slightly below
- **Outcome 3: Behavior to meet needs** (e.g., communication, navigation, self-help)
  - 100% made progress
  - 60% functioning at age expectations or slightly below

# ***Educational Programs & Services***

## **Least Restrictive Environment**

- The Virginia State Performance Plan (SPP) target is to increase the percentage of children with IEPs, ages 6-21, spending at least 80 percent of their day in general education classrooms to 68 percent.

Results for 2016	%
All Students with Disabilities	63.8%
Children who are Deaf/HH	67.8%

# ***Least Restrictive Environment***

- The Virginia SPP target is for 38% of preschool children with IEPs, ages 3-5, to attend and receive the majority of their special education and related services within a regular early childhood program.

Results for 2016	%
Children who are Deaf/HH ages 2-5, spent >10 hours per week within a regular early childhood program.	30.5%

# ***VDOE Grant Supported Programs for Deaf & Hard of Hearing***

## **2017-18 (\$1,153,298)**

• VA School for the Deaf & the Blind	\$317,884
• VA School for the Deaf & the Blind Outreach	\$163,476
• TA Center for Deaf & HH/VNOC	\$208,179
• Radford Univ. Deaf & HH Program	\$180,000
• Educational Interpreter Training	\$143,417
• VA's Deaf-Blind Project	\$53,074
• VA Dept. for the Deaf & HH	\$67,268
• VA Hearing Aid Loan Bank	\$20,000



# *Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind*

- Located in Staunton, VA
- State Agency governed by VSDB Board of Visitors; Pat Trice, Superintendent
- Provides comprehensive educational and life skills programs and related services for approximately 90-100 students (K-12) with IEPs who are Deaf/ Hard of Hearing, Blind/Visually Impaired, Deaf-Blind and Multi-disabled
- Students and staff utilize varied communication modalities
- Students attend day program (Monday-Friday) or residential program (Sunday-Friday)

# ***VSDB***

- Number of students with additional disabilities is increasing
- Students are referred for admission through the local educational authority (LEA) IEP process and early intervention IFSP programs
- No direct costs to the LEA or families for students to attend
- VSDB Outreach Programs assist early intervention providers, school divisions, and families statewide through training, live events, webinars, and consultative services

# ***Technical Assistance Center for Deaf & Hard of Hearing & VNOC***

- **Virginia Network of Consultants (VNOC) - VCU**
  - Provides consultant services directly to Virginia school divisions for instructional strategies, all communication modalities, amplification, cochlear implants, assistive technology, and assessment/evaluation
  - Service requests are initiated by schools/school divisions
  - Most costs for VNOC services are reimbursed to schools/school divisions
- *Opening Doors-Unlocking Potential*-Virginia's annual professional development event for Virginia educational professionals who work with children who are Deaf & Hard of Hearing in Virginia schools
- *Opening Doors to Life Beyond High School*-Virginia's transition focused event for students, professionals and parents of students who are Deaf & Hard of Hearing

# ***Radford University Deaf/Hard of Hearing Teacher Preparation Program***

- Offers VA's only state and nationally accredited comprehensive undergraduate and graduate programs for teacher candidates seeking the VA teacher licensure endorsement in *Hearing Impairments PreK-12*
- Assists with alleviating the critical state and national shortages of teachers in the field of Deafness/Hard of Hearing
- VDOE grant funding supports personnel, tuition assistance, stipends, and student scholarships

# ***Educational Interpreter Training***

- In 2016, 247 of the 330 (75%) educational interpreters working in VA schools met the Virginia interpreter qualifications
- VDOE grant funding supports free professional development and training activities coordinated by regional Educational Interpreter Professional Development Grant Coordinators
- Regional and statewide training events, college courses and mentoring activities are offered for educational interpreters and cued language transliterators working in VA schools
- Assists with alleviating critical shortages of qualified educational interpreters in VA

# ***Virginia Project for Children & Young Adults With Deaf-Blindness***

## **Virginia's "Deaf-Blind Project" - VCU**

- Provides direct support to families, teachers, and service providers to improve outcomes for children with varying degrees and types of combined hearing and vision loss
- VDOE grant funding supports free intensive online training and on-site coaching for participating classroom teacher/para professional teams
- Conducts the annual US Office of Special Education Programs Deaf-Blind census (birth-22); 190 children/youth in VA were reported in 2015

# *Virginia Department for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing*

- Provides information about resources for persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing, their families, and the professionals who serve them, including:
  - training on DHH topics
  - assistive technology
  - interpreter services
  - computer assisted real-time transcription services (C.A.R.T.)
  - interpreter skills assessments
- VDOE grant funding supports the costs for developing and administering the Virginia Quality Assurance Screening assessments, and administering the Educational Interpreter Performance Assessments for VA's educational interpreters

# *Virginia Hearing Aid Loan Bank*

- VDOE grant funding assists with costs for providing free loaner hearing aids and FM systems for children with hearing loss
- Devices are typically loaned for up to six months while families/schools are waiting for a permanent device



# ***More VDOE Programs & Partners***

- Training and Technical Assistance Centers
- Center for Family Involvement
- VA I'm Determined Project
- VA Early Hearing Detection & Intervention Program
- Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services
- Dept. of Behavioral Health & Developmental Services
  - Infant & Toddler Connection of Virginia

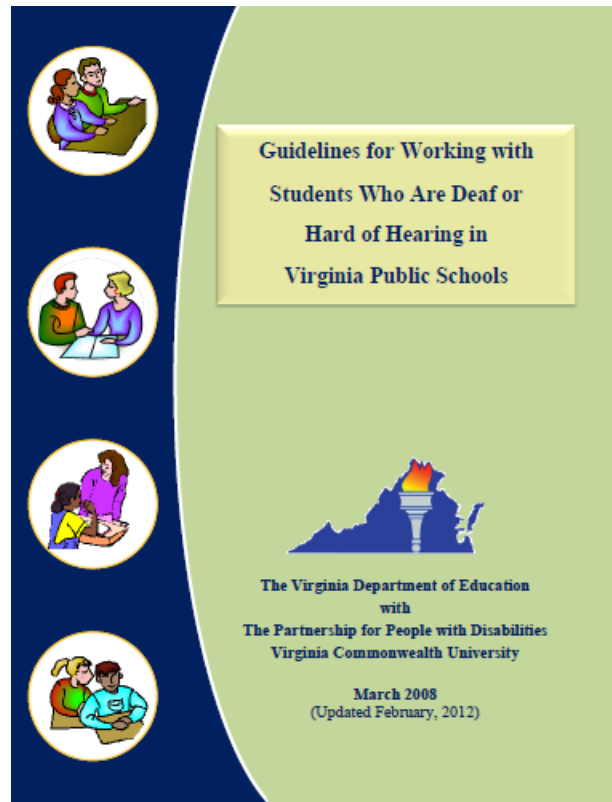
# ***Superintendent's Memos***

## ***Services for Students Identified as Hearing or Visually Impaired***

“The Code of Virginia at § 22.1-217.01 was amended and requires school boards to annually post information on school division websites and to inform the parents of students who are identified as hearing or visually impaired of its availability...”

# *Virginia Guidance Documents*

***2018 Revision  
Coming Soon!***



# Virginia Communication Plan

**Update  
Coming  
Soon!**

## Virginia Communication Plan for a Student Who Is Deaf or Hard of Hearing

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

IDEA 2004, § (14.9d) (3) (B) (iv) Development, review, and revision of IEP.

(2) Consideration of special factors. The IEP Team must –

(iv) Consider the communication needs of the child, and in the case of a child who is deaf or hard of hearing, consider the child's language and communication needs, opportunities for direct communications with peers and professional personnel in the child's language and communication mode, academic level, and full range of needs, including opportunities for direct instruction in the child's language and communication mode;

The IEP team has considered each item below:

I. . . . the child's language and communication needs,

1. The student's language includes one or more of the following (check all that apply):

Primary Language Used	Instructional		Conversational	
	Receptive	Expressive	Receptive	Expressive
English				
American Sign Language				
Other Language _____				
Emerging Language (state in column)				
No formal language established				

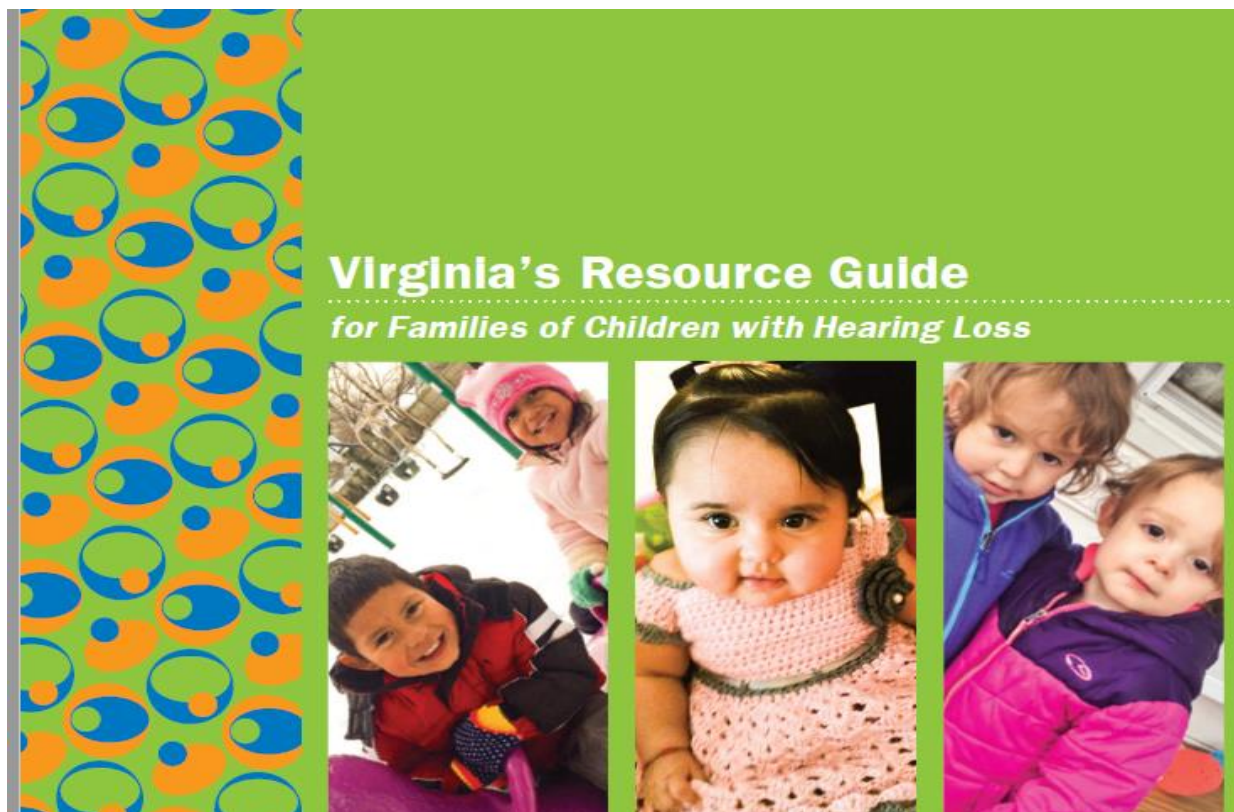
2. The student uses one or more of the following to communicate (check all that apply):

Communication Used	Instructional		Conversational	
	Receptive	Expressive	Receptive	Expressive
Auditory/Oral				
Auditory/Verbal				
Cued Speech				
Speechreading				
Gestures				
Finger spelling				
Sign Language				
American Sign Language (ASL)				
Contact Varieties Sign Language (Pepin)				
Conceptually Accurate Signed English				
Signed English				
Signing Exact English (SEE)				
Tactile Signing				
Augmentative Communication (words)				

☐ Other, please explain \_\_\_\_\_

# *Resources For Families*

*Revised in  
2016!*



Available at: [www.ttaconline.org](http://www.ttaconline.org)

# ***More VA Resources for Families***

- Center for Family Involvement: [ischmaltz@vcu.edu](mailto:ischmaltz@vcu.edu)
- Families to Families: [www.families2families.weebly.com](http://www.families2families.weebly.com)
- Parent Child Advocate Program: [PCAPROGRAM@gmail.com](mailto:PCAPROGRAM@gmail.com)
- Virginia Hearing Journey: [www.VAHearingJourney.org](http://www.VAHearingJourney.org)
- Virginia Hands & Voices: [www.handsandvoices.org](http://www.handsandvoices.org)

## ***For additional information, please contact:***

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