

ACCA Annual Hearing Screening

Who Should be Screened?

School-aged children in traditional classes:

School-aged children shall be screened at six grade levels: kindergarten, first, third, fifth, ninth and eleventh. Students may be screened in additional grade levels.

In addition, the following school children shall be screened annually or upon occurrence:

- Students new to a school (and not tested within the past 12 months).
- Students referred by a teacher or other school personnel.
 - Students who were referred within the past year with no documented follow-up, regardless of grade.
- Students absent during the previous hearing screening.
 - Students at risk for noise exposure (e.g., band, vocational education, industrial education, automotive mechanics).
- Students who request a hearing screening.
- Students whose parent/caregiver request a hearing screening.

Children in special education classes:

Students in special education classes shall be screened at the ages that correspond to the grade levels required for all students (preschool, kindergarten, first, third, fifth, ninth, and eleventh). These children should remain in the screening program due to a higher risk of undetected hearing loss and may be candidates for optional OAE testing and tympanometry screening. If the student cannot be screened, he/she should be referred for a complete medical/audiological evaluation.

Children who should not be included in the school hearing screening program include the following:

- Students who wear hearing aids.
- Students who have a cochlear implant.
- Students with known hearing loss including sensorineural and progressive hearing loss.
 - Parent/caregiver refusal. (Must have a written letter of refusal for every year of testing in child's health record from parent/caregiver.)
- For children who should not be included in the school hearing screening program, followup with parent/caregiver is important to ensure the child is under the care of a primary care provider or audiologist. (Documentation of a current hearing test within the past year should be in the child's file.)