

For students who have been identified as Deaf and Hard of Hearing, the LEA provides a full range of services and determines the student's needs through the evaluation/re-evaluation process. This includes data collection from all of the student's teachers and the teacher of the Deaf and Hard of hearing. The LEA would also consider information for the student's audiologist including a student's audiogram. This information is critical as they need to evaluate the need for Direct Instruction related to their hearing loss. Should the student need audiology services which they do not currently have access to, IU13 is available to conduct functional listening evaluations for the deaf/hard of hearing students to determine how a child functions in the school setting. Once the evaluation has been completed and the LEA should determine the student no longer require direct instruction, the LEA will continue to support the student through a 504 plan to continue to monitor the functioning of the equipment through support from IU13.

Once the need for Assistive Technology is made the LEA would work with the family to determine the funding source. This could be purchased by the LEA, the family medical insurance as is the case with our one student with hearing aids. However, maintenance is the responsibility of the LEA which is why we currently contract with IU13.

At present the LEA has one student with Assistive Technology related to a Deaf and Hard of Hearing need. Currently the LEA contracts with IU13 for Deaf and Hard of hearing Services. The teacher of the Deaf and Hard of hearing does bi-weekly checks of hearing aids and FM/DM system. Currently, the student who has hearing aids is in high school and recently changed to an FM/DM system to provide a more discrete and student managed device that could be used in all settings including social and extra-curricular activities. The student is taught how to maintain, clean and care for her hearing aids during these sessions. The student uses her personal hearing aids and has an FM/DM system prescribed by her audiologist. If the FM/DM system does not function properly, Intermediate Unit 13 will provide a loaner when requested by the school.

The LEA provides routine instruction to maintain, clean and care for hearing aids as well as instruction on how to use an FM/DM system within the first week of school or first week of attendance should a student transfer in. The LEA will continue ongoing monitoring of the students devices to ensure they are currently functioning properly.

The LEA will also provide support and instruction to the student's teachers regarding use of personal devices including surgically implanted devices including cochlear implants and BAHA (bone anchored hearing aids.). In addition should a device have accessories to assist the student in acquisition of instruction the LEA will assure the support of the technology department to assure all devices are working properly. If a device requires repair the LEA and IU13 will ensure a loaner device is provided so the student is able to fully access the curriculum.

Should any student require assistive technology beyond hearing support the LEA would reach out to PaTTAN and the IU Assistance for technical assistance and training in the use of specific AT. The IU has local procedures for requesting technical assistance or training; teams are encouraged to contact the IU for more information. PaTTAN AT consultants can also provide assistance, in collaboration with IU staff should the LEA need additional assistance. PaTTAN Short Term Loan maintains a short-term loan library which could support the LEA, which offers a broad array of AT devices. These AT devices could be

borrowed by the LEA and are used to determine the appropriateness of a particular device for an individual student, prior to the LEA or parent purchasing the equipment.