

# Vision and Hearing Screening Tips

## A. Hints for day of screening:

- Remember- you are not diagnosing, only screening.
- Consider screening during physical education in a quiet room.
- Consider screening during classes required for all grade levels (7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>).
- Consider screening during Registration Day if students are required to attend.
- Email schedule to teachers and administration.
- Share the phone/extension where you will be available.
- Turn heater/air conditioner off (sound) in the room.
- Keep screening location close to classrooms you are screening.
- Easy to manage set up.
- Hydration for screeners-ensure you have water available.
- Recruit a runner to assist with getting students, keeping the waiting area quiet, running errands.

## B. Supplies:

- Audiometer, vision light box and approved charts, screening documentation, writing utensils, occluders, stereopsis screening tools, and sanitizing wipes, (please refer to your vision/hearing screening guide on the ODH website for accepted screening equipment).

## C. Students who should not be included in the vision/hearing screening:

- Students are untestable, wear hearing aids, have cochlear implants, with known hearing loss, have parent/guardian refusal (must have written letter for every year of testing in health record), or have had a vision or hearing screening provided by their pediatrician in the last 12 months (documentation kept in health record).

## D. Referrals sent for:

- Failed vision/hearing x 2.
- Student refusal or unable to complete screen.
- Students absent during all screening dates.

## E. Possible screening locations:

- Clinic – closed for the day if needed.
- Teacher lounges- if more than one in the building.
- Intervention Specialist (IS) Rooms (smaller group size to displace).
- Gymnasium/Study Hall- no open platform- must have four walls and a door.
- Conference rooms.
- If a Field Trip is planned- use empty classrooms for screening.
- Library- no open platform-must have four walls and a door.

## F. Reporting:

- Include: number screened in each class, rescreened in each class, referred, follow-up received from parent/guardian.
- Required yearly by June 1<sup>st</sup>. Report using building IRN not district IRN:  
<https://odh.ohio.gov/know-our-programs/children-s-hearing-vision-program/documentation/documentation-reporting>
- Use vision screening record recording sheet starting on page 99:  
<https://odh.ohio.gov/know-our-programs/children-s-hearing-vision-program/requirements/school-aged-requirement>
- Use Hearing screening record recording sheet starting on page 22: <https://odh.ohio.gov/know-our-programs/children-s-hearing-vision-program/requirements/2022-guidelines>
- For a referral to be complete, documentation of Eye Specialist Report (Form J), Hearing Screening Referral Report (Form E) must be completed.

## G. What do teachers need to know?

- They should request a screen for students that are squinting, complain of numerous headaches, “can’t see,” “lost glasses,” “can’t hear,” “blurry,” turning ear towards teacher.
- Students may require priority seating – temporarily move student to front of classroom.
- Successes include new glasses, student wearing glasses more often, student responding more due to improved hearing (after medical treatment for infection, wax removal), improvement in grades.
- Observation checklist could be shared with teachers and/or families prior to screening. (Form B)