



Part 1: MDH - EHDI System Information Resources; Frequently Asked Questions:

1. What audiological reporting is required by the MN Department of Health? What is the timeline for reporting to the MN Department of Health?

- Provider reporting of hearing rescreen and follow-up diagnostic assessment results to MDH–EHDI is mandated public health surveillance and does NOT require signed consent from the parent/caregiver.
- Providers should report assessment results for all newly confirmed permanent hearing loss in children through age ten years and eleven months to MDH–EHDI. Providers should continue to report follow-up assessment results for infants who have confirmed conductive loss due to suspected middle ear fluid (after not passing newborn hearing screen) until final hearing status is determined.
- Out-of-state residents who receive outpatient hearing screening follow-up and new diagnosis of hearing loss in Minnesota should also be reported to MDH–EHDI.
- Report hearing screening follow-up and diagnostic hearing assessment results to MDH within one week of the scheduled visit date.
- [Reporting form:](https://www.health.state.mn.us/people/newbornscreening/materials/audiologyform.pdf)
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2. Do clinical audiologists need to report confirmation of a child’s hearing loss to the MN Department of Education in addition to the MN Department of Health?

- No. However, clinical audiologists and other professionals are required by [federal IDEA Part C Regulations](#) to refer any infant or toddler identified with developmental concern(s), including hearing loss, to their state’s early intervention system “as soon as possible, but in no case more than seven days, after the child has been identified”. In Minnesota, referrals for young children from ages birth up to kindergarten entrance with developmental concerns can be made through the [Help Me Grow MN](#) website referral form.

3. What records are needed by education?

- Following a referral of a young child with hearing loss through Help Me Grow MN, clinical audiological records documenting the child's hearing loss and any hearing technology are needed by school districts to help district teams determine the child's eligibility for Part C Infant and Toddler Intervention Services or Part B Preschool Special Education Services. Additional information about the process of providing clinical audiology records to school districts is provided in [Part 3](#) of this resource.

4. What is the age range of children with confirmed hearing loss for whom clinical audiologists should share the MN-edited Beginnings book with families?

- The Beginnings book has information applicable to families of children with hearing loss of any age. It can be shared with families of children and youth from birth to 18 years of age.

5. Is the clinical audiologist supposed to give a MN-edited Beginnings book to all families of children with hearing loss, even if they don't speak English as their primary home language?

- Yes. Please offer the MN-edited Beginnings book (printed in English) to all families, regardless of primary home language. The MN-edited Beginnings book has additional information and links related to MN services and resources.
- A bilingual early intervention provider or a spoken language interpreter working with the family and educational team may be helpful in discussing topics from the MN-edited version of Beginnings book.
- Copies of the original North Carolina Beginnings book (2019), printed in Spanish, are also available for Minnesota families who speak Spanish as their primary home language. Audiologists can provide families with the original N.C. Beginnings book (in Spanish) in addition to the MN-edited version (in English) if families would like to receive both.

6. How do clinical audiologists get more MN Beginnings books to share with families?

- They can order MN-edited Beginnings books (and Roadmaps, too) at the MDH link [Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Free Resources Order Form](#).

7. How quickly does the MN Department of Health-EHDI program send the What You Need to Know binder to families?

- MDH-EHDI staff typically mail a What You Need to Know binder to families within two weeks of receiving the clinical audiologist's report to MDH confirming the child's hearing loss. The binder package includes an MDH letter to families in English and in Hmong, Somali, or Spanish when applicable. Some, but not all binder contents are currently available in multiple languages; they are included when applicable.

8. Is the information included in the What You Need to Know binder continually updated?

- Yes. The whole binder is reviewed at least once a year by members of the Birth-to-Five Workgroup of the [MN Collaborative Plan](#). Additional resources are considered for inclusion at the time of review. Minnesota state agency and program leaders provide updates of their current binder resources to the MN Department of Health EHDI Program throughout the year as they are developed.

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