



## *Missouri Eligibility Criteria for Hearing Impairment and Deafness*

### **Hearing Impairment and Deafness Definition**

"Hearing Impairment" means impairment in hearing, whether permanent or fluctuating, that adversely affects a child's educational performance, but is not included in the following definition for deafness.

"Deafness" means a hearing impairment that is so severe that the child is impaired in processing linguistic information through hearing, with or without amplification that adversely affects a child's educational performance.

### Criteria for Initial Determination of Eligibility

A child displays a Hearing Impairment/Deafness when:

- A. a hearing impairment has been diagnosed by an audiologist, and
- B. the hearing impairment adversely affects the child's educational performance.

Missouri Eligibility Criteria can be found in the Missouri State Plan for Special Education, Regulation III- Identification and evaluation; <http://dese.mo.gov/governmental-affairs/dese-administrative-rules/incorporated-reference-materials/IDEAPartB-2014>