



Section: 1000 Programs
Title: Special Education
Code: 1013.5
Status: Approved
Adopted: December 12, 2024

Hearing Aid Policy and Procedure

PURPOSE: The purpose of this policy is to direct the The New Academy Charter School in the providing the use of Hearing Aids to eligible students under IDEA and appropriate accommodations to students with Section 504 Plans.

POLICY: A hearing aid is considered a treatment service. The goal of The New Academy Charter School is that each hearing impaired child should have a hearing aid or aids that provide(s) optimal amplification.

The New Academy Charter School recognizes that appropriate case management for a hearing impaired child is essential and is a team approach consisting of, at least, but not limited to, the parent or guardian, an audiologist, and teacher of the hearing impaired. The New Academy Charter School recognizes that an audiologist and hearing aid fitter/dealer may be the same individual. The New Academy Charter School utilizes professionals possessing a valid license issued by the Pennsylvania State Board of Examiners in Speech-Language and Hearing as defined in Act 238, 1984. Out-of-state audiologists must have a valid license to practice audiology issued from the state in which they practice, if licensure is required in that state. Hearing Aid Dispensers Pennsylvania hearing aid dispensers participating in the Hearing and Speech Program must have a valid hearing aid fitter/dealer 9 registration issued by the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH) as defined by Act 262, 1976. Out-of-state providers must have corresponding licensure registration from the state in which services are provided.

Interpreters in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, the The New Academy Charter School will pay for sign, oral, cued speech and foreign language interpreters. The New Academy Charter School is responsible for locating these services locally and requesting authorization as well as consultation with the IU3. The New Academy Charter School recognizes that changes in type of appropriate amplification may occur over time therefore, ongoing assessment of Hearing Aid effectiveness will be implemented regularly.

The Director of Special Education or his/her designee is directed to seek any necessary assistance from The New Academy Charter School regarding the purchase and payment for Assistive Technology. According to PDE, the Director of Special Education or his/her designee should inform the family not to assume the device will be billed to Medical Assistance (MA), even if a child's MA number is provided on an equipment acquisition form. If the device is billed to MA, the Director of Special Education or his/her designee will notify the parents by sending a transfer of ownership letter.

When the parents are in receipt of the transfer of ownership letter, the billing process has begun. If the billing is ultimately rejected by MA, the parents will be informed by letter. The Director of Special Education or his/her designee may not delay or deny a student's receipt of assistive technology while it attempts to secure MA funding and is directed to comply with any applicable procedures as modified by PDE.