



Updated: February 2008

EHD State and Territorial Profiles Pennsylvania

This profile includes information about a state or territorial EHD program related to general program information, hearing screening, re-screening and diagnostic evaluations, early intervention, and the EHD data system.

If any information in this profile is incorrect or needs to be updated please email: ehdi@cdc.gov

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Category and Questions	Information
General Program Information	
Official name of the state/territory Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHD) program	Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Program
Contact for the state/territory EHD program.	Karl Hoffman, PHPA Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Program Health & Welfare Bldg Harrisburg, PA 17108 (717) 787-2020 (717) 772-0323 karhoffman@state.pa.us
Legislation regarding newborn hearing screening? If yes, does the legislation mandate or provide funds for newborn hearing screening and follow-up services?	Yes The legislation states that "By July 1, 2003, newborn and infant hearing screening is to be conducted on no fewer than 85% of the live births in health care facilities in this Commonwealth during birth admissions, using procedures recommended by the department's advisory committee." (<i>from old profile</i>) PA does not mandate that hearing screening be offered, but does mandate that results be reported to the EHD program. (from data survey) Pennsylvania currently has bills in both the House and Senate introducing legislation for universal newborn hearing screening programs. (<i>from PA website</i>)
State/territory website related to	Yes

infant/child hearing loss?	http://www.psha.org/newborn_hearing.htm
State/territory CDC/EHDI Cooperative Agreement related to hearing screening?	No
State/territory have a Maternal and Child Health Bureau Grant related to hearing screening?	No
Participate in a CDC funded research project?	No
Hearing Screening Information	
State/territory written guidelines and/or protocols for performing hearing screenings?	<i>No information currently available</i>
Primarily responsible in most hospitals for conducting in-hospital hearing screenings?	<i>No information currently available</i>
Estimated percentage of newborns that are initially screened with OAE or AABR. (Of the newborns that failed the initial screen, estimated percentage that are re-screened in the hospital with OAE or AABR.)	NICU Screening: OAE____%; AABR_____% WBN Screening: OAE____%; AABR_____% NICU Re-screening: OAE____%; AABR_____% WBN Re-screening: OAE____%; AABR_____%
State/territory requires parental consent for hearing screening(s) to be done at the time of birth?	No Refusal is documented in the child's medical record and reported to the DOH.
What happens if a baby does not pass the initial hearing screening(s)?	<i>No information currently available</i>
Birthing hospitals/facilities/providers required to report hearing screening results to the state?	<i>No information currently available</i>
How birthing hospitals/facilities report hearing screening information to the state/territory	99% of screening results does your program receive by fax; 1% by other.
Hearing screening results reported to the infant's physician?	<i>No information currently available</i>

[If yes, are all results reported or only failed screening?]	
Rescreening and Diagnostic Evaluations	
State/territory written guidelines and/or protocols for performing hearing re-screenings?	<i>No information currently available</i>
State's program guidelines for helping families with third party preauthorization of re-screening or diagnostic evaluations?	<i>No information currently available</i>
State/territory written guidelines and/or protocols for performing diagnostic evaluations?	<i>No information currently available</i>
State/territory EHDI program list of audiologic diagnostic centers and audiologists skilled in providing pediatric services to infants?	<i>No information currently available</i>
Number of pediatric audiologists and/or diagnostic centers on the list	<i>No information currently available</i>
Who is responsible for scheduling appointments for outpatient hearing re-screenings?	<i>No information currently available</i>
Who is responsible for scheduling appointments for diagnostic audiologic evaluations?	<i>No information currently available</i>
How audiologists report diagnostic audiological evaluation results to the state/territory	98% audiological evaluations are reported by fax; 2% by mailed electronic data.
Guidelines and/or protocols for audiologists to report diagnostic audiological evaluation results to the state/territory?	PA mandates that audiological evaluations be reported to the EHDI program. PA seeks to obtain audiological evaluation data for only those children who did not pass their hearing screening, PA does not receive audiological evaluations for children with risk factors for hearing loss.
One or more persons on the EHDI staff who are responsible for the follow-up of families who need to return for re-screen, diagnostics, or referral to intervention?	<i>No information currently available</i>

Early Intervention	
Lead agency for the Part C Early Intervention Program	Department of Public Welfare Maureen Cronin, Part C Coordinator mcronin@state.pa.us
State/territory written guidelines, and/or protocols for providing intervention services for children with hearing loss?	<i>No information currently available</i>
Eligibility criteria for Part C services for infants and toddlers with hearing loss	<i>No information currently available</i>
Eligibility criteria for Part B services for preschool children with hearing loss	<i>No information currently available</i>
Children with mild or unilateral hearing loss eligible for services under Part C or Part B?	<i>No information currently available</i>
Other public or private programs(s) and services (other than Part C or Part B) that provide intervention services to children with hearing loss	<i>No information currently available</i>
Services such as family support, transportation to follow-up appointments, parent to parent available to families with children with hearing loss? List.	<i>No information currently available</i>
Program receives information regarding whether or not a referred child is receiving Part C services or other intervention services?	Yes, in aggregate form from Part C, but not other EI providers.
Intervention programs report other information about children, such as type of intervention, developmental test scores, use of assistive devices?	No
EHDI Data System	
State/territory written guidelines and/or protocols related to the EHDI tracking system?	<i>No information currently available</i>

<p>Type of system program uses to track hearing screening and follow-up information. .</p>	<p>PA uses a “Home grown” system developed by outside vendor: OZ Systems</p> <p>The PA program does not obtain birth certificate data for all occurrent births.</p> <p>The PA program receives aggregate data for 97% of ALL occurrent births.</p>
<p>State EHDI tracking system includes data items to identify infants and children with risk factors for hearing loss?</p>	<p><i>No information currently available</i></p>
<p>Unique identifier is used to identify infants/children in the state/territory EHDI tracking system</p>	<p><i>No information currently available</i></p>
<p>How program addresses de-duplication of screening and diagnostic evaluation data</p>	<p>PA addresses de-duplication of screening and diagnostic evaluation data during data entry, staff search for possible matches.</p>
<p>EHDI system linked to or integrated with any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Blood spot card -EBC -Audiology -Early Intervention -Immunizations -Other 	<p>PA uses an integrated state data system (i.e., EHDI is only one piece in a larger system that includes other programs).</p>
<p>Other EHDI Questions</p>	
<p>State materials/ brochures/ protocols for parents and professionals about the EHDI program. (Link to matrix).</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/ehdi/statesclearinghouse/pennsylvania.htm</p>
<p>Agencies, foundations, organizations, or other programs that provide funding for the purchase of any of the assistive devices for children with hearing loss</p>	<p><i>No information currently available</i></p>
<p>Statewide hearing aid loaner program for infants, toddlers, and</p>	<p><i>No information currently available</i></p>

children with hearing loss?	
Resources, other than those from the state or territory, available to help families with the costs of caring for an infant, toddler, or child with a hearing loss?	<i>No information currently available</i>