



Updated: February 2008

EHD State and Territorial Profiles Florida

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	Florida Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program
Contact for the state/territory EHD program.	Lois Taylor Prevention and Early Intervention Unit Children's Medical Services 4052 Bald Cypress Way Tallahassee, FL 32399-1707 (850) 245-4670 850-922-5385 lois_taylor@doh.state.fl.us
Legislation regarding newborn hearing screening? If yes, does the legislation mandate or provide funds for newborn hearing screening and follow-up services?	Yes Florida passed legislation mandating hearing screening for all infants within their first 30 days of life in year 2000. However the legislation does not require hospitals / birthing facilities to provide screening results to parents or report data to a state. No funds are provided legislatively for follow-up.
State/territory website related to infant/child hearing loss?	Yes. http://www.doh.state.fl.us/cms/nbscreen-hearing.html
State/territory CDC/EHD Cooperative Agreement related to hearing screening?	Yes.
State/territory have a Maternal	Yes.

and Child Health Bureau Grant related to hearing screening?	
Participate in a CDC funded research project?	No
Hearing Screening Information	
State/territory written guidelines and/or protocols for performing hearing screenings?	Yes Florida's Early Hearing Loss Detection and Intervention Resource Guide has been developed in association with the Advisory Committee. The guide includes information about proposed guidelines for screening services, criteria for referring infants to EIP.
Primarily responsible in most hospitals for conducting in-hospital hearing screenings?	A physician or audiologist.
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__5____%; AABR__95____% WBN Screening: OAE_45____%; AABR_55_____% NICU Re-screening: OAE__15____%; AABR__85____% WBN Re-screening: OAE__65____%; AABR__35____%
State/territory require parental consent for hearing screening(s) to be done at the time of birth?	No The law requires a hearing screening at birth; parents can opt out and must sign a parent refusal form which goes in the medical record.
What happens if a baby does not pass the initial hearing screening(s)?	Some hospitals have the baby return for a rescreen, others refer directly to a pediatric audiologist or the baby's physician for a referral to audiology.
Birthing hospitals/facilities/providers required to report hearing screening results to the state?	No
How birthing hospitals/facilities report hearing screening information to the state/territory	88% of individual-level screening results are received on metabolic forms; 12% via paper faxed forms.
Hearing screening results reported to the infant's physician? [If yes, are all results reported or only failed screening?]	Those completed in the hospital are in the medical record and face sheet which is available to the physician of record. The hearing results are also on the metabolic lab report which is available to physicians.
Rescreening and Diagnostic Evaluations	

State/territory written guidelines and/or protocols for performing hearing re-screenings?	Yes
State's program guidelines for helping families with third party preauthorization of re-screening or diagnostic evaluations?	The statute states that rescreening and diagnostics are covered with Medicaid and other insurance providers.
State/territory written guidelines and/or protocols for performing diagnostic evaluations?	Yes
State/territory EHDI program list of audiologic diagnostic centers and audiologists skilled in providing pediatric services to infants?	Yes. http://www.doh.state.fl.us/cms/NewbornScreening/CMS_APPROVED_PEDIATRIC_AUDIOLOGISTS.pdf
Number of pediatric audiologists and/or diagnostic centers on the list	47
Who is responsible for scheduling appointments for outpatient hearing re-screenings?	It depends on the birth facility, some schedule the appointment prior to discharge; others leave it to the parent to schedule.
Who is responsible for scheduling appointments for diagnostic audiologic evaluations?	It depends on the birth facility, some schedule the appointment prior to discharge; others leave it to the parent to schedule.
How audiologists report diagnostic audiological evaluation results to the state/territory	100% of audiological evaluations are reported via fax paper form.
Guidelines and/or protocols for audiologists to report diagnostic audiological evaluation results to the state/territory?	FL has no mandate to report diagnostic evaluations. FL seeks to obtain audiological evaluation data for all occurrent births below a given age that obtain an audiological evaluation.
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?	Florida has a Follow-up coordinator and 3 people in the field that follow up with families.
Early Intervention	
Lead agency for the Part C Early Intervention Program	Department of Health Janice Kane, Bureau Chief for Early Interventions janice_kane@doh.state.fl.us
State/territory written guidelines, and/or protocols for providing	Yes

intervention services for children with hearing loss?	
Eligibility criteria for Part C services for infants and toddlers with hearing loss	A hearing loss of 30 decibels (dB) or greater, pure tone average of 500, 1000, 2000 Hertz (Hz), unaided in the better ear measured by audiometers calibrated in accordance with the standards established by the American National Standards Institute.
Eligibility criteria for Part B services for preschool children with hearing loss	
Children with mild or unilateral hearing loss eligible for services under Part C or Part B?	Yes. A hearing loss of 30 decibels (dB) or greater, pure tone average of 500, 1000, 2000 Hertz (Hz), unaided in the better ear measured by audiometers calibrated in accordance with the standards established by the American National Standards Institute.
Other public or private programs(s) and services (other than Part C or Part B) that provide intervention services to children with hearing loss	
Services such as family support, transportation to follow-up appointments, parent to parent available to families with children with hearing loss? List.	Florida has Hearing Education Links via Parent support (HELPS) which is parent-to-parent support.
Program receives information regarding whether or not a referred child is receiving Part C services or other intervention services?	Yes, on an individual-child level 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?	Sometimes
EHDI Data System	
State/territory written guidelines and/or protocols related to the EHDI tracking system?	A Procedure Manual is being developed.
Type of system program uses to track hearing screening and follow-up information. .	<p>“Home grown” system developed by outside vendor. Screening data are reported on the metabolic card. The card is sent to the State metabolic Screening lab. Hearing results are entered into the laboratory database. Hearing screen fields were added to the metabolic database for follow-up and tracking. All data are entered into the “life Cycle” module. If a child requires follow-up, a linked record is created in the “Patient Care” module.</p> <p>Florida will pilot integrating electronic birth certificate data with the</p>

	<p>metabolic and hearing screening data in late 2008 to early 2009.</p> <p>The FL program does not obtain birth certificate data for 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>Yes. Added to metabolic specimen card in 2004</p>
<p>Unique identifier is used to identify infants/children in the state/territory EHDI tracking system</p>	<p>The data system assigns a unique number to each child.</p>
<p>How program addresses de-duplication of screening and diagnostic evaluation data</p>	<p>Florida addresses de-duplication of screening data during data entry. Software checks for approximate or probabilistic matches. De-duplication of diagnostic evaluation data is addressed during data entry when staff searches for possible matches. Staff is unable to create a record (child) with hearing data and instead must locate the correct child to enter the hearing data.</p> <p>If two records belong to the same individual, or if two records have been combined into a single record, it is possible to fix the error without re-entering the data.</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>Florida Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program</p>
<p>Other EHDI Questions</p>	<p>Lois Taylor Prevention and Early Intervention Unit Children's Medical Services 4052 Bald Cypress Way Tallahassee, FL 32399-1707 (850) 245-4670 850-922-5385 lois_taylor@doh.state.fl.us</p>
<p>State materials/ brochures/ protocols for parents and professionals about the EHDI program. (Link to matrix).</p>	<p>Yes Florida passed legislation mandating hearing screening for all infants within their first 30 days of life in year 2000. However the legislation does not require hospitals / birthing facilities to provide screening results to parents or report data to a state. No funds are provided legislatively for follow-up.</p>
<p>Agencies, foundations, organizations, or other programs that provide funding for the</p>	<p>Yes. http://www.doh.state.fl.us/cms/nbscreen-hearing.html</p>

purchase of any of the assistive devices for children with hearing loss	
Statewide hearing aid loaner program for infants, toddlers, and children with hearing loss?	Yes.
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?	Yes.