



Updated: February 2008

## EHDI State and Territorial Profiles Arkansas

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

*If any information in this profile is incorrect or needs to be updated please email: [ehdi@cdc.gov](mailto:ehdi@cdc.gov)*

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Category and Questions	Information
<b>General Program Information</b>	
Official name of the state/territory Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) program	Infant Hearing Program (IHP)
Contact for the state/territory EHDI program.	Millie Sanford, M.S. Coordinator, Infant Hearing Program Division of Health, Arkansas Department of Health and Human Services Slot H-20 PO Box 1437 Little Rock, AR 72203-1437 (501) 280-4761 (501) 280-4170 <a href="mailto:millie.sanford@arkansas.gov">millie.sanford@arkansas.gov</a>
Legislation regarding newborn hearing screening?  If yes, does the legislation mandate or provide funds for newborn hearing screening and follow-up services?	Yes Arkansas has legislation passed in 1999 for universal hearing screening for all newborns in hospitals with more than 50 births each year. Hospitals are required to report to the Division of Health the hearing screening results for each child (by the 15 <sup>th</sup> of the month) as well as an annual hospital hearing screening report. Rules and regulations went into effect in September 2000
State/territory website related to infant/child hearing loss?	Yes <a href="http://www.arhealthyhearing.com">www.arhealthyhearing.com</a>
State/territory CDC/EHDI Cooperative Agreement related to	Yes

hearing screening?	
State/territory have a Maternal and Child Health Bureau Grant related to hearing screening?	Yes
Participate in a CDC funded research project?	On-going: <a href="http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/ehdi/researchongoing.htm">http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/ehdi/researchongoing.htm</a> <u>Loss to Follow-Up</u> - CDC "1% Evaluation Project", CDC and RTI International
<b>Hearing Screening Information</b>	
State/territory written guidelines and/or protocols for performing hearing screenings?	Yes Arkansas Department of Health and Human Services' Infant Hearing Program has prepared (1) Written instructions on how to conduct hearing screening, (2) Brochures for parents, (3) Quarterly newsletters.
Primarily responsible in most hospitals for conducting in-hospital hearing screenings?	Nurses, and other Hospital Nursery Staff
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 require parental consent for hearing screening(s) to be done at the time of birth?	Yes
What happens if a baby does not pass the initial hearing screening(s)?	Re-screen in hospital before discharge, 13 hospitals use only OAE, 21 hospitals use only AABR, 12 hospitals use both. 58% of hospitals offer post-discharge re-screening. Infants who fail re-screen are referred for diagnostic audiological evaluation.
Birthing hospitals/facilities/providers required to report hearing screening results to the state?	Yes Hearing Screen results, risk factors, medical home code, parent's consent to release the information to child's providers, primary language, insurance, "did not test" category, test site, multiple birth designation, and birth facility number.  Also has "Post Discharge hearing Screening form" used by hospitals for re-screens.
How birthing hospitals/facilities report hearing screening	75% of individual-level screening results are received via paper forms; 25% by fax. Forms filled out by nursery personnel and mailed in or faxed to IHP.

information to the state/territory	
Hearing screening results reported to the infant's physician? [If yes, are all results reported or only failed screening?]	Results for infants that did not pass, infants that did not receive an inpatient hearing screen and infants with risk factors are reported.
<b>Rescreening and Diagnostic Evaluations</b>	
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?	<i>No information currently available</i>
State/territory written guidelines and/or protocols for performing diagnostic evaluations?	Yes <a href="http://www.arhealthyhearing.com/aa.htm">http://www.arhealthyhearing.com/aa.htm</a>
State/territory EHDI program list of audiologic diagnostic centers and audiologists skilled in providing pediatric services to infants?	Yes
Number of pediatric audiologists and/or diagnostic centers on the list	35 test sites
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	90% of audiological evaluations are reported by fax; 10% by paper form.
Guidelines and/or protocols for audiologists to report diagnostic audiological evaluation results to the state/territory?	AR mandates that audiological evaluations be reported to the EHDI program. AR seek to obtain audiological evaluation data for all occurrent births below a given age that obtain an audiological evaluation including children with risk factors.
One or more persons on the EHDI staff who are responsible for the follow-up of families who need to	<i>No information currently available</i>

return for re-screen, diagnostics, or referral to intervention?	
<b>Early Intervention</b>	
Lead agency for the Part C Early Intervention Program	AR Department of Health and Human Services Sharon Mitchel, Part C Coordinator <a href="mailto:sharon.lee-mitchell@arkansas.gov">sharon.lee-mitchell@arkansas.gov</a>
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	All children diagnosed with hearing loss.
Eligibility criteria for Part B services for preschool children with hearing loss	Part B, Arkansas School for the Deaf provides services for children age 0 to 8 years.
Children with mild or unilateral hearing loss eligible for services under Part C or Part B?	Yes, under Part C
Other public or private programs(s) and services (other than Part C or Part B) that provide intervention services to children with hearing loss	AR School for the Deaf.
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, at the individual child level.
Intervention programs report other information about children, such as type of intervention, developmental test scores, use of assistive devices?	Yes, at the individual child level.
<b>EHDI Data System</b>	
State/territory written guidelines and/or protocols related to the	<i>No information currently available</i>

EHDI tracking system?	
Type of system program uses to track hearing screening and follow-up information. .	<p>Commercial software – Limelight.</p> <p>In 2005, IHP transitioned from an access database to a customized Limelight Technologies tracking system for follow-up. With the Limelight system in place, IHP has the ability to track children through the age of five. Limelight Technologies utilizes a common customer ID to read the data.</p> <p>The program receives individual-level data for ALL hearing screens.</p>
State EHDI tracking system includes data items to identify infants and children with risk factors for hearing loss?	Yes
Unique identifier is used to identify infants/children in the state/territory EHDI tracking system	ID number
How program addresses de-duplication of screening and diagnostic evaluation data	<p>The AR program address de-duplication of screening and diagnostic evaluation data during data entry, staff search for possible matches.</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>The AR program obtains birth certificate data for all occurrent births.</p>
<p>EHDI system linked to or integrated with any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Blood spot card</li> <li>-EBC</li> <li>-Audiology</li> <li>-Early Intervention</li> <li>-Immunizations</li> <li>-Other</li> </ul>	<p>AR has a blended system (e.g., some EHDI data is part of an integrated state data system, other EHDI data is maintained in a separate data system)</p> <p>It is inked to EBC</p> <p>An MOA has been drafted about data sharing between Part C and agencies that report Child Find kids.</p>
<b>Other EHDI Questions</b>	
State materials/ brochures/ protocols for parents and professionals about the EHDI program. (Link to matrix).	<p>Yes.</p> <p><a href="http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/ehdi/statesclearinghouse/arkansas.htm">http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/ehdi/statesclearinghouse/arkansas.htm</a>            Infant hearing Resource Guide (families)</p>
Agencies, foundations, organizations, or other programs	Medicaid pays for hearing aids for Medicaid eligible children. Other children ay receive coverage from their insurance.

that provide funding for the 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, it is operated by a parent organization and kept at the University of Arkansas Medical Sciences/University of Arkansas at Little Rock's Audiology Program
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>