

# Online, Hybrid or In-Person Accommodation Guidelines

for children who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing

## Face Masks

Face masks can create access barriers for students who are deaf/hard of hearing. When allowed consider using clear masks and or face shields whenever possible. This can be tailored to the needs of the child in each education setting. The IEP Team/504 Administrator will determine this.



## Virtual Access



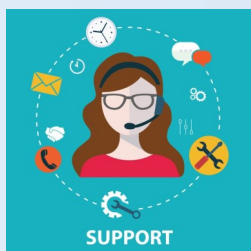
Make sure students have live accurate captioning or sign language interpreters while participating in live online activities. Communication Access stated in the students IEP or 504 should be provided during e-learning. Closed Captions should be provided on all pre-recorded webinars/videos and similar platforms when a student is required to watch pre-recorded videos.

## Assistive Technology Needs

With remote learning, additional technology may be required for meaningful access to sound, captioning, and/or interpreting. These may include secondary laptops for displaying captions or interpreters and/or devices for sending sounds directly to their hearing technology.



## IT Troubleshooting



Students should have readily available access to IT troubleshooting when technological supports such as captioning, interpreting, and Hearing Assistive Technology are not displaying or functioning properly. Back-up plans for when supports cannot be quickly fixed should also be in place. Keep in mind Education Audiologists should be the first point of contact for troubleshooting Hearing Assistive Technology.

## Temperature Checks

Children with earmolds or in the ear hearing aids may show false elevated temperature readings when using ear thermometers. Consider using alternative thermometers or re-screen after earmold or hearing aid is removed from the ear for 10 minutes.



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IEP Teams should work together to determine the accommodations and modification alterations due to Covid-19. Covid-19 should not limit the students access. Work with the IEP team or 504 administrator to make needed changes to the child's school plan.

**Illinois Hands & Voices Guide By Your Side is here to help!**

**Questions? Contact us at [ilhandsandvoices@gmail.com](mailto:ilhandsandvoices@gmail.com) or 630-697-3544**