

Educational Placement Options for Deaf Children

There are many options that a parent has the right to choose from for the education of their deaf child. Variations may be seen for the general options listed below. This may be due to the method in which the parent wishes their child to be educated.

Residential Schools:

Residential schools for the deaf are most often state run schools. They are both an educational facility and a housing facility for large numbers of deaf and hard of hearing students. Some students who live in the area of the school may commute to and from the school each day, while others stay during the week and return home on the weekends.

Day Schools:

Day schools are located in larger cities and are separate schools for the deaf. They do not enroll hearing students.

Day Classes:

Day classes are usually district or county run programs on public school campuses with hearing children. Instruction may range from self-contained classrooms with a teacher of the deaf to varying amounts of mainstreaming with regular classrooms.

Resource Rooms:

Resource rooms are a place for the child to receive additional services from additional instruction in English or other academic subject areas to speech and language therapy. The child spends the majority of their time in a regular classroom.

Itinerant Programs:

Itinerant programs are for children who are placed in regular classrooms. They receive "itinerant" services from a teacher of the deaf as additional support. The itinerant teacher often works with a number of students at different school sites. The amount of time and number of days that a child receives services varies according to each student's need and is usually specified on the child's IEP.