



| **guide** | *Deaf & Hard of Hearing | Resources and Services in Calgary*



Education

Service Provider	Scope of Services	Consumers	Contact Information / Links
 <p>Connect Society <i>Strengthening connections among Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Hearing people</i></p>	<p>On-site pre-school and kindergarten programming for children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing which is funded through Alberta Education, Program Unit Funding (PUF). The Connect Society ECS program offers children language enriched classrooms that are listening friendly and strengthen skills across all developmental areas with a special emphasis on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Speech and language skills ▪ Social communication and interaction skills ▪ Language and literacy focused curriculum <p>The program provides daily speech and language services, optimal listening environments, American Sign Language support as needed or desired, and occupational and physical therapy services. Working closely with the family and other service providers (including the school boards, Alberta Children’s Hospital hearing clinic, Deaf and Hear Alberta, hands and Voices, etc.) promotes a collaborative and effective effort to help best prepare children for school entry.</p> <p>Additionally, Connect Society offers a variety of language and literacy development groups for parents with children (0-3 years).</p> <p>The ECS teachers are Alberta Education certified and are knowledgeable about early childhood, hearing loss and its impacts. Connect values a family centred approach where parents are involved in a meaningful way in their child’s education.</p>	<p>ECS– DHH children ages 2 ½ years to 5 ½ years and their families Children of Deaf Adults (CODA)</p> <p>Language/ Literacy Parented Groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Books for Little Ones: Ages 0-3 yr ▪ Read and sign: Ages 0-3 yr ▪ Building Sign: In home family language and literacy sessions. Ages 0-6 	<p>www.connectsociety.org</p> <p>Teresa Foy, Program Manager tfoy@connectsociety.org 403-828-1937</p>
 <p>Calgary Board of Education</p>	<p>The Calgary Board of Education provides a continuum of services for students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing. To support students’ unique needs, we work with students, parents, and multidisciplinary teams to personalize learning.</p> <p>DHH Specialist</p> <p>The DHH Specialist provides leadership to the DHH System Team of three strategists, educational audiologist and audiology clerk. The Specialist facilitates the intake, placement, and transition of DHH students in integrated and congregated settings. Communication with internal and external stakeholders is made to support the values and learning strategy of the CBE.</p>	<p>Inclusive Learning</p> <p>Congregated DHH Classes</p>	<p>CBE Deaf and Hard of Hearing</p> <p>Joanne Issler, DHH Specialist joissler@cbe.ab.ca</p>


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	<p>CBE Schools Strategists for the DHH support the school learning team through informing best practice for assistive technology, IPP development, accommodations and teaching strategies. Strategists may work directly with DHH students to provide the support for independence with amplification, technology, auditory skill development, literacy and language development, self-advocacy, social/emotional development and transitions depending on need and resources available.</p> <p>Regional Collaborative Service Delivery (RCSD) through Support Services for Inclusive Learning (SSIL) Support for students with a hearing loss and their learning support teams are provided through SSIL to the RCSD regions within and surrounding Calgary. Strategists for the DHH and Educational Audiologists support school learning teams through informing best practices for assistive technology, IPP development, accommodations and teaching strategies. Strategists consult with the school learning team to provide support with the DHH student to develop independence with amplification, technology, auditory skill development, literacy and language development, self-advocacy, social/emotional development and transitions depending on need.</p>	Kindergarten to Grade 12	Melane Culham, DHH Strategist mlculham@cbe.ab.ca Krista Smart, DHH Strategist klsmart@cbe.ab.ca Lorna Wick, DHH Strategist LMWick@cbe.ab.ca



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	<p><i>Specialized Classes for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH)</i> Each DHH classroom is directly supported by a Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, or Special Education Teacher, and has access to an education assistant or educational interpreter, as needed. Typical class size ranges from 8 to 10 students. The ratio of students to staff varies depending on grade level and complexity of student needs. Integration opportunities in other classrooms, curriculum modifications, instructional accommodations, and learning technologies are personalized based on the needs of each student. In addition to the programming described below, occupational therapists (OT), physiotherapists (PT) , and psychologists can be accessed by school referral to Support Services for Inclusive Learning (SSIL).</p> <p><i>Stanley Jones, Aural/Oral Approach</i> Programming emphasizes the use of speech, residual hearing, visual English in the form of sign supported speech, speechreading and the use of written English. The primary program goal is developing skills in listening and spoken language, reading and writing, and self-advocacy. Language is taught directly and intentionally throughout all subject areas, using a variety of techniques, including assistive technology. This program is recommended for families who have expressed a preference for their children to learn through aural methods of input (listening to English) and oral expression (speaking).</p> <p><i>Queen Elizabeth School Bi-lingual Approach – ASL and English,</i> Programming emphasizes the use of American Sign Language (ASL) for language learning. The primary program goal is to optimize students’ communication abilities in ASL in conjunction with literacy and numeracy skills. These students benefit from direct support in developing expressive/receptive language skills, including English language instruction through reading and writing. This program is recommended for families whose children require ASL to communicate or have expressed a preference for their children to learn through direct instruction in ASL</p> <p><i>Queen Elizabeth High School,</i> Communication and instruction is through American Sign Language, spoken/written English, or sign supported speech based on student needs. The primary program goal is to optimize students’ academic achievement, communication abilities, and personal development. A combination of congregated DHH, co-enrolment, and/or integrated environments is available. The students attending the DHH Programs at Queen Elizabeth Elementary and Stanley Jones Elementary typically feed into the DHH Program at Queen Elizabeth Junior/Senior High.</p>	<p>DHH students in Grades 1-6</p> <p>DHH students in Grades 1-6</p> <p>DHH students in Grades 7-12</p>	<p>Stanley Jones School Sandra Fowler-Brown, Principal SLBrown@cbe.ab.ca</p> <p>Queen Elizabeth School Andrea Cartwright, Principal AMCartwright@cbe.ab.ca</p> <p>Queen Elizabeth High School Michelle Dupont, Administrative Secretary MADupont@cbe.ab.ca</p>


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	<p>Early Development Centres (pre-school) Early Development Centres (EDCs) offer programming for preschool-aged children with exceptional needs. Early intervention support is provided through PUF and Mild/Moderate funding. Programs emphasize communication skills, fine and gross motor development and social interaction. Regular supports include: teacher, Education Assistants, Early Learning Strategists, Speech Language Pathologists, Speech Language Assistants, Occupational and Physical Therapists.</p> <p>Professional Support Staff</p> <p>Educational Audiologist FM and DM (Digital Modulation) systems are provided and/or supported by the Educational Audiologist. Support includes: 1) monitoring, troubleshooting and repair 2) verifying FM/DM characteristics to ensure that the FM/DM systems and hearing aids/cochlear implants work properly together 3) building capacity of teachers through in-services about hearing loss, using assistive technology, and classroom acoustics and 4) building capacity of strategists, teachers, education assistants, and students to develop monitoring and troubleshooting skills</p> <p>Speech Language Pathologists SLPs consult and collaborate with the multi-disciplinary team which may include parents, teachers, Educational Assistants, Early Learning Strategists, OTs, PTs, Psychologists, Speech-Language Assistants. Assessment and/or intervention are based on need. Areas of intervention may include: articulation, receptive and expressive language, vocabulary, literacy, social skills. Intervention may include universal large group work, small group work and specialized work.</p>	<p>Ages 2-5</p> <p>DHH students Kindergarten to Grade 12</p> <p>All children in EDCs and Kindergarten programs</p>	<p>Sandi Harrower, Specialist slharrower@cbe.ab.ca</p> <p>Sandra Vandenhoff, Educational Audiologist sevandenhoff@cbe.ab.ca</p> <p>Sharon Walker, Manager, Speech-Language Services sdwalker@cbe.ab.ca</p> <p>Kate Plante, Supervisor, Speech-Language Services kaplante@cbe.ab.ca</p>

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 <p>Success for All Students</p> 	<p>Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH) students are supported by a learning support team which may include; teachers and school administration, DHH Consultant, Assistive Technology Consultant, Educational Audiologist, District Psychologists and Speech Language Pathologists (SLPs)</p> <p>DHH Consultant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Works collaboratively with the student's learning team. ■ Facilitate the registration, placement, and transition of DHH students into regular education programs, congregated settings (e.g. Gifted, Diverse Learning) or blended model programs. ■ Support and advocate for DHH students and their families regarding students' academic, social and emotional wellness. ■ Support and mentor the school learning team with best practice for programming, assistive technology, interpretation and signing services, accommodations and teaching strategies. ■ Liase with outside support agencies. ■ In-service classroom teachers in hearing loss, use of amplification in the classroom, ergonomics and physical set up of the classroom, acoustics, etc. <p>Assistive Technology Consultant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Works collaboratively with the student's learning team. ■ Support the student and school learning team with best practice for programming, providing and coaching assistive technologies, accommodations and teaching strategies. ■ Promote independence in DHH students regarding assistive technologies <p>Educational Audiologist:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Works collaboratively with the student's learning team. ■ Provide, monitor and maintain personal FM systems and sound-field systems, ensuring hearing, with or without hearing aids and/or cochlear implants, is supported and complimented. ■ Promote independence in DHH students regarding amplification technologies. ■ Liase with outside support agencies ■ In-service classroom teachers in hearing loss, use of amplification in the classroom, ergonomics and physical set up of the classroom, acoustics, etc. <p>District Psychologists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ works collaboratively with the student's learning team. 	<p>DHH students in Kindergarten to Grade 12 in regular education programs, congregated settings (Gifted, Diverse Learning) or blended models</p>	<p>Kathleen Kostuik, Supervisor of Diverse Learning kathleen.kostuik@cssd.ab.ca</p> <p>Claire McNeil, DHH Consultant claire.mcneil@cssd.ab.ca</p> <p>Terri Marles, Assistive Technology Consultant terri.marles@cssd.ab.ca</p> <p>Selena Vermey, Educational Audiologist Selena.Vermey@albertahealthservices.ca</p>


Government of Alberta



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	<p>Richmond Road Diagnostic and Treatment Centre Audiology Services</p> <p>Audiology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ diagnostic hearing assessments (all ages) ▪ hearing loss counseling ▪ tone- evoked auditory brainstem response (ABR) assessments (all ages) ▪ neurologic auditory brainstem response (ABR) ▪ referrals to appropriate sites for hearing aid fittings and assessments ▪ balance/vestibular testing (VNG and VEMP) ▪ cochlear implant candidacy assessments and follow-up for adult 18 and older 	All ages	Richmond Road Diagnostic and Treatment Centre Audiology Services 403-955-8500
	<p>Alberta Children's Hospital- Hearing Clinic</p> <p>Alberta Children's Hospital provides a family centered clinic comprised of an interdisciplinary team inclusive of audiologists, audiology technician, psychologist, social worker, speech language pathologists, speech language assistant, Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) specialists, pediatricians, and a nurse.</p> <p>Consultation with ENT and pediatrician as needed for infants, children, and youth, 0 – 18 years, with confirmed hearing loss.</p> <p>Audiology –Infants and children with diagnosed hearing loss age birth – 3 years (up to age 5 years based on age of identification). Services include hearing aid and FM fitting, earmold fitting, ongoing monitoring of unaided thresholds and monitoring of aided function.</p> <p>Cochlear Implant (CI) program - Infants, children and youth, birth – 18 years for assessment of candidacy for CI, programming of CI and monitoring of detection and speech perception abilities using the CI.</p> <p>Speech and Language – Infants and children with diagnosed hearing loss age birth – 3 years (up to age 5 years based on age of identification) to facilitate communicative competence through a variety of communication modalities, languages, and strategies. Children and youth with progressive losses, auditory neuropathy, newly diagnosed, and those with Cochlear Implants receive services regardless of age. Assessment, intervention, and consultation with families and community partners.</p>	0 to 18 years	Alberta Children's Hospital Hearing Clinic 403-955-7061

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	<p>Speech Language Pathologists SLPs consult and collaborate with a team which can include parents, teachers, other specialists and administration.</p> <p>Assessment and/or intervention is provided based on need. Intervention includes but is not limited to one-on-one pull out, small group work, or work in the classroom. Areas of intervention typically include: articulation, intelligibility, receptive and expressive language, vocabulary, literacy, written expression and social thinking</p> <p>Speech-Language Services are provided to students by Core SLPs. Referrals are made through the school's resource team</p>	<p>CBE students in specialized classes for DHH (grades 1-12)</p> <p>DHH student attending their designated CBE, CSSD school (grades 1-12)</p>	<p>Marlene May, R.SLP marlene.may@ahs.ca</p> <p>Rosanne Muryinka, R.SLP rosanne.muryinka@ahs.ca</p> <p>Referral Intake Main Branch 403-955-1300</p>
 <p>Family Support for Children with Disabilities (FCSD)</p>	<p>Promotes a family-centered approach to build the capacity of the entire family, including parents, siblings, and extended family members so the child can be raised at home and fully participate in community life</p> <p>Funding and supports for costs incurred due to extraordinary impact for having a child with a disability, such as individual and family counselling, attending medical appointments, respite support, and child care support, aide support, support and consultation from Specialized services, such as speech language pathologists and psychologists</p> <p>Eligibility Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ under age 18 ▪ Canadian citizen or permanent resident ▪ proof of disability (letter from medical doctor) ▪ child and family must live in AB 	<p>Families of children with non-medical disabilities</p>	<p>Family Support for Children with Disabilities (FCSD) - Alberta Human Services - Government of Alberta</p> <p>Calgary Branch Intake 403-297-50111</p> <p>Calgary Branch Main 403-297-5580</p>



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	<p>The AADL hearing aid benefits program supports Albertans with hearing impairments. AADL provides funding towards the purchase, replacement and repair of hearing aids, earmolds, fm systems, cochlear implants and bone anchored hearing devices when specific benefit eligibility requirements are met. They provide basic equipment and supplies, with quantity and price limits in effect. Clients share in the cost of program benefits. This means clients pay 25% of the cost of benefits. Some benefits may be upgraded to a more expensive item, but the client is responsible for paying the additional amount. Equipment must be purchased through a contracted AADL vendor, which may be a Hearing Aid Practitioner or Audiologist. Children under the age of 18 years old must be treated by an Audiologist.</p>	<p>0-18 years, full-time students, low income adults, seniors 65+</p>	<p>Alberta Aids to Daily Living Alberta Health Toll-free 310-0000; 780-427-0731</p>

Community

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 <p><i>Our mission at Deaf Alberta is to ensure the Deaf have access to communication in their language of choice.</i></p>	<p><u>Deaf Alberta:</u> Deaf Services includes children’s and family programming; educational and social support and providing referrals to complementary community services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ American Sign Language (ASL) - Classes offered include: customized work sessions, one on one session, and Family Focused ASL, ASL classes, and ASL Summer Camp. Funding is available for any Calgarian who are unable to take a class due to financial reasons ▪ Student (ASL) Literacy is provided for elementary students who needs help with reading and writing. The sessions happen at their home once a week. Students need to be ASL users. ▪ Counselling Services- Contract Service with H.O.P.E Inc. – Registered Psychologist, Registered Play Therapist and Certified EMDR Therapist. Registered psychologists is fluent in ASL. ▪ Assistive Technology –accessibility specialists ensure the right technology matches the personal, facility or workplace needs. A full range of products can be purchased in person or online. Assist with funding applications to outside organizations <p><u>Hear Alberta:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hearing Loss Prevention – Information and awareness activities to address existing barriers to using hearing protection, overexposure to loud music, and other modifiable risk factors to hearing loss. ▪ Sound Advice Program – educational sessions providing tools, strategies and coping skills to those living with hearing loss are able to participate and engage more fully in everyday activities. ▪ Peer-to-Hear – This program confidentially matches adults dealing with hearing loss with a trusted mentor who has walked a similar path and now wants to offer support. One-on-one and group mentoring sessions are available. ▪ Accessibility Services – out accessibility specialists conduct personal, facility and workplace assessments to ensure the right technology matches clients’ needs. A full range of products can be purchased on-line through our e-store (estore.deafandhearalberta.ca) or free one-on-one consultations are available at our office. 	<p>Deaf individuals and their families</p>	<p>www.deafalberta.ca</p>

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 <p><i>Alberta Hands & Voices is dedicated to supporting families with children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing without a bias around communication modes or methodology</i></p>	<p>Alberta Hands & Voices</p> <p>This parent-driven society provides families with resources, networks, and information needed to improve communication access and educational outcomes for their children</p> <p>The Alberta Hands and Voices Facebook page is a central place to connect with other families, ask questions and find out about events, such as parent coffee nights and the annual picnics and bowling nights</p> <p>The Parent Toolkit is provided to families of DHH children who have been newly diagnosed</p> <p>The <i>Guide by Your Side</i> Program matches a Parent Guide who has training, experience, and knowledge on the many choices that families need to make as they raise a DHH child (In progress)</p>	<p>Parents and families of DHH children</p>	<p>albertahandsandvoices.com</p> <p>E-Mail info@albertahandsandvoices.com</p>
 <p><i>Working with you to reach your employment and career goals.</i></p>	<p>Symmetry Solutions provides Deaf and Hard of Hearing people with employment and career support.</p> <p>Services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Interpreting (working with and booking) ■ Mediation ■ Work Experience ■ Workshops ■ Equipment 	<p>DHH / Blind Individuals job seekers</p>	<p>www.symmetrysolutions.ca</p> <p>403-277-2214</p>

Community | American Sign Language Interpreting

Service Provider	Scope of Services	Consumers	Contact Information / Links
<p><i>Dedicated to paying it forward</i></p>	<p>Choice of Interpreters Inc. is a provider of exceptional interpreting services throughout the province of Alberta; boasting a roster that is inclusive of all freelance AVLIC Certified Interpreters within the province of Alberta. We pride ourselves on our “pay it forward” initiative to the Alberta Deaf Community, and offer services from professional interpreters who uphold the tenets of the Association of Visual Language Interpreters of Canada (AVLIC) Code of Ethics and Guidelines for Professional Conduct.</p>	<p>Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals requiring ASL interpreting</p>	<p>www.choiceofinterpreters.com Email: Choice@choiceofinterpreters.com FACEBOOK/ @choiceofinterpreters.com</p>
 <p><i>Our mission at Deaf Alberta is to ensure the Deaf have access to communication in their language of choice.</i></p>	<p>Interpreting Services-a province wide service that provides equal communication access. Services are at no cost to the Deaf person. These services are delivered by professional trained Sign Language Interpreters in a range of settings including Medical, Legal, employment and more.</p>	<p>Deaf individuals requiring ASL Interpreting</p>	<p>1-866-471-2805 ext. 2 Email: booking@deafandhearalberta.ca Voice/Text/TTY: 1-403-284-6203 Facetime: booking@deafandhearalberta.ca</p>
 <p><i>Creating Employment Opportunities</i></p>	<p>FLIC holds a roster of professionally trained sign language interpreters with a variety of specialities to meet your interpreting needs. All FLIC interpreters are members of Association of Visual Language Interpreters of Canada (AVLIC), the national professional association.</p>	<p>Deaf, Deafblind, and Deaf Individuals with disabilities requiring ASL Interpreting</p>	<p>www.flicinterpreting.com Email: booking@flicinc.com 403-830-3542</p>

