

Assessing Student Hearing: A Self-Guided Online Course for School Nurses

School nurses can now gain the expertise they need online to conduct mandated hearing screening assessments in their schools. This self-paced tutorial is designed for independent learning and includes three instructional modules that provide a medical foundation for hearing acuity and hearing impairment as well as the educational considerations and supports students with hearing loss need in school settings. The modules also provide explicit instruction in audiological instrumentation and screening procedures, including a section on preschoolers and students with disabilities.

At the conclusion of each module, participants will be asked to complete application of learning assignments related to salient content by completing tasks and engaging in personal reflection. The final assignment is a practicum in which participants will screen the hearing of a minimum of five students under supervision. Completion of all essential activities, reflections, and practicum are necessary to receive CEUs and a *Hearing Screening Training Certificate*.

In addition to the essential content presented in the three training modules, other resources related to hearing acuity, noise-induced hearing loss, myringotomies, otitis media, and other topics will be available through this online course. These resources provide greater depth of learning and assist school nurses in being more effective members of early intervening services or PPT teams. They also provide resources appropriate for information sessions suitable for students, professionals, and families.

Upon completion of this online course, school nurses providing health care and education to students in PreK-grade 12, will:

- summarize the prevalence of hearing loss in school-age children;
- describe the anatomical and physiological bases for hearing, as well as the etiology, symptoms, and treatment of children's hearing problems;
- improve student learning by identifying the educational and social impacts of hearing loss;
- plan and conduct developmentally appropriate hearing screenings; and
- modify hearing screenings for students with special needs and those in early childhood programs.

The registration process for this online course is **ongoing**. School nurses may register by mail at any point in the school year that meets their personal needs. Once registration has been confirmed, participants will be able to access the hearing screening modules online and pace their learning in a manner that fits their individual needs. There is also no set time limit for beginning and ending the course, although completion within an eight to ten week time frame is recommended for continuity of learning.

Please return application with fee to SERC, **ISSS Initiative**, 25 Industrial Park Road, Middletown, CT 06457-1520. Applicants will receive written confirmation regarding participation and instructions for accessing course materials online.

Date Available:

September 4, 2007

Technology Required:

Online Access

Facilitator:

Donna D. Merritt, Ph.D., CCC
Consultant
SERC

Audience: PreK-Grade 12

Connecticut School Nurses

CEUs: 1.0

Includes:
Full Participation in all Online Modules
Completion of Application of
Learning Activities

Registration Fee:

\$30.00 per person
Payable to Rensselaer at Hartford
Payment is due upon application.

Questions/ Special Needs:

Contact: April Judd
Education Services Specialist
(860) 632-1485, ext. 282



www.ctserc.org



Integrated Student Support Services Initiative

APPLICATION FORM: Assessing Student Hearing (08-23-005 -FN/ISSS)aj (Please print clearly.)

District/Region _____ School/Program _____ Work Phone () _____

Name _____ Home Phone () _____

Home Address _____ City _____ Zip Code _____

Position/Role _____ Grade Levels _____ Email (Please Print.) _____

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