

# SOUTH DAKOTA SERVICES FOR THE DEAF

## Multidisciplinary Evaluation Services



# SDSD

[WWW.SDDEAF.ORG](http://WWW.SDDEAF.ORG)

### Mission

*South Dakota Services for the Deaf (SDSD) was established in 1880 to serve children identified as deaf or hard of hearing. SDSD's mission is to be a partner in educational success for children from birth through high school graduation.*

*SDSD serves as a resource by providing informed, evidence-based consultation to families, schools, and educational*

*teams statewide, in addition to both screening and diagnostic audiology services and multidisciplinary evaluations.*

*SDSD is devoted to delivering the specialized educational services and resources for South Dakota children who are deaf and hard of hearing, leading to their full and active participation.*

### Contacts

#### SERVICE COORDINATOR

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[www.sddeaf.org](http://www.sddeaf.org)

### Locations

**SIoux FALLS CLINIC**  
4101 W 38th St  
Suite 101  
Sioux Falls, SD 57106  
**phone** 605-367-5200  
**fax** 605-367-5209  
**videophone** 605-496-9058

**RAPID CITY CLINIC**  
2138 Jackson Blvd  
Rapid City, SD 57702  
**phone** 605-791-7839  
**fax** 605-394-2427

## Eligibility & Requests

SDSD can provide multidisciplinary evaluations for school districts and local education agencies (LEA) serving children identified as deaf or hard of hearing. To be evaluated by SDSD, a child must be an SDSD Outreach Program client. SDSD does not charge a fee for multidisciplinary evaluation services.

If a child is eligible for an evaluation through SDSD, all members of the child's educational team (LEAs, parents, and SDSD Outreach Consultant) should discuss this opportunity together before requesting an evaluation.

To request an evaluation, speak with the child's SDSD Outreach Consultant. Evaluation requests should be submitted at least two months prior to a child's re-evaluation date. SDSD offers five evaluation sessions per year and makes every effort to accommodate requests but cannot guarantee evaluation availability when late requests are submitted.

## Schedules

Typically, the entire evaluation process takes two days. The length of time needed to administer individual tests will vary based on a child's age and the number of tests to be completed. Test sessions can be long and sometimes tiring for children; therefore, breaks are allowed as needed.

A child's evaluation schedule may allow time for additional appointments (medical checkups, cochlear implant mapping, etc.) only if they do not interfere with the evaluation process. Please discuss your need to attend outside appointments with the SDSD Service Coordinator.



## Tests

Multidisciplinary evaluation services include: initial evaluations, three year re-evaluations, and on an as needed basis as determined by LEAs, parents, and SDSD Outreach Consultants in coordination with SDSD's Service Coordinator. Evaluations provide eligibility determination information, student-specific recommendations, and educational resources.

The SDSD evaluation team is comprised of highly qualified professionals who have substantial experience in the areas of hearing loss and additional disabilities. Evaluations are designed to look at the whole child and assess achievement across several areas including:

- Cognitive
- Speech/Language/Listening
- Behavior/Social Skills
- Audiology
- Academics
- Transition (age 14 or older)
- American Sign Language
- Sensory

SDSD evaluators administer, score, and analyze a child's tests. The information is then compiled, a comprehensive report with recommendations is written, and a final report is provided to parents/guardians, LEAs, and Outreach Consultant.

## Partners in Educational Success

Parents and school district personnel are essential contributors to achieving a successful evaluation. Their knowledge and insights regarding a child are valuable pieces of the process which the evaluation team relies upon. Failure to provide this information can negatively impact the final evaluation report and even diminish its effectiveness and relevance.

### PARTNER CONTRIBUTIONS

- Complete protocols/forms **1 week before** test session.
- Review evaluation schedule; contact SDSD when schedule conflicts arise.
- Bring child's personal listening equipment (HA, BAHA, CI, FM/DM system) in good working order and fully charged.
- Be prepared to discuss child's medical, audiology, and educational history with members of the evaluation team.

## Timeline

The timeline from testing to receipt of a final report is typically four weeks. SDSD is committed to providing a comprehensive report within this timeframe and makes every effort to deliver a final report on or before the LEA's due date. However, timelines may be impacted and result in a new delivery date due to the following uncontrollable circumstances:

- Late return of test protocols and forms by parents and/or school personnel
- Unexpected schedule conflicts
- Technology issues
- Illness

## More Information

For additional information on any SDSD services or to request services for a child, call 605-367-5200.

**More resources available at [www.sddeaf.org](http://www.sddeaf.org).**