

# Central Auditory Processing Disorder (CAPD)

What is it? How is USDB addressing it?



USDB Board Meeting - March 7, 2024

# What is Central Auditory Processing Disorder?

The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association defines Central Auditory Processing (CAPD) as the perceptual processing of auditory information in the central auditory nervous system (CANS) and the neurobiological activity that underlies that processing and gives rise to electrophysiologic auditory potentials.

Central Auditory Processing Disorder (CAPD) occurs due to deficits in the neural processing of auditory information in the CANS, not due to higher order language or cognitive factors, demonstrated by poor performance in one or more of the following skills:

- sound localization and lateralization
- auditory discrimination
- auditory pattern recognition
- temporal aspects of audition
- auditory performance in competing acoustic signals
- auditory performance with degraded acoustic signals

In short, CAPD is an auditory deficit that is not the result of problems within the inner or outer ear, mental illness, neurological disorders, or related conditions.



# How is USDB addressing this?

Follow recommended clinical practice guidelines provide by ASHA. [Clinical Practice Guideline: Auditory Processing Disorder in Children and Adults: Assessment and Intervention](#)

# Multidisciplinary Teams/IEP Teams Should Consider:

Results of assessments in the following areas:

- Cognition (IQ)
- Language (receptive and expressive)
- Speech (articulation)
- Psychological disorders
- Autism
- Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) or Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD)
- Mental health (depression/anxiety)
- Vision loss
- Repeated Hearing Assessments (OAE, ABR, or Booth testing) that show an irregular pattern of responses.
- Special attention should be given to assessments of functional abilities and difficulties. Other neurodivergent disorders need to be ruled out.

Comorbid conditions and the best interventions for those conditions.

Information from an Ear, Nose, and Throat Specialist or Neurologist that includes all applicable test results indicating that the child has a disorder that may present as CAPD.



# When considering USDB as a placement:

CAPD is the primary diagnosis. Other impacting comorbid conditions that could be a contributing factor.

The student's academic performance in the current LEA with the appropriate interventions.

Family expectations and their understanding of being in a learning environment that is primarily in American Sign Language (ASL).

A USDB Audiologist, Speech Language Pathologist, ASL Specialist and Director have reviewed the student's information and have participated in the multidisciplinary team meeting and the team agrees that USDB is the best placement for the child to learn and access language.