



## USD Parent Infant Program

### DRAFT 1

Date of Last Change:
Authorized By: Utah State Board of Education

#### 1. Background and Purpose

- 1.1. The Parent Infant Program (PIP) is established to serve children aged 0-3 who are deaf or hard of hearing, along with their families.

#### 2. Definitions

- 2.1. "USD" means Utah Schools for the Deaf
- 2.2. "PIPDHH" means Parent Infant Program for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- 2.3. "PIP" means Parent Infant Program
- 2.4. "ASL" means American Sign Language
- 2.5. "LSL" means Listening and Spoken Language
- 2.6. IFSP means Individual Family Service Plan, consistent with IDEA, Part C
- 2.7. "PA" means a Parent Advisor or USDB teacher who works with the Deaf child and family
- ~~2.8. "LSL Specialist" means the USDB teacher who provides instruction for improving audition~~
- ~~2.9. "ASL Specialist" means the USDB teacher who provides ASL classes for families~~
- 2.10. "Deaf Mentor" means the USDB staff member and a member of the Deaf community who collaborates with the PA to provide language and community services for families of children who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- 2.11. "EI" means the early intervention agency that works with the PIP Parent Advisor
- 2.12. "BTOTS" means the Baby and Toddler Online Tracking System

#### 3. Philosophy and Educational Approach

- 3.1. Staff are expected to be supportive of the use of both American Sign Language and/or spoken language, consistent with current research.
- 3.2. Language use decisions shall not be determined solely by a child's hearing ability, speech level, or sign language knowledge.
- 3.3. Staff are expected to offer opportunities for families to use both ASL and spoken English and to clearly be able to teach and explain the benefits of using both languages.

- 3.4. USDB emphasizes that children should be provided with all of the tools to reduce the risk of language delay.
- 3.5. Staff shall not demonstrate bias, discourage, or otherwise influence parents or children against the use of either language.
- 3.6. Staff will respect parents' decisions regarding the acceptance or decline of any services.
- 3.7. Staff will inform and encourage parents to access all available services in the Parent-Infant Program.
- 3.8. Parents may add or decline services at any time.

#### **4. Program Services and Advisors**

##### **4.1. Parent Advisors**

- 4.1.1. Parent Advisors (PAs) provide the core, required IFSP services to families.
- 4.1.2. PAs work in collaboration with Early Intervention agencies to provide deaf and hard-of-hearing IFSP services.
- 4.1.3. PAs schedule home visits, consistent with IFSP requirements.
- 4.1.4. PAs use best practices to educate and support their families in a non-biased manner.
- 4.1.5. PAs will assess children in spoken language and sign language as appropriate and develop goals based on the results.
- 4.1.6. PAs provide data-driven modality recommendations based on USDB developmental milestones for children who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- 4.1.7. PAs will resolve misunderstandings and issues in spoken language or ASL in a non-biased manner.
- 4.1.8. PAs teach, inform, and support families of deaf or hard-of-hearing children using the ~~USD Parent Infant Curriculum following approved curricula:~~
  - ~~4.1.8.1. SKI Hi Curriculum~~
  - ~~4.1.8.2. Laurent Clerc National Education Center~~  
~~(<http://www3.gallaudet.edu/clerc-center/info-to-go.html>)~~
  - 4.1.8.3. Other curricula may be used, subject to approval by USDB
- 4.1.9. PAs collaborate with other staff who provide services to the child.
- 4.1.10. PAs listen to the families' priorities and concerns and respect families' rights to decline any service.

##### **4.2. Deaf Mentors**

- 4.2.1.1. Deaf Mentors offer a range of services and serve as a gateway to the Deaf community. They inform families of resources (such as Deaf-friendly technology), introduce families to the Deaf community, and support language development.
- 4.2.1.2. Deaf Mentor services can be provided for any deaf or hard-of-hearing child aged 0-3, regardless of their hearing ability, speaking ability, or signing level. Exceptions may be approved for school-age children.

~~4.2.1.3. Deaf Mentors may create IFSP goals that are parallel to the PA's goal if deaf mentor services are required for an IFSP.~~

4.2.1.4. Deaf mentors do not endorse a specific modality. They support the development of both ASL and LSL.

## **5. Optional Services**

### **5.1. PIP Group**

5.1.1. PIP group is an optional, non-IFSP service for families with a deaf or hard-of-hearing child between ~~birth the ages of 18 months~~ to 3 years old.

5.1.2. PIP groups are primarily intended to provide a venue where family members can observe their children and network with other families.

5.1.3. PIP groups are not intended to provide core critical educational experiences for the child.

5.1.4. Families are not required to participate in PIP groups.

5.1.5. Current immunizations are required for all children who attend.

5.1.6. Children and siblings are required to register for the PIP group. Registration, including immunization records, is required to participate.

5.1.7. PIP group exposes families to visual and spoken language approaches. Parents and staff are encouraged to follow their child's lead.

5.1.8. Interpreters will be provided for group participants.

### **5.2. Tele-intervention**

5.2.1. Tele-intervention is a virtual home visit provided as an option to families as needed.

5.2.1.1. Tele-intervention can be recorded for the family to review at a later time.

5.2.1.2. Staff will inform families of supplies or equipment needed to use tele-intervention.

5.2.1.3. Equipment may be provided to the family if necessary.