



## 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](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.