

## FAQ

### Language and Communication Plan (LCP)

#### **What is the purpose of the Language and Communication Plan?**

The intent of the LCP is to guide thoughtful discussion among all members of the planning and placement team (PPT) or 504 team who review a student's needs based on language and communication skills and access. Section 300.324(a)(2)(iv) of the Code of Federal Regulations (300 CFR 324a(2)(iv)) pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act requires that the PPT consider the following items regarding communication needs of a student who is deaf or hard of hearing:

- the student's language and communication needs;
- opportunities for direct communication with peers and professional personnel in the student's language and communication mode;
- academic level;
- full range of needs including opportunities for direct instruction in the student's language and communication mode; and
- whether the student needs a technology device and services.

*(New)* Additionally, House Bill (HB) 7353, An Act Concerning the Provision of Special Education, effective July 1, 2019, amends Section 10-76d of the Connecticut State Statutes and requires that the same considerations regarding the communication needs of students identified under 504 as being deaf or having a hearing loss, be made by the 504 team and documented in the LCP. HB 7353 also requires that the LCP include an emergency communication plan that includes procedures for alerting the student of an emergency situation and ensuring that the specific needs of the student are met during the emergency.

The LCP is not a checklist. Rather, it is required documentation that the PPT or 504 team has deliberated regarding the individualized special communication considerations that are reflected in the child's IEP or 504 Plan. This discussion informs the development or revision of the student's current levels of performance as well as other areas outlined in the student's IEP or 504 Plan, including modifications and accommodations and specially designed instruction identified in the goals and objectives.

#### **Do all students with an identified hearing loss have to have an LCP as part of their IEP or 504 Plan?**

All students with an identified hearing loss, regardless of the primary disability indicated on the IEP for the purposes of special education eligibility or on the 504 Plan, must have an LCP that documents the considerations and/or actions discussed by the PPT or 504 team and informs the development of each student's IEP or 504 Plan.

#### **Who completes the form?**

Following thoughtful discussion and deliberation by parents and appropriate professionals, the LCP can be completed by any member of the PPT or 504 team and must ensure that all pertinent elements of the discussion provided by the team are appropriately documented.

#### **When should this plan be completed and how often should the plan be revised?**

To assure that each student's unique needs are identified and considered in the development of an appropriate IEP or 504 Plan, the LCP must be discussed and documented at the initial PPT or 504 team meeting, reviewed at least annually, and revised as appropriate.

#### **Additional Resources**

[Hands & Voices – FAQ Communication Plans for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students](#)