



**State of Louisiana**  
Louisiana Department of Health  
Office of Public Health

**ADVISORY COUNCIL  
FOR THE EARLY IDENTIFICATION OF DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING INFANTS**

**Friday, April 25, 2025  
12:30-2:30 p.m.**

**Location**

Benson Tower, 2024  
1450 Poydras Street  
New Orleans, LA 70112

**Meeting link**

<https://zoom.us/j/91828543860>

**AGENDA**

- I. Call to Order – Jill Hudson, Chair
- II. Roll Call – Theresa Nicholls, Secretary
- III. Council vacancies (as of 3/31/25)
  - a. a hospital administrator
  - b. a deaf person
  - c. a parent of a child who is deaf or hard of hearing using spoken language
  - d. a speech and language pathologist
- IV. Mandate review – Dana Hubbard, EHDI Program Manager
- V. Public comment on Agenda item VI
- VI. Approval of April 2025 Agenda (vote) – Jill Hudson, Chair
- VII. Old Business
  - a. Public Comment Agenda item VII b, c, d
  - b. Approval of Minutes (vote) – Jill Hudson, Chair
    - i. January 2024 Minutes
    - ii. July 2024 Minutes
    - iii. October 2024 Minutes
    - iv. January 2025 Minutes
  - c. 2025 Meeting dates/times (vote) – Jill Hudson, Chair
    - i. Quarter 2 April 25, 2025 12:30-2:30 p.m.
    - ii. Quarter 3 July 25, 2025 12:00-2:30 p.m.
    - iii. Quarter 4 October 24, 2025 12:00-2:30 p.m.
  - d. 2025 Officer elections (vote) – Jill Hudson, Chair
    - i. Nominees accepted via poll prior to Quarter 4 2024 meeting
    - ii. No quorum for Quarter 4 2024, Quarter 1 2025 to vote
- VIII. Louisiana Assessments: Demographics, Outcomes, and Possible Next Steps – Allison Sedey
- IX. New Business
- X. Public Comment
- XI. Adjourn

Note: The order of the agenda may not be followed exactly, to accommodate presenter schedules.

Presenters, members, and guests may submit requests for accessibility and accommodations prior to a scheduled meeting. Please submit a request to [laehdi@la.gov](mailto:laehdi@la.gov) at least 2 weeks prior to the meeting with details of the required accommodations.

Council members and guests attending the meeting are reminded to utilize good communication strategies, including turn taking without side conversations, to ensure accessibility of discussions. Raise your hand and wait for the Chair to call on you before speaking. Identify yourself (“This is ....”) before speaking.

§2265. Advisory council creation; membership; terms; quorum; compensation

A. There is hereby created an advisory council for the program of early identification of deaf or hard of hearing infants. The council shall consist of fourteen members as follows:

- (1) An otolaryngologist or otologist.
- (2) An audiologist with extensive experience in evaluating infants.
- (3) A neonatologist.
- (4) A pediatrician.
- (5) A deaf person.
- (6) A hospital administrator.
- (7) A speech and language pathologist.
- (8) A school teacher or administrator certified in education of the deaf.
- (9) A parent who chose the oral method for his deaf or hard of hearing child.
- (10) A parent of a deaf or hard of hearing child utilizing total communication.
- (11) A representative of the state Department of Education designated by the superintendent of education.
- (12) A representative of the office designated by the assistant secretary of the office.
- (13) A representative from the Louisiana Commission for the Deaf.
- (14) A representative from the Louisiana Association of the Deaf.

B. Members of the council in accordance with Paragraphs (A)(1) through (10), (13), and (14) shall be appointed by the governor, subject to Senate confirmation. Other members are not subject to Senate confirmation.

C. Members of the council representing offices and departments of state government shall serve four-year terms concurrent with that of the governor. Other members shall serve three-year terms, except that in making the initial appointments, four members shall be appointed for a one-year term, four shall be appointed for two-year terms, and four shall be appointed for three-year terms. No member may serve more than two consecutive terms.

D. Each member shall serve without compensation.

E. A majority of the members of the council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of all business.

F. The members of the council shall elect from their membership a chairman and a vice chairman.

Acts 1992, No. 417, §1; Acts 2017, No. 146, §11.

§2266. Powers, duties, functions of the advisory council

The advisory council shall:

- (1) Advise and recommend risk factors or criteria for infants who are likely deaf or hard of hearing and infants who may develop a progressive hearing loss.
- (2) Advise the office as to hearing screening, setting standards for the program, monitoring and reviewing the program, and providing quality assurance for the program.
- (3) Advise the office as to integrating the program for early identification of deaf or hard of hearing infants with existing medical, audiological, and early infant education programs.
- (4) Advise the office as to materials to be distributed to the public concerning deaf or hard of hearing infants.
- (5) Advise the office on the implementation of the program for early identification and follow-up of infants susceptible to a hearing disability, deaf or hard of hearing infants, and infants who are at risk of developing progressive hearing loss.

Acts 1992, No. 417, §1; Acts 2017, No. 146, §11.