

Student & Outreach Services (SOS)

The Student and Outreach Services department serves as the Admissions Center for MSD and is our source of networking throughout the state.

Professional staff provide audiological, psychological, nursing, counseling and consulting services. Through its outreach services — the Early Intervention Program and the Resource Center on Deafness, MSD provides services to school districts, families and other professionals in deafness throughout the state of Missouri.

“Families First”, MSD’s Early Intervention program is provided at no charge to any family with a deaf/hard of hearing child. Families of birth-3 year olds are served through the 1st Steps Program and families with 3-5 year olds are served through the Early Childhood Special Education Program. The purpose of the home-based program is to assist families in understanding their child’s hearing loss and to strengthen the families awareness of deafness.

Consultations, assessments and a variety of professional development opportunities are available through our Resource Center on Deafness.

Information on any of the services available through MSD, is available on our website, or by calling (573)592-2543, or by email at rcd@msd.dese.mo.gov.



Bicultural K-12 Education
Residential & Day Programs
Early Intervention Program
Professional Development Services
KEYS Short-Term Training Program
Speech, Physical and Occupational Therapy
Multidisciplinary Evaluation
American Sign Language Classes
Assistive Device Demonstration Center
Hearing Aid Loaner Bank
Auditory Equipment Rental Program
Audiologist ~ Psychologist
Counselors ~ Behavior Specialists
Consultations ~ Assessments
College Preparatory
Career & Technology Training
Independent Living Skills Training
Extracurricular Activities
Academic & Athletic Competitions



MISSOURI SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF
MSD



ACCREDITED BY THE NORTH CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS AND THE CONFERENCE OF EDUCATIONAL ADMINISTRATORS OF SCHOOLS AND PROGRAMS FOR THE DEAF, INC.
ADMINISTERED BY THE MISSOURI STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Missouri

School *for the*

Deaf



Since 1851

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"MSD ... First Choice, Not Last Resort"

MSD...First Choice—Not Last Resort!

The **philosophy** of the **Missouri School for the Deaf (MSD)** is that students who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing can do anything except hear. MSD's **purpose** is to provide opportunities for individual growth within social, physical, intellectual, cultural and emotional spheres for students to become involved, independent, productive, life-long learning citizens by achieving a mastery of skills commensurate with their abilities.

In partnership with parents, public school districts, the Department of Elementary & Secondary Education, and other resources; we gladly accept the responsibility to afford learning opportunities enabling our students with the education and life skills necessary to accept responsibility of their future. MSD provides a student-centered learning environment that meets the uniqueness of each student within a diversified student population.

We believe that students learn by:

- ✓ A supportive, nurturing environment that maintains high expectations and provides risk taking opportunities.
- ✓ Involvement in problem-solving and decision-making processes;
- ✓ Using a variety of different learning styles;
- ✓ Building on previous learning;
- ✓ Collaboration with peers & adult role models;
- ✓ Enrollment in a school that *"practices what it teaches"* by being the state's largest employer of staff who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing.
- ✓ Affording the use of best practices in education and delivery of support services.



The MSD curriculum is based on Missouri's "Show Me" standards for achieving a high school diploma. Deaf history and culture are included in the curriculum for an enhanced sense of self-awareness and self-worth, leading to self-confidence.

American Sign Language and English are the preferred modes of instruction and communication. MSD offers a free and appropriate education for students from five to twenty-one (5-21) years of age (Pre-Kindergarten through high school graduation) focusing on three levels:

College Preparatory Career & Technology Training Independent Living Skills Short-Term Training

All MSD students are referred by their local school district; therefore families first need to contact the special education director at their local school who will assist in the referral for placement at MSD. Prior to making a decision, plan to visit the MSD campus, for comprehensive assessments and to observe the classrooms and residential facilities.

For students living beyond the local area, residential facilities are available. Transportation is provided to and from school to drop off points across the state is provided every weekend (*except for a few weekends when MSD hosts special events*).



Elementary students (K-5) live in "cottage-style" homes, each with a living room/den, kitchen, bedrooms and laundry facilities. Students in Middle school and High School live in dormitory facilities with kitchens and commons areas for television, games, computers. A staffed fitness center is also available for students.

Each building on campus is equipped with state-of-the-art technology that affords students, parents and staff access to a visual communication system for personal use and emergency warnings.



In addition, MSD has an indoor swimming pool, three gymnasiums for basketball and volley-



ball, an outdoor athletic field for track football, softball, red flag football, play ground areas, a climbing wall, and an outdoor natural wildlife refuge and science classroom.

Students learn life skills by participating in the athletic program in competition with other schools for the deaf schools and local public schools and YMCA age-appropriate activities. Daily activities are scheduled for enjoyment and learning.

Our Food Services staff provides three meals along with dormitory snacks each day. Meals are also provided for field trips, athletic trips, and for trips to/from home on the bus. Also, Food Services and students enrolled in our Culinary Arts class provide treats and snacks for special events.

The MSD Health Center's doctor and licensed nursing staff provides medical assistance as needed 24 hours per day.

MSD, parents and local school districts work together in the best interest of our children. Parents and schools are welcomed to visit campus. Parents and are strongly encouraged to take an active role in their child's education, activities and the MSD Parents Organization.

