

## Student & Outreach Services (SOS)

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

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

The Described and Captioned Media Program (DCMP) is a depository for more than 5,000 DVDs including theatrical, special interest and educational movies. All materials are open-captioned so all you need for viewing is a DVD player. All DCMP materials are loaned free of charge. To access titles or get a catalog, just log on to [DCMP.org](http://DCMP.org) or call **(800) 237-6213**.

“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 e-mail at [rcd@msd.dese.mo.gov](mailto:rcd@msd.dese.mo.gov).



**Bicultural K-12 Education**  
**Residential & Day Programs**  
**Early Intervention**  
**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—FirstChoice, 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 and Secondary Education, and other resources, we gladly accept the responsibility to afford learning opportunities enabling our student with the education and life skills necessary to accept responsibility for 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.



## Education

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.

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 four 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 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, and 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 volleyball, an outdoor athletic field for track, football, softball, red-flag football, playground 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 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 welcome to visit campus. Parents are highly encouraged to take an active role in their child's education, activities and the MSD Parent's Organization.