

Rethinking Deaf & Hard of Hearing Accessibility in Post- COVID-19 Classrooms

For more information:



Visit our COVID-19
Resource Page
"Rethinking Accessibility"
CaHandsAndVoices.org



#1. Face Mask Requirements

In order to provide effective communication under the ADA, clear masks that do not obscure facial expressions or information for speech-reading must be provided to all staff and students who will be interacting with DHH students.

Ex: TheClearMask.com



#2. Electronic Accessibility

All electronic lessons must have accurate closed captioning and/or ASL interpreting, based on each DHH student's preference for effective communication.



#3. Keep DHH Peers Together

When exploring alternative schooling schedules to meet social distancing requirements, thoughtful planning includes maximizing in-person opportunities for DHH students to interact with one another.



#4. Assistive Technology Needs

With remote learning, additional technology may be required for meaningful access to sound, captioning, and/or interpreting. These may include secondary laptops for displaying captions or interpreters and devices for sending sounds directly to hearing devices.



#5. Accessible Tech Support

DHH students need readily available access to IT troubleshooting when technological supports such as captioning, interpreting, and assisted listening devices are not displaying or functioning properly. Back-up plans for when supports cannot be quickly fixed must also be in place.



#6. Temperature Screens

Earmolds may cause false-positive temperature spikes when taking temps by ear. Consider using an alternate thermometer or rescreen after 10 minutes with ear molds removed.

