

**Lillian M. Lowery, Ed.D.**  
**State Superintendent of Schools**

200 West Baltimore Street • Baltimore, MD 21201 • 410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD

December 16, 2013

The Honorable Martin O'Malley  
State House  
100 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

The Honorable Thomas V. "Mike" Miller  
H-107 State House  
100 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

The Honorable Michael E. Busch  
H-101 State House  
100 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Hearing Aid Loan Bank (MSAR #8672)

Dear Governor O'Malley, President Miller and Speaker Busch:

During the 2011 Maryland legislative session, SB 754 passed and stipulates that beginning in 2011, no later than December 31 each year, the State Superintendent shall submit a report to the Governor, and subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly regarding the implementation of the Hearing Aid Loan Bank Program. The annual report shall include information specific to the implementation and usage by the Maryland State Department of Education.

The completed report is attached for your review. Should you have questions or need additional information, please contact Marcella Franczkowski, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Special Education and Early Intervention Services, at (410) 767-0239 or via email at [mfranczkowski@msde.state.md.us](mailto:mfranczkowski@msde.state.md.us).

Sincerely,

Lillian M. Lowery, Ed.D.  
State Superintendent of Schools

Attachment

**Report of the**  
**Maryland Hearing Aid Loan Bank Program**



**Submitted to**

**The Maryland General Assembly**

**December 31, 2013**

**Maryland State Department of Education**

**Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services**



Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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During the 2011 Maryland General Assembly Session, Senate Bill 754 was authorized, establishing a Permanent Hearing Aid Loan Bank Program in the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE). This bill charged the MSDE with the implementation and maintenance of the Maryland Hearing Aid Loan Bank (HALB), including the purchase and maintenance of suitable hearing aids for loan, and carrying out the process of loaning hearing aids to eligible infants and toddlers up to the age of three years.

The Maryland Hearing Aid Loan Bank was initially established in the MSDE in State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2002, to create a bridge between early identification and early intervention for infants and toddlers with hearing loss. The statutory provisions establishing the original program sunset June 30, 2004, however the MSDE continued to operate a Hearing Aid Loan Bank beyond the date of the original statute due to the need for this critical resource.

Through the Maryland Hearing Aid Loan Bank Program, families of infants and toddlers with confirmed hearing loss who do not have insurance coverage for hearing aids, or who are experiencing delays in obtaining or purchasing aids, can obtain hearing aids from the bank for a period of up to six months. The Hearing Aid Loan Bank ensures that children up to the age of three years have access to maximum auditory input during the most critical period of language development.

This Annual Report for the Maryland Hearing Aid Loan Bank serves to inform the Maryland General Assembly of the status of the program. The report includes details regarding the numbers and ages of children served this year, the counties from which referrals were generated, the length of each original loan and/or loan extension, and the number of children who subsequently received permanent hearing aids or a cochlear implant through Medicaid, the Maryland Children's Health Program, or private insurance. In addition, this report outlines projected program enhancements for January 1- December 31, 2014. The current program applications as well as the Program brochure are also included in the Appendices of this report.

*" I thank you truly for all your help and support. My health insurance is expensive and doesn't cover enough. Thank you for being part of my son's healthy development and future opportunities!"*

*Parent Testimonial*

*Historical Overview*

The Maryland Hearing Aid Loan Bank began its tenth year of operation in January 2013. This ninth Annual Report for the Maryland Hearing Aid Loan Bank describes the status of this program between January 1, 2013 and December 31, 2013.

Infants and toddlers with hearing loss do not have full access to communication through the auditory channel. Even mild hearing loss can significantly affect receptive and expressive language and educational performance. The National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders reports that the earlier deafness or hearing loss is identified, the better the chances a child will acquire language, whether it be spoken or signed. In addition, when intervention to address hearing loss occurs at an early age, the child can benefit from exposure and perception of sound within his/her environment during the first few years of life. Studies have found that early amplification of hearing through the use of hearing aids or cochlear implants is essential to support emerging language skills, cognitive skills, and healthy social/emotional development, all of which are essential in forming a solid foundation for school readiness, learning, and success. The Hearing Aid Loan Bank was formed to provide essential services to meet the needs of deaf and hard of hearing children in the State of Maryland before they enter the formal educational environment.

Following passage of the original bill establishing the Bank, initial efforts focused on recruiting and hiring an audiologist with clinical pediatric experience. Before the recruitment and interviewing process could be completed, a state hiring freeze went into effect, prohibiting the use of state funding to support the positions of program director and office secretary. Although the MSDE requested and was granted an exception request to hire a federally funded program director, as a result of the hiring freeze there was considerable delay in hiring qualified staff to facilitate program activities. In SFY 2002 the MSDE was able to hire a licensed audiologist to assume the role as director, who served in this capacity from SFY 2002- SFY 2010.

In March 2011, Dr. Kathleen Heck joined the department as the Lead Technical Specialist for Low Incidence Disabilities and Resources, and assumed the management of the Loan Bank. Dr. Heck is a nationally certified and Maryland licensed speech-language pathologist with a background in speech, language, and hearing. While Dr. Heck oversees the program, an effort to contract the services of a licensed audiologist on a part-time basis was identified, and it is anticipated that this licensed audiologist will be hired and begin serving the Hearing Aid Loan Bank by the end of the calendar year 2013.

**Program Data**

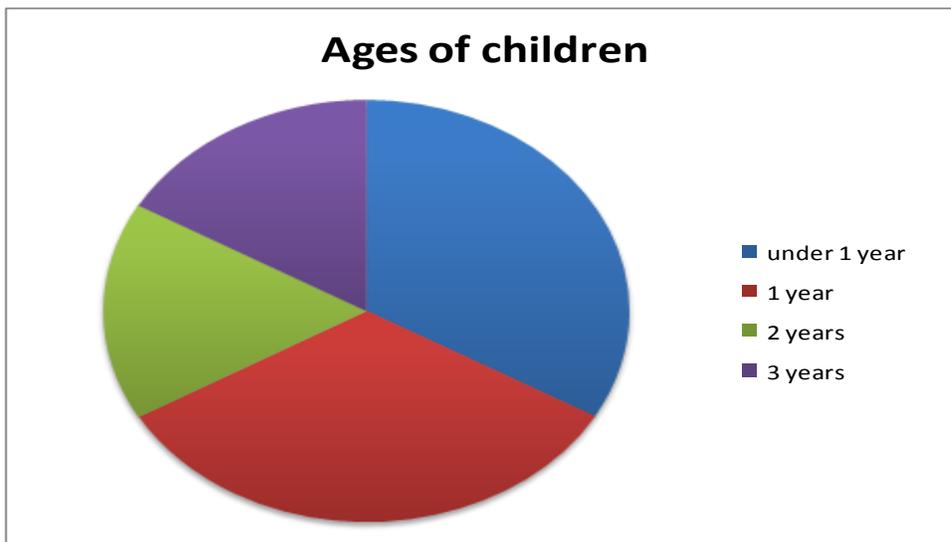
At the time of this report, six families of infants and toddlers have requested and received twelve hearing aids from the Loan Bank since January 1, 2013. Each child is eligible to retain the loaned hearing aids for up to six months. Loan extensions may be granted after the initial loan, for three month intervals. The following tables reflect detailed information about the hearing aids loaned to families.

**I. The number and ages of children who received hearing aids through the Hearing Aid Loan Bank January 1, 2013 - December 31, 2013**

The chart below represents the number of requests to the HALB by county between January 1, 2013 and December 31, 2013. Although all twenty-four jurisdictions were eligible, only audiologists from Montgomery and Prince Georges Counties submitted requests during this period.

COUNTY	FAMILIES REFERRED
Montgomery	5
Prince Georges	1
<b>Total = (Children served)</b>	<b>6</b>

The chart below represents the ages of the children who received hearing aids from the HALB between January 1, 2013 and December 31, 2013. Two children under the age of one , two children who were one year of age, one child who was two years of age, and one child who was three years of age received hearing aids.



**II. The number of children who received hearing aids during the period January 1, 2013 – December 31, 2013 and subsequently received hearing aids through Medicaid, the Maryland Children’s Health Program, or private insurance**

Six children/families have received hearing aids through the HALB since January 2013. Of those children/families, two families whose children received loaned hearing aids subsequently received hearing aids through private insurance. One family requested and received a loan extension. The remaining three children/families are currently using the loaned aids.

A total of twelve hearing aids from six families were returned to the Hearing Aid Loan Bank between January 1, 2013 and December 1, 2013. Of those returns, all six children received permanent hearing aids through private insurance.

**III. The length of each original loan**

Twelve hearing aids were loaned to six children/families during the period January 1, 2013 – December 31, 2013. The chart below highlights the number of hearing aids loaned monthly, and the length of each loan.

Month Loan Originated	Number of Aids Loaned	Length of Loan (in Months)
January	0	NA
February	0	NA
March	2	8*
April	0	NA
May	0	NA
June	2	5
July	2	4
August	0	NA
September	2	2
October	2	1
November	2	-
December	0	-
Total	12	

\*loan extension granted

**IV. The number of times that each original loan was extended and the length of each loan extension.**

Between the dates of January 1, 2013 and December 31, 2013 there were eleven requests for loan extensions of at least three months, with several families requesting an additional three month extension.

**V. The number of times that hearing aids were not properly returned to the loan bank**

Twelve hearing aids were properly returned to the Hearing Aid Loan Bank between January 1, 2013 and December 31, 2013.

**VI. Additional information that is relevant to evaluating the costs and benefits of the program**

**Hearing Aid Loan Distribution Summary for the period**

**January 1, 2013 - December 31, 2013**

- *Twelve hearing aids were loaned to six eligible infants and toddlers.*
- *The age of hearing aid recipients ranged from two months old to three years old.*
- *Two children under one year of age received hearing aids; two children who were one year of age, one child who was two years of age, and one child who was three years of age received hearing aids.*
- *Two infants were referred to the Hearing Aid Loan Bank and received hearing aids.*
- *Six families who received loaned aids prior to December 2013 returned twelve hearing aids to the Hearing Aid Loan Bank Program.*
- *A total of fifteen families are using twenty-eight loaned hearing aids at the time of this report.*

*“Mom has insurance but it doesn’t cover the total cost of hearing aids, and she needs time to get additional funds. We are so grateful for this service! Thank you for all of your help!”*

*Audiologist Testimonial*

***Cost Impact***

The chart below lists the actual costs by line item for SFY 2014 and projected costs for SFY 2015, including staff salaries for one full-time program manager and one part-time audiologist, equipment and supplies (such as digital hearing aids), program outreach, program enhancement, and administrative support costs.

Costs	SFY 2014 <i>Actual</i>	SFY 2015 <i>Projected</i>
*Project Manager	\$29,930	\$29,930
Part-Time Audiologist	Position Vacant	\$20,000
Outreach	\$160	\$200
Equipment	\$0	\$5,050
Total	\$30,090	\$55,180

This report reflects actual expenditures from January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013

\* Program manager payroll costs provided through MSDE using federal funds for the period covering January 1, 2013- December 31, 2013. In addition, outreach expenses were kept to a minimum as a result of information being shared through an electronic format thus eliminating costs for postage.

This program has experienced several challenges, including securing an audiologist to provide administrative support. In order to keep the program operational, the program manager was tasked with assuming the administrative functions that would have normally been assigned to the part-time audiologist. A bidboard and consequent search for a part-time audiologist was implemented in September 2013. In November 2013 a qualified candidate for the position was identified. It is expected that this licensed audiologist will begin employment at the beginning of January 2014.

The program manager is also actively exploring the purchase of digital behind-the-ear (BTE) hearing aids with the latest technology to add to the current HALB inventory.

### ***Community Based Partnerships***

The Maryland Hearing Aid Loan Bank is a vital link between hearing screenings and early intervention services, and works with other agencies within the state to address the needs of the infant and toddler population. Each year the Maryland Infant Hearing Program (IHP) serves as a critical community-based partner in identifying approximately fifty to eighty (50-80) infants with permanent hearing loss. These children are diagnosed through a series of hearing screenings administered through the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Program. Through a collaborative partnership the HALB, IHP, and EHDI programs all provide a valuable service to infants and toddlers with hearing loss.

### ***Program Enhancements***

The following pages outline the proposed program enhancements for January 1- December 31, 2014:

**I. Update Hearing Aid Inventory**

Goal: Continue to increase the number of state-of-the-art digital hearing aids available in the HALB inventory, in order to serve the target population. A portion of the HALB's inventory of hearing aids will be replaced with digital hearing aids with current technology.

**Progress Update (January 1, 2013- December 31, 2013):**

The program manager has secured quotes for several digital BTE hearing aid makes/models currently needed to fill requests from HALB clients, and has reviewed the range of price options offered for the hearing aids. In October 2013 the program manager determined which companies provided the most cost effective choices for hearing aid purchases. As of the date of this report, a requisition is being developed to process the purchase of twenty new digital BTE hearing aids to add to the existing HALB inventory.

**Proposed Strategy:**

- Purchase and replace hearing aids at the rate of at least ten digital hearing aids per year.

**Outcome Measure:**

- The number of state-of-the-art hearing aids available in the HALB inventory to serve the target population will be increased.

**II. Public Awareness and Outreach Campaign**

Goal: Increase community and infant and toddlers programs awareness of the availability and the benefits of utilizing the HALB.

**Progress Update (January 1, 2013- December 31, 2013):**

Information regarding the HALB is posted on the Maryland State Department of Education website at [www.marylandpublicschools.org](http://www.marylandpublicschools.org). Links to the HALB fact sheet and applications are available to the public. In addition, the Loan Bank continues to be linked to the Maryland State Infant Hearing Advisory Council and the Maryland Advisory Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. Interagency collaboration and support will continue to be provided to facilitate services to families throughout the State. The HALB was also promoted through dissemination of program information to parents and professionals at several conferences. These conferences included the Annual Conference for Educators of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing hosted by the Maryland State Steering Committee for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students, which was held in March 2013, and

the Annual Maryland State Stakeholders Meeting of the Infant Hearing Program held in May, 2013.

**Proposed Strategies:**

- Add a link for the HALB to the Maryland Learning Links website. Links to the Loan Bank Program brochure, fact sheet, and applications will be provided.
- Have the program brochure and applications translated into Spanish and made available on the Maryland State Department of Education and Maryland Learning Links websites.
- Request that the Hearing Aid Loan Bank Program brochure and applications be made available electronically on the Infant Hearing Program website (Maryland Department of Mental Health and Hygiene).
- Continue to disseminate program information to infant and toddler service providers as well as the community.

**Outcome Measures:**

- Increased public awareness of the HALB.
- Increased access to Program information for Maryland's Spanish-speaking population.

***III. Enhanced Data Tracking System***

Goal: Develop and utilize tools and procedures in order to facilitate collection and tracking of pertinent information resulting from the provision of amplification to infants and toddlers through the HALB.

**Progress Update (January 1, 2013- December 31, 2013):**

In October 2013 an HALB database was created to track the hearing aid inventory. This database is currently in use. In addition, a printed HALB Referrals Form continues to be utilized in order to collect and track specific information pertaining to hearing aid loan requests that are processed.

**Proposed Strategy:**

- Develop surveys to be sent to the families and audiologists who use the HALB. Through the use of these tools, additional data may be gathered and reviewed for the purpose of monitoring program outcomes.

**Outcome Measure:**

- Comprehensive monitoring of outcomes of the HALB.

***Summary***

The Maryland Hearing Aid Loan Bank Program has proven to be a vital and successful service to infants and toddlers with hearing loss and their families. The HALB has assisted over two

hundred and seventy (270) families across the state since May 2003, and has loaned over four hundred and ninety (490) hearing aids to children over the last ten years. The MSDE recognizes the importance of laying an adequate foundation for school readiness, educational development, learning, and success through early intervention. There continues to be a need for the services of the HALB. The program provides hearing aids to families without insurance, as well as those who have limited insurance or who are experiencing financial hardship.

The MSDE remains committed to the implementation of the HALB through enhanced program support and funding. We are grateful to the Maryland Legislature for the continued support of the program, and we look forward to continuing the partnership on behalf of infants and toddlers with hearing loss and their families.

*“We want to thank the Loan Bank for letting us borrow hearing aids. The service meant so much to us! Our son was able to have access to this important technology at an early age, which allowed him to reap early benefits from speech development. Thank you so much!”*

*Parent Testimonial*

## **APPENDICES**

- I. Program Brochure
- II. Program Fact Sheet
- III. Program Application
- IV. Program Loan Extension Application
- V. HALB Processed Loans Form

## Why hearing aids?

Studies have provided evidence that early amplification for a child with hearing loss (prior to a child reaching 6 months of age) may increase the child's language ability over time.



The Maryland Hearing Aid Loan Bank provides access to amplification as soon as possible after a diagnosis of hearing loss in an infant or toddler. This is essential for emerging language and healthy social-emotional development—the foundation for school readiness and success.

## More Resources for Families

The Maryland Infants and Toddlers Program provides early intervention services and support to young children with disabilities and their families. For information on early intervention services in Maryland, please call the number listed below for your county.

Allegany	301-759-2415
Anne Arundel	410-222-6911
Baltimore City	410-396-1666
Baltimore County	410-887-2169
Calvert	410-414-7034
Caroline	410-479-3246
Carroll	410-876-4437, x277
Cecil	410-996-5444
Charles	301-609-6808
Dorchester	410-221-1111, x1023
Frederick	301-600-1611
Garrett	301-334-1189
Harford	410-638-3823
Howard	410-313-7017
Kent	410-778-7164
Montgomery	240-777-3997
Prince George's	301-265-8415
Queen Anne's	410-758-0720, x4456
Somerset	410-623-2037
St. Mary's	301-475-4393
Talbot	410-820-0319
Washington	301-766-8217
Wicomico	410-677-5250
Worcester	410-632-5033

Maryland School for the Deaf 410-480-4545  
Maryland School for the Blind 410-444-5000

Maryland State Department of Education  
Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services  
200 West Baltimore Street, 9th floor, Baltimore, MD 21201  
410-767-0244 phone • 1-800-535-0182 toll free  
410-333-8165 fax • [www.MarylandPublicSchools.org](http://www.MarylandPublicSchools.org)

**Lillian M. Lowery, Ed.D.**  
State Superintendent of Schools

**Charlene M. Dukes, Ed.D.**  
President, Maryland State Board of Education

**Marcella E. Franczkowski, M.S.**, Assistant State Superintendent  
Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services

**Martin O'Malley, Governor** 09/13

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## The Maryland Hearing Aid Loan Bank

*Bridging the Gap  
to Communication*

**For Infants and Toddlers  
with Hearing Loss**



Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services

**F**or infants and toddlers ages birth to 3 years with hearing loss, the **Maryland Hearing Aid Loan Bank** provides an important bridge *from* early identification *to* full participation in early intervention.

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## Questions and Answers About the Maryland Hearing Aid Loan Bank

***How do we know if a child needs hearing aids?*** If a child fails the newborn screening at birth *and* a one month follow-up rescreen, then additional testing will be conducted by an audiologist to confirm the severity of hearing loss and the need for hearing aids.

***Hearing aids are expensive. What if a child needs hearing aids but the family is not able to obtain them?*** The Maryland Hearing Aid Loan Bank may be able to help—by providing hearing aids on a temporary basis to infants and toddlers ages birth to 3 years with confirmed hearing loss. Through the Maryland Hearing Aid Loan Bank families may access hearing aids if their insurance does not provide coverage for hearing aids *or* if the family is experiencing delays in obtaining or purchasing aids.

### ***How does a family borrow hearing aids from the Maryland Hearing Aid Loan Bank?***

Once an audiologist recommends hearing aids for a child, a *Maryland Hearing Aid Loan Bank Application* can be completed by the audiologist together with the child's family. The application may be obtained online at [www.marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/divisions/earlyinterv/Special\\_Ed\\_Info](http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/divisions/earlyinterv/Special_Ed_Info) or by calling 1-800-535-0182 or faxing 410-333-8165.

***Are the hearing aids sent to the child's family?*** Since hearing aids are highly-technical prescribed electronic devices, they are sent directly to the audiologist for fine tuning and fitting, as needed.

***How often will a child need new aids?*** A child may need new hearing aids every three to five years. Ear molds for hearing aids may need to be replaced about every two to three months.

***How long can a child keep hearing aids from the Maryland Hearing Aid Loan Bank?*** The standard length of time is 6 months. However, a loan extension, in 3-month intervals, may



be requested by the child's parents through the audiologist. A loan extension request form may be obtained online at [www.marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/divisions/earlyinterv/Special\\_Ed\\_Info](http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/divisions/earlyinterv/Special_Ed_Info) or by calling 1-800-535-0182 or faxing 410-333-8165.

***Are hearing aids the only help a child with hearing loss may require?*** In addition to hearing aids, a child may require extensive language stimulation and various communication options from parents and providers. Resources can be explored through local Infants and Toddlers Programs that provide early intervention services and supports for young children with disabilities and their families. *(See back panel for details.)*

**For more information about the Maryland Hearing Aid Loan Bank, call toll free: 1-800-535-0182.**

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# Maryland Hearing Aid Loan Bank

## Purpose

The Maryland Hearing Aid Loan Bank was created to provide infants and toddlers up to the age of three years immediate access to hearing aids following confirmation of hearing loss by an Audiologist. A six-month loan period may be granted to provide parents, or legal guardians of infants and toddlers, adequate time to secure permanent amplification through personal resources, insurance, or community assistance programs.

## Background

The State made a significant commitment to the early intervention of congenital hearing loss by passing legislation in State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2002 to create a Hearing Aid Loan Bank for the purpose of providing early intervention for infants and toddlers with hearing loss. The Maryland Hearing Aid Loan Bank was established to create a bridge between early identification and early intervention for infants and toddlers with hearing loss and their families. In May 2011, the Maryland State Legislature passed Senate Bill 754 / House Bill 1013 - *State Department of Education - Permanent Hearing Aid Loan Bank Program - Establishment and Operation* establishing a permanent Hearing Aid Loan Bank Program in the Maryland State Department of Education.

## Summary

Access to amplification as soon as possible after a diagnosis of hearing loss in an infant or toddler is crucial to language and healthy social/emotional development that are the foundation for school readiness and success. The Maryland Hearing Aid Loan Bank provides hearing aid technology to families of infants and toddlers with confirmed hearing loss, who do not have insurance coverage for hearing aids and/or experience delays in obtaining or purchasing aids. In addition, those in need of hearing aids for cochlear implant candidacy may obtain devices on a temporary basis.

## Contact Information

Kathleen D. Heck, Ph.D.  
Lead Technical Specialist-Low Incidence Disabilities and Resources  
Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services  
Maryland State Department of Education  
200 West Baltimore Street  
Baltimore, MD 21201  
(410) 767-0739  
[kheck@msde.state.md.us](mailto:kheck@msde.state.md.us)

Miriam Jefferson  
Secretary  
(410) 767-7548  
[mjefferson@msde.state.md.us](mailto:mjefferson@msde.state.md.us)

**MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
*Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services*  
October 2011



**MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
Division of Special Education/ Early Intervention Services**

**MARYLAND HEARING AID LOAN BANK  
HEARING AID LOAN APPLICATION FORM**

The purpose of this program is to provide temporary hearing aids for children with hearing loss **up to the age of 3** while they are waiting to receive their personal amplification devices. Please contact the **Hearing Aid Loan Bank at 410-767-0739 (voicemail accessible)**, if you have any questions.

Please complete Parts A-D of this application and return to:

**Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services  
Maryland State Department of Education  
200 West Baltimore Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Baltimore, Maryland 21201-2595  
ATTN: Kathleen Heck  
Phone: (410) 767-0739 Fax: (410) 333-8165**

**The information contained on this form will be kept confidential.**

**PART A**

**Audiologist's Information**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

MD Audiology License #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Child's Information**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Legal Guardian's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Maryland Hearing Aid Loan Bank  
Hearing Aid Loan Application Form**

**PART B**

**To be completed by the referring audiologist**

In order for this request to be processed, a copy of any audiologic testing, medical clearance from the child's ENT, and an agreement form signed by the parent or legal guardian must be provided with this application. Please make copies or fax, as this paperwork will not be returned.

Was this child referred to you based upon failure of the Universal Newborn Hearing Screening protocol? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ If yes, from which hospital \_\_\_\_\_

What is the configuration and degree of hearing loss?

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Is this a binaural or monaural fitting? \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate the make and model of hearing aid that you would recommend for this child, numbering preferences 1-3. While we cannot guarantee the exact make and model, please be assured that every attempt will be made to match your request.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

Please specify color of the hearing aid needed: \_\_\_\_\_ Please note that every attempt will be made to provide the recommended color.

The hearing aid(s) will be sent to the requesting audiologist within three (3) days of receiving the application and required documentation.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Audiologist Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

**Maryland Hearing Aid Loan Bank  
Hearing Aid Loan Application Form**

**PART C**

**To be completed by the parent or legal guardian**

1. Please describe why you cannot provide immediate access to hearing aids for your child.

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2. Do you currently have insurance coverage to secure permanent hearing aids for your child? If yes, have you contacted your insurance company to apply for hearing aids? Please indicate the insurance company name, and the status of your contact.

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3. Are you currently eligible for Medical Assistance? If yes, have you contacted Medical Assistance to apply for hearing aids?

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4. Do you need information regarding resources to secure permanent hearing aids?

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**Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian**

**Date**

**Address**

**Phone**

**Maryland Hearing Aid Loan Bank  
Hearing Aid Loan Application Form**

**PART D**

**HEARING AID LOAN AGREEMENT**

\_\_\_\_\_ I agree that my child will receive (a) loaned hearing aid (s) from the Maryland Hearing Aid Loan Bank, located in the Maryland State Department of Education, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services.

\_\_\_\_\_ I agree to provide a brief statement indicating the reason assistance from the Loan Bank is requested.

\_\_\_\_\_ I agree that it is my responsibility to maintain and care for the hearing aid (s) and that I will be responsible for any loss or damage not covered by the hearing aid warranty up to \$100.00. This excludes normal wear and tear.

\_\_\_\_\_ I agree that my child will have use of this/these hearing aid (s) for up to 6 months. If my child has not received his/her personal amplification device (s) within that time, I may extend the loan period by three (3) months, by completing an extension agreement.

\_\_\_\_\_ I agree to seek permanent hearing aid(s) or a cochlear implant for my child.

\_\_\_\_\_ I agree that when my child receives his/her personal amplification device(s), I will return the loaned hearing aid(s) to my child's audiologist, to be returned to the Loan Bank.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Parent/Legal Guardian Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

**MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
Division of Special Education/ Early Intervention Services**

**MARYLAND HEARING AID LOAN BANK  
HEARING AID LOAN EXTENSION FORM**

The purpose of the Hearing Aid Loan Bank Program is to provide temporary hearing aids for children (**up to the age of 3**) with hearing loss, while they are waiting to receive their personal amplification device(s).

This application extends the initial six month loan for an additional period of three months. The application for loan extension **must** be submitted for every three month extension period requested. Please contact the **Hearing Aid Loan Bank at 410-767-0739 (voicemail accessible)**, if you have any questions.

Please complete Parts A-C of this application and return to:

**Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services  
Maryland State Department of Education  
200 West Baltimore Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Baltimore, Maryland 21201-2595  
ATTN: Kathleen Heck  
Phone: (410) 767-0739 Fax: (410) 333-8165**

**The information contained on this form will be kept confidential.**

**PART A**

**Child's Information**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Legal Guardian's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Original Hearing Aid(s) Loan Application** \_\_\_\_\_

**Maryland Hearing Aid Loan Bank  
Hearing Aid Loan Extension Form**

**PART B**

**To be completed by the parent or legal guardian**

1. Please describe why you are requesting to extend the hearing aid loan for your infant or toddler, and have been unable to access hearing aids for your child in the past six months.

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2. Do you need information regarding resources to secure permanent hearing aids?

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**Maryland Hearing Aid Loan Bank  
Hearing Aid Loan Extension Form**

**PART C**

**HEARING AID LOAN EXTENSION AGREEMENT**

\_\_\_\_\_ I agree that my child will continue to receive (a) loaned hearing aid(s) from the Maryland Hearing Aid Loan Bank, located in the Maryland State Department of Education, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services.

\_\_\_\_\_ I agree to provide a brief statement indicating the reason assistance from the Loan Bank is requested.

\_\_\_\_\_ I agree that it is my responsibility to maintain and care for the hearing aid(s) and that I will be responsible for any loss or damage not covered by the hearing aid warranty up to \$100.00. This excludes normal wear and tear.

\_\_\_\_\_ I agree that my child will have use of this/these hearing aid(s) for three (3) additional months. If my child has not received his/her personal amplification device(s) within that time, I may extend the loan period by three (3) months, by completing another extension agreement.

\_\_\_\_\_ I agree to seek permanent hearing aid(s) or a cochlear implant for my child.

\_\_\_\_\_ I agree that when my child receives his/her personal amplification device(s), I will return the loaned hearing aid(s) to my child's audiologist, to be returned to the Loan Bank.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Parent/Legal Guardian Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Requesting Audiologist Signature**