



Failure to pass the first hearing screening may indicate hearing loss in your baby, and another test is necessary to determine whether your baby is able to hear.

Why is it important to have another hearing test as soon as possible?

- The earlier a hearing loss is found, the better it is for your baby.
- If your baby does have a hearing loss, there are many things that can be done to support your baby.
- Testing is the only way to know for sure whether or not your baby has a hearing loss.

Why did my baby fail to pass the first hearing test?

- Your baby may have a hearing loss.
- There may be fluid in the ear.
- The testing room may have been noisy.
- Your baby may have been moving a lot.

In Missouri, between 100 – 130 newborns are diagnosed with permanent hearing loss each year. When a hearing loss is found early, parents and professionals can work together to help a child develop language and communication skills.

What should I expect at the visit?

- The test is safe and painless and may be more in-depth than the initial screening.
- You may be asked to bring your baby in while he/she is sleeping.
- You may be asked to feed your baby just before the testing.
- The tester will help you schedule a follow-up appointment if another test is needed.

Can a newborn baby pass the hearing test and still have hearing loss?

- Yes, some babies hear just well enough to pass the first test, but lose their hearing later because of:
 - Illnesses
 - Medications
 - Injuries
 - Family history of childhood delayed-onset hearing loss
- Watch for signs of hearing loss as your baby grows.
- If you have questions about your baby's hearing, talk to your baby's health professional.

Babies begin to develop speech and language in the first 6 months of life. If hearing loss is found early, there are many things that can be offered to support speech and language development.



Attention Hearing Screener:

If you want the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) to make an appointment reminder phone call to the baby's parent, please fax the appointment card to 573-751-6185.

Your Baby's Name

Date of Birth

Mother's/Guardian's Name

Primary Phone Number

Secondary Phone Number

Baby's Doctor (name, address, phone)

Date, Time and Place of Testing

Phone Number of Testing Site

Additional information can be found at:

- health.mo.gov/newbornhearingscreening
- cdc.gov/ncbddd/hearingloss/index.html
- infanthearing.org/



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH &
SENIOR SERVICES**

Newborn Hearing Screening Program

PO Box 570

Jefferson City, MO 65102

800-877-6246

Health.Mo.Gov/newbornhearingscreening

For information regarding other maternal and child health services, call or text 800-TEL-LINK (800-835-5465)

Health.Mo.Gov/tellink

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Your Baby Needs Another Hearing Test



Finding hearing loss early
can make a huge difference
in your baby's language
development and life!