CENTRAL MICHIGAN DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT PROVIDES HEARING AND VISION SCREENINGS IN THE SCHOOLS

Another school year is well under way, which means the big yellow school buses can be heard early each morning, picking up all kinds of students who will spend the day using their eyes and ears to read, write and listen to teachers who help them learn. Is your child able to see clearly or hear as well as possible in order to make their school experience the best it can be? Vision and hearing problems can make learning a frustrating experience, and the Central Michigan District Health Department takes seriously its charge from Michigan’s Public Health Code to provide hearing and vision testing for all children who attend public and private schools and those who are home-schooled without charge to the parent(s). Our technicians are very well trained and experienced in the latest screening techniques, and provide hearing screenings for children in kindergarten, 2nd and 4th grades. Vision screenings are provided for children in 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th and 9th grades. Any child entering kindergarten for the first time is screened for both hearing and vision problems. All children who do not pass the screenings are re-screened and then referred when needed for follow-up care with the appropriate medical care provider and other related services.

Medicaid currently covers the cost of screening children ages 3 through 6 with this type of insurance. Preschool hearing and vision screening services are also available for parents who are interested in having their child tested before they are eligible to attend kindergarten round ups. If you have any questions about the hearing and vision services for your child, or if you do not wish to have your child screened in the K – 12 school setting, please contact the local branch office of your health department for more information. The ability to see and hear clearly is priceless and it is our goal to catch any difficulties early.

This article has been brought to you by Central Michigan District Health Department, which serves the local residents of Arenac, Clare, Gladwin, Isabella, Osceola and Roscommon Counties.