

641—3.15 (135) Early hearing detection and intervention advisory committee.

3.15(1) Membership. The membership of the advisory committee shall be geographically representative of stakeholders with an interest in and concern for newborn hearing screening and follow-up. The advisory committee shall be appointed by the department director and consist of no more than 25 members and include the state EHDI coordinator. The EHDI coordinator will assist in facilitation of committee meetings. Membership will include a minimum of one representative from each of the following areas:

- a. Advocate (e.g., office of deaf services).
- b. Audiology.
- c. Children with special health care needs program.
- d. Deaf/hard-of-hearing community.
- e. Early intervention services.
- f. Ears, nose and throat specialist/otolaryngologists.
- g. Family support.
- h. Iowa Hospital Association or designee.
- i. Hospitals (preferably hearing screening coordinator).
- j. Parent(s) of deaf or hard-of-hearing child.
- k. Family practice physician.
- l. Pediatrician.
- m. Representation from a state agency that is not the department.

3.15(2) Meetings. The committee shall meet three times per year. Location and times will be prescribed by the department.

3.15(3) Voting. The committee will make its recommendations by consensus. In the event that consensus cannot be reached within a reasonable time frame, there will be a majority rule, as in a simple majority of those present or more than 50 percent. At least 50 percent of the members must be present.

3.15(4) Service, vacancies and attendance.

a. Each committee member is appointed to serve a term of three years. Members may serve longer at the request of the department director unless their absence at meetings exceeds that permitted by the attendance policy. Terms for existing members will begin at the first of the year or as positions vacate. The term for a new member replacing a member before the member's term is up will begin when the vacancy is filled.

b. Vacancies will be filled within six months. The term will begin when the vacancy is filled. The EHDI coordinator will work with advisory committee members, EHDI program staff and associations to identify new members. Names and short biographies will be given to the department director to make a final determination for committee member vacancies.

c. Committee members are expected to be present in person for advisory committee meetings with the exception of extenuating circumstances that have been communicated to the state EHDI coordinator. Any member who cannot attend the scheduled meetings should notify the state EHDI coordinator at least 24 hours prior to the start of the regularly scheduled meeting. If there are extenuating circumstances and a member can send a representative, the member is encouraged to do so. Appointed members may be recommended for dismissal from the committee if the members miss more than two meetings per year.