

Approved Assessments and Tools List

The purpose of House Bill (HB) 548 is to collect, analyze, and monitor data on the language acquisition of children eight years of age or younger who are deaf or hard of hearing (DHH) or deafblind (DB).

The Texas Education Agency (TEA), Health and Human Service Commission (HHSC), and Texas School for the Deaf (TSD) have created a sub-committee of experts in language acquisition and deaf education to determine appropriate language assessments and tools to be used for data collection. The language assessment sub-committee has approved the following assessments and tools which will be effective for the 2022-2023 school year.

Diagnostic (Norm-Referenced)

- [American Sign Language Assessment \(ASLA\)](#)
- [Oral and Written Language Scales \(OWLS II\)](#)

Proficiency (Criterion-Referenced)

- [Communication Matrix](#)
- [Cottage Acquisition Scales for Listening, Language, and Speech \(CASLLS\)](#)
- [Visual Communication Sign Language \(VCSL\) Checklist](#)

A minimum of one assessment or tool shall be given annually to students who are DHH or DB that qualify for the data collection required by HB 548 and with permission granted by a parent or guardian. Additional guidance on how to choose which assessment or tool to use for HB 548 is posted on the [TEA Sensory Impairment webpage](#).

Using the assessments and tools provided to assess each child's language acquisition, local education agencies (LEAs) will gather and submit data to the Texas Student Data System (TSDS) via the Special Education Language Acquisition (SELA) core collection. The types of data to be gathered and reported in TSDS are as follows:

- Demographic information (redacted)
- Instructional arrangements
- Language acquisition services
 - Time spent obtaining language acquisition services
- Description of hearing amplification
 - Type of hearing amplification
 - Period of time using hearing amplification during language acquisition services
- Tool or assessment used to assess each child's language acquisition
- Preferred mode of communication in the child's home