

# Georgia Mobile Audiology

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# Importance of Hearing Screenings

- Hearing and vision screenings are recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Georgia Department of Public Health for all school-aged children
- 95% of children with hearing loss are born to typical hearing parents with no family history of hearing loss.
- Even if a child passes a newborn hearing screening, hearing loss can still happen later in life. Prevalence of hearing loss increases for school age children.
- Functional hearing screenings are **not** evidence based
- **The gold standard of hearing measurement is behavioral assessment**

# Pediatric Hearing Screening Course

The screenshot shows the COX Campus website interface. At the top, there is a search bar labeled "Search Cox Campus" and buttons for "Login" and "Sign Up". Below the search bar is a navigation menu with items: "Educators", "Social-Emotional Health", "En español", "Families", "Healthcare", "Events", "Resource Library", "Blog", and "About". The main content area features a blue header with a back arrow and "Video Courses". The course title "Pediatric Hearing Screenings" is prominently displayed. Below the title, it states "IACET Accredited 0.2 CEUs • 2 Training Hours". A descriptive paragraph follows: "Welcome to the Pediatric Hearing Screenings course! In this course you will learn all about how to successfully conduct hearing screenings using both Pure-Tone hearing screenings and Otoacoustic Emission (OAE) hearing screenings." At the bottom of the course card, there are three sections: a green circle with a dollar sign indicating "Cost 100% Free", a purple circle with a clock indicating "Time to complete 2.0", and two buttons: a green "Take the Course" button and a white "View Lessons" button.

- <https://learn.coxcampus.org/courses/pediatric-hearing-screenings/>

# Pediatric Hearing Screening Course

The screenshot shows a website interface for a Pediatric Hearing Screening Course. At the top, there is a navigation bar with a home icon, 'How it works', 'Lessons', 'FAQs', and 'Resources'. A green button labeled 'Take the Course' is positioned on the right. Below this is a secondary navigation bar with dropdown menus for 'Educators', 'Social-Emotional Health', 'En español', 'Families', 'Healthcare', 'Events', 'Resource Library', 'Blog', and 'About'. The main content area features six resource cards arranged in a 2x3 grid. The top row contains three 'OAE Caregiver Notification Letter' cards: one in Spanish, one in English, and another in Spanish. Each card includes a brief description: 'Use this letter to notify caregivers when two hearing screenings are not passed.' and a 'Preview' button with star and share icons. The bottom row contains three manual/guide cards: 'GSI Corti OAE Manual', 'EroScan OAE Manual', and 'Sentiero OAE Audiometry Guide'. Each card features a circular image of the manual/guide cover, a title, a subtitle, and a 'Preview' button with star and share icons.

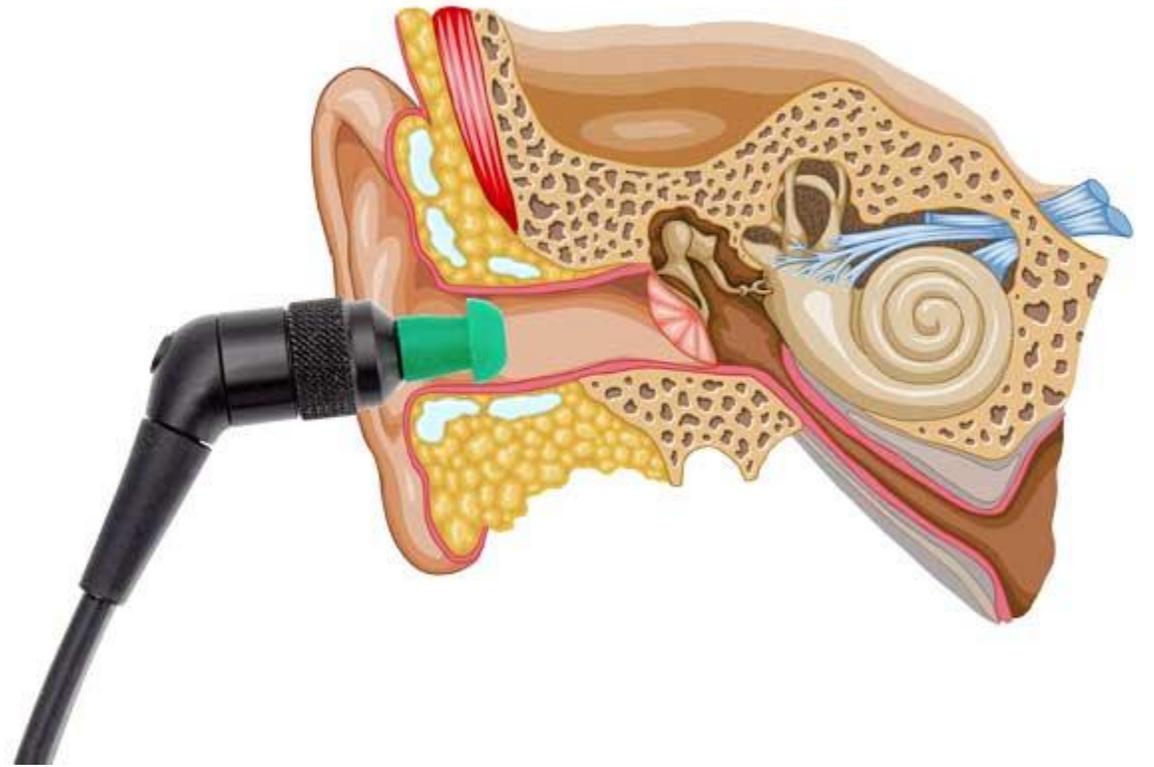
- <https://learn.coxcampus.org/courses/pediatric-hearing-screenings/>

# Otoacoustic Emission Screening (OAEs)

- House Bill 1186, effective July 1, 2022, allows trained personnel to administer otoacoustic emission screening on children from birth to 22 years. An automated OAE screener can be used **under the supervision of a state licensed audiologist.**
  - Full statute: <https://gov.georgia.gov/document/2022-signed-legislation/hb-1186/download>
- This statute revision highlights the importance of using evidence-based screening tools when evaluating students who cannot complete pure tone hearing screenings.

# What are OAEs?

- Otoacoustic emissions are sounds measured in the ear canal that reflect movement of the outer hair cells in the cochlea (inner ear).
- The OAE screening is used to find out how well your cochlea (inner ear) works.



# Who can administer OAE screenings?

**Only staff that have received training/supervision by a state licensed audiologist are allowed to perform OAE screening**

**Best practice:** it is recommended that speech language pathologists, school nursing staff and public health nurses receive OAE screening training.

**Best practice:** Advised to have audiologist oversee OAE screening referrals

# Reporting and Documentation

- If the student cannot be conditioned to respond for the pure tone screening, then OAE screening alone can substitute for the pure tone screening to grant hearing clearance for evaluation if there are no hearing concerns and if the student does not have risk factors for hearing loss.
- **Under the supervision of an audiologist**, consider using OAE as temporary clearance for eligibility until referrals can be made and more information can be obtained for students who have hearing concerns or risk factors. This way, the student could be tested for SPED and begin receiving services while more information on hearing status is being collected. The educational program could be updated once the hearing status is confirmed if needed

# Risk Factors for Hearing Loss

- Syndromes/neurodegenerative disorders/chromosomal abnormalities associated with hearing loss
- Premature birth/low birth weight
- Length of stay in the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU)
- Respiratory distress requiring mechanical ventilation for >5 days
- Exposure to ototoxic medications
- Drug and alcohol abuse by the mother
- Familial history of childhood onset permanent hearing loss

# Pediatric Hearing Screening Course



## Need Competency Training

1. Participants complete Online course
2. Make training request via email to [MapINFO@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:MapINFO@doe.k12.ga.us)
3. **Must create a referral process**

Need to find an audiologist

<https://www.gamobileaudiology.org/find-an-audiologist>

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# Questions??



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