**24:05:24.01:08.  Deafness defined.** Deafness is a hearing loss that is so severe that the student is impaired in processing linguistic information through hearing, even with amplification, and that adversely affects a student's educational performance.

A student may be identified as deaf if the unaided hearing loss is in excess of 70 decibels and precludes understanding of speech through the auditory mechanism, even with amplification, and the student demonstrates an inability to process linguistic information through hearing, even with amplification.

**Source:** 23 SDR 31, effective September 8, 1996; 33 SDR 236, effective July 5, 2007.

**General Authority:** SDCL 13-37-1.1.

**Law Implemented:** SDCL 13-37-1.1.