



# Illinois School for the Deaf LOOKBOOK



**confidence**



**language**



**leadership**



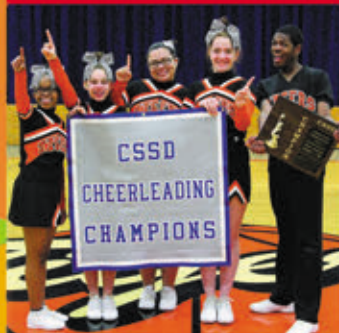
**success**



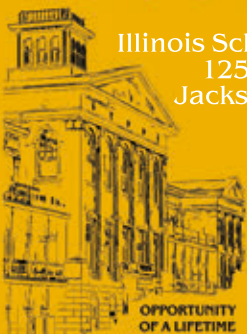
**friendships**



**strength**



**independence**



Illinois School for the Deaf  
125 Webster Avenue  
Jacksonville, IL 62650  
217-479-4200

# Is ISD Right for You?

A special school helps students who are deaf or hard of hearing acquire language. Children with hearing loss often have difficulty learning to read and write because they need more vocabulary. Illinois School for the Deaf uses specialized language development instruction to help children clearly understand ideas.

In a regular education situation, a child who is deaf or hard of hearing may have only a few people who can communicate directly with him/her. Direct, barrier-free communication is a more effective way to get school information from teachers and peers. It allows students to fully participate at school.

## You're Signing My Language!

Signed Communication Proficiency Interview (SCPI) is a nationally used sign language assessment tool used to assess staff sign language skills. Employees at ISD have a level of sign language proficiency to meet and maintain. Many staff members pursue additional sign language training on their own because they know how important clear, fluent communication is for ISD students.



## Communication Philosophy

ISD is committed to the ideal of an accessible bilingual (American Sign Language and English) community in which deaf, hard of hearing and hearing people learn and work without communication barriers.

## Servicio Para contestar en Español

Con el propósito de proveer servicios apropiados a nuestras familias de habla hispana, la Escuela Para Sordos de Illinois ha desarrollado el Servicio para Contestar en Español. El objetivo de estos servicios es para que nuestras familias que hablan español tengan contacto directo con la escuela en su idioma natal.

# A Little About ISD



## Admissions

Families interested in learning if their child is eligible to attend ISD should contact the Admissions Office at 217-479-4297. Students must be Illinois residents, and their primary disability must be hearing loss. ISD must be listed as a placement option on a student's Individual Education Plan (IEP). A referral letter must be written by either a parent or a home school administrator.

## Did you know?

**ISD is FREE!**  
No tuition, room or board is charged to families or Illinois school districts. ISD is governed by the Illinois Department of Human Services/Division of Rehabilitation Services. ISD is financed through state and federal governments.

## 10

### Advantages at ISD

1.

**Communication** - Most staff on campus communicate directly with students in sign language. Speech therapy is also available for students.

2.

**Small Class Sizes** - Low student-to-teacher ratio ensures individualized attention for the students.

3.

**Specialists on Campus** - Educators are highly qualified and have a special licensure in deaf education. An audiologist, school psychologist, speech/language pathologists and social workers are available on campus.

4.

**Caring Staff** - Frequent communication among parents, dorm and school staff keep all involved in the care of the students informed of any situations requiring extra attention.

5.

**Mainstream Options** - ISD students may take classes in public elementary, junior high and high schools through School District 117 in Jacksonville.

6.

**Socialization** - Friends are able to interact directly with one another without an interpreter.

7.

**Pride in Self** - Students learn deaf history and meet and learn about deaf role models.

8.

**Action-Packed Campus** - ISD offers rich and unique cultural and social experiences. Every student is encouraged to participate in sports, clubs and/or organizations.

9.

**Tuition-Free** - Cost of attending ISD is financed by the state and federal governments.

10.

**Career advantages** - Formal transition planning begins early at ISD, in 8th grade or age 14 1/2 years. Students work with the guidance counselor, transition coordinator, educators and other staff to plan for life after graduation.

# History



In 1839, Senator Orville H. Browning from Quincy, Illinois, proposed legislation creating the Illinois School for the Deaf. Browning enlisted the support of State Representative Abraham Lincoln for passage in the Illinois House of Representatives.

ISD officially opened on January 26, 1846, with four students enrolled. For more than 175 years, the Illinois School for the Deaf has provided tuition-free education to students who are deaf or hard of hearing.

ISD was the fifth deaf school to open in the nation; and at one time, it was the largest deaf school in the world.

## Some Claims to Fame

The first Girl Scout Troop made up of students who were deaf or hard of hearing originated at ISD on May 22, 1919.



*Girl Scouts of America recognizes ISD's Girl Scout Troop #1 as the first troop in the country for girls who are deaf or hard of hearing.*

The ISD Museum provides a comprehensive visual history of the school.

## ISD's Mission

The mission of the Illinois School for the Deaf is to educate students who are deaf or hard of hearing to be responsible, self-supporting citizens.

# Academics



## Same Subjects;

### Different Approach • • • • •

Students complete the same core curriculum as their hearing peers in order to meet graduation requirements as mandated by the Illinois State Board of Education. A strong visual teaching approach is used, and students are able to learn without communication barriers that may exist in other settings. Smartboards are available in almost every classroom to accommodate visual access of information.

## Language is the Key • • • • •

From elementary language arts to high school chemistry, vocabulary development and language comprehension are critical components of every ISD class. Specialized reading programs, including Accelerated Reading (AR) and Direct Instruction (DI) are used at every grade level.

## Small Class Sizes • • • • •

Class sizes are small to allow individualized learning. Most classes average six students.

## Faculty Credentials • • • • •

All faculty at ISD are licensed teachers in the state of Illinois. Many have obtained a master's degree in deaf education or hold special certification in deaf education as well as in their subject area. Teachers at ISD are deaf, hard-of-hearing or hearing.

## Students with Special Needs • • •

ISD's teachers provide for the needs of students who have disabilities in addition to a hearing loss which interfere with learning. Programs are carefully individualized, and special needs students participate within the larger student body.

## School Calendar • • • • •

Classes are based on a semester system and run Monday through Friday. The school year begins in mid-August and ends in late May.

## Accreditation • • • • •

Illinois School for the Deaf is accredited by the AdvancED, the Conference of Educational Administrators of Schools and Programs for the Deaf and the Illinois State Board of Education.

## Mainstream Options • • • • •

ISD students, from preschool to 12th grade, may take classes at local public schools. Educational interpreters may accompany the students.

# PreK - 8

Enriched learning and language experiences  
are key focus areas.

## Preschool

Activities help develop language skills, socialization, gross/fine motor skills and self-help skills.

Plenty of time for play and rest is built into the schedule. Preschool students are taught by a teacher licensed in deaf education.



Our PreK-8 program offers a comprehensive education for deaf and hard of hearing students. Classes include a core academic curriculum (Reading, Language, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies) in addition - to formal ASL classes and PE/Health. Related services are also provided to students, as deemed necessary by their Individual Education Plans. These services include speech/language therapy, audiological services, physical therapy, occupational therapy, learning resource services, and paraprofessionals for students with additional disabilities.





The purpose of the Illinois School for the Deaf PreK-8 educational and residential programs is to provide a foundation of basic academic and independent life skills in an environment that guides and encourages children to grow educationally, mentally, emotionally, socially and physically in a language rich environment that provides visually accessible communication.



### After School

The students keep busy after school and in the evenings. In addition to homework, the students are involved in many activities which include practicing for teams, attending sporting events, swimming, participating in recreational activities, shopping, dining out and watching movies.



### Lunch with the Principal



# High School

## Grades 9 - 12

### Course Offerings

Language Arts

Reading

Composition

Literature

American Sign Language

Accelerated Reading

Basic Mathematics

Pre-Algebra

Algebra I & II

Geometry

Trigonometry

College Algebra

US Government & World Affairs

United States History

Intro to World History

Employability Skills

Consumer Education

Physical Education

Health

General Science

Physical Science

Life Science

Biology

Environmental Science

Chemistry

Human Anatomy &

Physiology

Geology

Students in ISD's High School are encouraged to use critical thinking and reasoning, imagination and creativity in all aspects of their school career as they begin to experience independent living.

High school staff help foster skills and attitudes within each student which will develop positive self-esteem and self-advocacy. In addition to classes typically offered in public high school programs, a transition curriculum prepares students for life outside of high school in employment or post-secondary education.



**Fostering strong language and literacy skills is a primary focus in every class.**



#### Accelerated Reading Program (AR)

ISD promotes reading through the use of the Accelerated Reading program.

Pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students read 20 minutes every day during an AR period.

Each semester a student is given an individual point goal. Points are earned by reading books and passing computerized quizzes. Reward incentives are given to encourage reading.



# Career and Technical Education Center

## Grades 9 - TLP

The Career and Technical Education Center is designed to give students hands-on opportunities to explore future career possibilities. The program is tailored to meet individual students' needs by matching their interests with course offerings.

CTE Advisory Meetings are held at least once a year to collaborate with business and community partners. CTE maintains relationships with Nestle, local schools and colleges as well as service agencies to assist in improving instruction for CTE students.



**CTE strives to provide students with a wide variety of career-focused classes.**

**ISD offers Programs of Study in Architecture & Construction, Arts, Audio/Video Technology & Communications, Information Technology, Manufacturing, and Transportation, Distribution, & Logistics.**

### Course offerings:

- Audio/Video Production
- Automotive Comprehensive
- Automotive Detailing
- Auto Technician
- Auto Body
- Basic Drafting
- Cabinetmaking & Millwork
- Construction Trades
- Driver's Ed
- Foods
- Graphic Communication
- Graphic Design
- Introduction to Technology & Engineering (Industrial)
- Sheet Metal Technology
- Web Page & Interactive Media Development
- Welding



# Transitional Living Program



The Transitional Living Program (TLP) utilizes the Unique Learning System curriculum and is designed for deaf or hard of hearing young adults who desire to have more preparation for living independently, to the world of work or post-secondary education.

TLP focuses on enhancing academic achievement, employment, community service and independent living. A student's class schedule is based on transition goals; however, each TLP student participates in at least one class period of Transitional Living Skills where the student will practice budgeting, meal planning, and banking skills.

To be eligible to enroll in TLP a student must have satisfied graduation requirements, but have not accepted his/her high school diploma. A student is eligible to participate in TLP until the day before his/her 22nd birthday.



# Ready for the World

A variety of experiences assist students to be comfortable and independent in both the Deaf and hearing worlds.



## Student Work Experience (SWE)



The purpose of the Student Work Experience Program is to give students a more in-depth view of the world of work, identify specific occupational skills, and ease the transition from school to the real world. The Student Work Experience Program (SWE) includes work experiences during the school day as well as after school.



Students 16 years of age and older can apply for a job after school through the SWE program. The SWE Coordinator works with the businesses and students to establish weekly work schedules. The students are evaluated quarterly by their employer and this evaluation is used as a motivational tool to improve work skills and work performance. Job Shadowing and Mock Interviews are also scheduled through the SWE Program. A job shadowing experience allows a student to explore a specific career of interest by observing an employee perform their work duties at their place of employment. The experience should provide realistic career information that will aid the student in making career choices. Mock Interviews provide students an opportunity to practice their job interviewing skills. A student is enrolled in the SWE Program during the school day by the principal who develops student schedules. A student will receive class credit and a grade for the class periods worked. The student is evaluated quarterly by the coordinator and employer and this evaluation is utilized to determine a quarterly grade. Typically a student is scheduled to work two to three class periods during the school day.

## Transition Services

The ISD transition coordinator assists students with transition from high school to the real world and promotes the movement of a student to post-secondary activities including post-secondary education, vocational/technical training, employment, adult services, independent living and community participation.

The transition coordinator assists students with applications for post-secondary education, employment, financial aid, scholarships, ACT tests and summer programs.



# Other Services

24-hour care is provided to all students by caring and experienced professionals.



## Health Services

Registered nurses provide health care around-the-clock when students are on campus. Health Center staff administer medication, assess illnesses and injuries, provide first aid and care for students in the Health Center who are ill. A physician is on staff who visits the school Health Center on a regular basis to see ill/injured students and do physical exams as needed. Health Center staff arrange and assist with taking students to outside medical appointments. Annual vision, dental and TB screenings are coordinated by the nurses. An occupational therapist and physical therapist are available for students who require those services. The Health Center nurses have frequent contact with parents regarding the health needs and concerns of the students, and parents can contact the nurse via phone anytime, day or night.

## Nutrition

The Dietary Department provides three hot meals every day that meet the nutritional needs of the students. Meals are planned according to the nutritional guidelines set by the Illinois State Board of Education. The ISD Student Body Government has input into what is served by offering suggestions.

### Social Work Services

Two full-time social workers assist students and families with adjustment to residential living. They also provide students with individual and group counseling and social skills training.

### Communication Services

There is a full-time speech and language specialist in each school unit who works with students to enhance their communication skills. Individual needs of students may focus on language, ASL, English, speech, auditory development, speech reading and/or using assistive devices.

### Amplification Services

ISD supports the use of amplification devices such as cochlear implants, hearing aids or FM systems and provides necessary accommodations for individual students.

### Audiological Services

A full-time audiologist provides hearing evaluations, troubleshoots problems with hearing aids and other amplification devices and sends in devices for repairs. New earmold impressions can also be made if needed.

### Psychological Services

A full-time psychologist provides services to students in the form of assessments and individual counseling for emotional and adaptive functioning.

### Outside Evaluations

Evaluations for students who are deaf or hard of hearing in the state of Illinois are available free of charge. These include audiological, speech and language, psychoeducational and career interest.



# Sports

**Tiger - (tī'gər) n. Large carnivorous feline mammal. Gives 100 percent on the field, court or classroom. See Illinois School for the Deaf Athlete.**

Illinois School for the Deaf teams go head-to-head against local and private schools in the Western Illinois Valley Conference (high school) and Morgan County Conference (junior high school). ISD athletes are regularly awarded All-Conference and National Deaf-American honors. Joining athletics is a great way to make friends after ISD. Joining athletics is a great way to make friends at ISD. It is also a great opportunity to play on a team with peers that communicate in American Sign Language.



**In 1912 the ISD athletic teams bore "The ISD Team" on their uniforms. In 1913 the "Tigers" became the mascot of school.**



Football • Volleyball • Cheerleading •  
Basketball • Track • Special Olympics

# Campus Living

Life on campus spans beyond simple room and board!



Students go home for the weekend on vans and buses, supervised by ISD dorm staff, travel to centrally located drop off locations throughout the state.



## Some Evening Activities:

Swimming  
 School athletic events  
 Dances  
 Shopping  
 Eating out  
 Guest speakers  
 Captioned movies  
 Trips to local attractions  
 Camping  
 Paintball  
 Cooking  
 Seasonal parties and events  
 Crafts  
 Games

Lifetime friendships are made in ISD's dormitories. The PreK-8 boys' and girls' dorms are housed in separate buildings and divided by age groups. The high school boys' and girls' dorms are housed in separate buildings divided equally to maintain students to staff ratios. Each wing and floor has its own kitchen and cozy living room complete with a television and comfortable furniture. Videophones are also available in every dorm.

Similar to college dorms, each room is furnished with two twin beds, two desks, two dressers and locking closets. ISD does provide bedding, however, most students prefer to bring their own bedding from home.



## Typical Dorm Weekday Schedule

3:00 p.m. -	Team practices Club meetings Study Center
4:30 - 6:00 p.m. -	Dinner
6:00 p.m. -	Study Time Computer Lab
7:15 p.m. -	Teen Center Athletic Events Recreational Activities Club Meetings
8:00 - 11:00 p.m. -	Lights Out (age determines time)



# Activities and Events



Academic Bowl  
 Air Hockey Tournament  
 Christmas Dinner Party  
 Community Volunteering  
 End of Year Bash  
 Gallaudet Battle of the Books  
 Guest Speakers  
 Hawaiian Night  
 Holiday Parties  
 Homecoming  
 LEO  
 LIFE  
 Lunch with a Cop  
 Mardi Gras  
 Movies  
 Plays  
 Pool Tournament  
 Recreational Activities  
 Roller Skating Night  
 School Yearbook  
 Shopping  
 Special Olympics  
 Spirit Week Competition  
 Student Body Government  
 Student of the Week/Month  
 Super Bowl Party  
 Table Soccer Tournament  
 Xbox Competitions

The Junior High and High School Teen Centers are popular places for students to go after school hours. Both Teen Centers feature big screen televisions, ping pong tables, pool tables, foosball tables and video games. Food and snack items are available for purchase in both centers. High school students can work in the High School Teen Center through the Student Member Compensation Program. Both centers have directors who coordinate activities throughout the school year as well as provide supervision for students.

## Fast Facts

- The ratio of students to dormitory staff is about 3:1.
- Most dorm supervisors hold associate's or bachelor's degrees.
- Overnight bed checks are made every 30 minutes.
- Recreation directors plan evening activities.

## At Your Service



### Leadership Experience Opportunity

LEO is a community service organization and student affiliate of the Lions Club. ISD is home to the FIRST and ONLY Deaf LEO Club in the world! LEO participates in both school and community service projects. Activities include ringing bells for the Salvation Army, Angel Tree, distribution of gently used clothing, volunteering at the local food pantry & homeless shelter and much more. Any high school student is eligible to join.

### Learning Is For Everyone (LIFE)

LIFE is a club on campus that is focused on students with additional disabilities. LIFE club members meet weekly and participate in arts and crafts, recreation, cooking, games and activities to develop social skills. LIFE club members also promote mentor relationships with the elementary and junior high students.



Dozens of activities and clubs provide countless opportunities to develop leadership skills and self-esteem

# Summer Programs

Looking for a fun social interaction for your child? The summer camps at the Illinois School for the Deaf offer action-packed learning and recreation experiences to elevate self-esteem and enhance language skills. Campers will live in dormitories with two to a room on the ISD campus and eat meals in the Huff Dietary.

Creative Arts Camp is for students in the 3rd-6th grades. Fun-filled hands-on activities in Art, ASL, Dance and Graphic Design are held in the Career Technical Education Center. In addition, snack and game activities are incorporated based on the theme of the week.

Sports Camp is offered for students in 5th-8th grades. Sporting activities at this camp focus on team building, sportsmanship and athletics. Campers will participate in traditional sports as well as a variety of non-traditional sports.

STEAM Camp for 7th-10th graders is offered each summer to provide students who are deaf or hard of hearing the opportunity to enhance their proficiency in Science, Technology, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM.) Campers participate in team and individual challenges. They also practice effective communication and socialization skills while collaborating with peers to accomplish STEAM tasks.

Meet your friends at Illinois School  
for the Deaf's Summer Camps



Evening activities may include:

- Games, Bowling, Hikes
- Carnival, Pizza Party
- Water Activities
- Something for Everyone!

Call for more  
information  
217 - 479 - 4200



# How to Access ISD

Families, school districts, local education agencies and ISD work together to help determine if ISD is right for a child.



All children who are deaf or hard of hearing have the right to an education where their unique communication mode is respected, utilized and developed to an appropriate level of proficiency and vocabulary equivalent to that of students of similar ages who are hearing.

## You are the Parent/Guardian

- 1** Contact Illinois School for the Deaf Admissions and Records Office 217-479-4297 v/tty
- 2** Tour the Campus
- 3** Contact your home school district and request an IEP meeting for your child
- 4** Complete the ISD application packet

## You are the School District (Local Education Agency)

- 1** Contact Illinois School for the Deaf Admissions and Records Office 217-479-4297 v/tty
- 2** Hold an IEP meeting if ISD is not listed as a placement option on the student's current IEP
- 3** Send the following records to the Illinois School for the Deaf Admissions and Records office: current IEP with ISD listed as a placement option, current 3-year Eligibility Review and reports; audiological, psychological, social, speech language, educational, achievement test scores and transcript for high school students

# Outreach

## Consultation/Technical Assistance

ISD possesses a wealth of knowledge and experience about hearing loss and related issues and is the state-wide resource center for the education of students who are deaf or hard of hearing from birth to age 21.

Consultation and technical assistance is provided upon request from teachers, parents, support staff and other service providers who work with children who are deaf or hard of hearing. The services may include in-service presentations, classroom observations, phone consultations and written correspondence.

## Parent Conferences

ISD collaborates with Hearing and Vision Early Intervention Outreach and several local agencies who serve children who are deaf or hard of hearing to provide free conferences for parents and families. Conferences are held in locations in northern, central and southern Illinois.

## Training/Professional Development

ISD offers training to parent groups, general and deaf education teachers, students, educational interpreters and other educational personnel on a range of topics associated with hearing loss. Training is provided by experienced professionals throughout the state of Illinois. CPDUs are available upon request.

## Reverse Mainstreaming

ISD students may attend a local public school with the support of educational interpreters. Hearing students may take ASL classes on the ISD campus helping to bridge the gap between hearing and deaf worlds.

So you want to  
"experience" ISD...



ISD staff and students realize the general public is curious about its communication, education and culture.

Much may be learned by observing and participating in campus activities such as home sporting events, fall homecoming festivities and the spring school carnival.

Visitors at the events will experience how to interact with others who do not primarily communicate with their voices and ears. Guests often gain a new perspective on the challenges a Deaf or hard-of-hearing person faces when communicating in the hearing world.

See next page on touring ISD.

## ISD Evaluation Center

The Evaluation Center provides assessment services to identify educational and vocational needs for young children through seniors in high school, as well as for adults referred by Rehabilitation Counselors for the Deaf (RCDs). Evaluations and assessments are available in the areas of school psychology, audiology, literacy and communication skills. Vocational evaluations that identify career interests and abilities are provided to high school juniors, seniors and adults referred by RCDs. Evaluations and assessments are free; however, the family or referring school are responsible for transportation, meals and lodging, if needed.

## Illinois School for the Deaf Alumni Association (ISDAA)

The ISDAA was founded to provide a closer relationship between ISD alumni and the school. The group develops activities for reunions and homecoming as well as promotes and preserves the school's history. ([museum1989@gmail.com](mailto:museum1989@gmail.com))

## IFDC

The Illinois Foundation for Deaf Children (IFDC) is a nonprofit organization established to promote and advance the education, employment and welfare of children who are deaf and hard of hearing. IFDC's goal is to raise money to fund activities, services and purchase of extraordinary equipment. (IFDC, PO Box 876, Jacksonville, IL 62651)

## Family and Public Tours

ISD receives many requests to tour its campus. Prospective families, students and referral sources are welcome to observe classes and walk through dormitories.

Small class sizes, however, mean that tours from the general public becomes disruptive to the education day. Staff strive to protect student privacy in the dorms. (Imagine a group of strangers “touring” your living room!) Tours are offered with advanced notice. Questions about the education and boarding program are welcome during tours. An ISD staff person is often available to address classes, service clubs and other groups wishing to learn about ISD. 217-479-4297



Homecoming weekend draws hundreds of ISD alumni, friends and family. Its myriad of events provides countless opportunities to experience deaf culture.

# State of Illinois Illinois School for the Deaf

125 Webster Ave.  
Jacksonville, IL 62650  
217-479-4200 V/TTY  
217-717-9654 Videophone



1. MAIN BUILDING
2. HEALTH CENTER
3. SHELBY MOORE CULLOM HALL
4. PRE K-8 SCHOOL • PHILLIP GILLETT HALL • PRE K-8 GYMNASIUM
5. S. ROBEBY BURNS GYMNASIUM • EMMA SOLBERGER JOHNSON POOL
6. SELAH WAIT NORTH & SOUTH HALL • PETE & ALLOIS WAHL HIGH SCHOOL TEEN CENTER
7. KENNETH R. MANGAN HIGH SCHOOL • JAMES L. MOORE LIBRARY • MEDIA CENTER
8. MAIN GYM • CHARLES MARSHALL MULTIPURPOSE BUILDING
9. HENRY MONOHON CAREER TECHNOLOGY AND EDUCATION CENTER (CTEC)
10. HIRAM HUFF DIETARY • BAKERY • LOADING DOCK
11. THOMAS OFFICER NORTH & SOUTH HALL
12. HENRY HORNER NORTH & SOUTH HALL
13. CYRIL H. WINKING POWER PLANT
14. ERNEST TILTON LAUNDRY
15. AUTO BODY • AUTO SERVICE CENTER
16. LION'S CLUB PAVILLION
17. BIG TOY
18. PHILLIP HASENSTAB CONCESSION • PRESS BOX • BONDS FIELD

