

## Consent to Release Information

### Why is my baby having a hearing screening?

Your baby is having a hearing screening as part of routine infant testing. Babies are tested so if a child does have hearing loss, follow-up care may start immediately. If hearing loss is not detected early, significant delays may occur. Hearing loss can cause delays in speech, language, emotional, and educational development. Early identification of hearing loss ensures the child has the opportunity for normal development.

### Why should I give consent to release information?

Giving consent to release information helps ensure your baby gets the resources you may need. Follow-up care can include:

- additional hearing screening,
- diagnostic audiology assessment,
- medical evaluation by a specialist, and
- early childhood intervention.

### Consent to Release Information

I understand my child, \_\_\_\_\_'s hearing screening results are reported to the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Texas Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program (TEHDI) . Reporting hearing screening results is required by Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 47, Hearing Loss in Newborns.

\_\_\_\_\_ I do \_\_\_\_\_ I do not (initial one) consent to sharing individually identifying information with the DSHS TEHDI Program.

\_\_\_\_\_ I do \_\_\_\_\_ I do not (initial one) consent to sharing individually identifying information with the Statewide Outreach Center at Texas School for the Deaf if my child does not pass their hearing screening.

Information will be shared to coordinate services and provide resources, if needed, for my child and our family. DSHS will not share this information with any parties not involved in hearing screening follow-up and/or intervention process. I understand that I may revoke my consent in writing to DSHS at any time.

Contact DSHS TEHDI at 1-800-252-8023 ext. 7726 or email [tehdi@dshs.texas.gov](mailto:tehdi@dshs.texas.gov) with any questions.

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Signature of a Parent or Guardian

Date