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SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

BILL RICHARDSON
Governor

January 5, 2009

Memorandum

TO: Directors of Special Education Programs

FROM: Denise Koscielniak,
State Special Education Director

**RE: ADDENDUM FOR STUDENTS WHO ARE DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING
COMMUNICATION CONSIDERATIONS**

The Public Education Department's (PED's) Special Education Bureau (SEB) developed the attached addendum to assist school districts in meeting the communication needs for students who are deaf or hard of hearing. The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requires IEP teams to consider the communication needs of a student when developing, reviewing, and revising a student's IEP. The IDEA states that in developing each student's IEP, the IEP team shall consider the communication needs of the student. In the case of a child who is deaf or hard of hearing the IEP team must consider the following:

- the child's language and communication needs,
- providing opportunities for direct communication with peers and professional personnel in the child's language and communication mode,
- the child's academic level, and
- the full range of needs, including opportunities for direct instruction in the child's language and communication mode (**34 CFR 300.324 (a) (2) (iv)**).

If you have any questions regarding the use of this addendum, please call the SEB at (505) 827-1457 and ask to speak with an available consultant.

DK/sg

cc: Catherine Cross Maple, Ph.D., Deputy Secretary, Learning and Accountability
R. Sue Gronewold, Deputy Director, Special Education Bureau
Cindy W. Roybal, Education Administrator, Special Education Bureau