Hawaii Definitions for Deaf/Hard of Hearing/Deaf-blind Eligibility Criteria

Criteria for Deaf

- The student has hearing loss averaging greater than 70 decibels in the speech frequencies (500Hz to 4,000HZ), and
- The hearing loss impairs the student's auditory processing of linguistic information through hearing, with or without amplification; or
- The hearing loss adversely affects the students educational performance.

Criteria for Hard of Hearing

- The student has a hearing loss, whether permanent or fluctuating, averaging 26-70 decibels in the speech frequencies (500Hz to 4,000Hz), and
- The hearing loss impairs the students auditory processing of linguistic information, with our without amplification; or
- The hearing impairment adversely affects the student's educational performance.

Criteria for Deaf-blindness

- The student meets the criteria under the category of deaf, or the category of hard of hearing and the category of visual disability, and
- The concomitant hearing and visual disabilities cause severe communication and other developmental and educational needs.

Source: Hawaii Administrative Rules for Eligibility Criteria. § 8-60-39 Chapter 60, page 44



