

**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
AGING AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES  
OREGON ADMINISTRATIVE RULES**

**CHAPTER 411  
DIVISION 019**

**OREGON DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING SERVICES (ODHHS)  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

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**411-019-0000 Purpose and Responsibilities** *(Effective 03/01/2017)*

(1) The purpose of these rules is to establish responsibilities and membership for the Oregon Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services (ODHHS) advisory committee. The goal of ODHHS is to serve members of the public and state agencies by ensuring agency programs are available and accessible to individuals who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing.

(2) The advisory committee's responsibilities shall include the following:

(a) Identifying the needs and concerns of individuals who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing.

(b) Making recommendations to the Department of Human Services (DHS) related to the full achievement of economic, social, legal, and political equity for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community.

(c) Advising the Department of Human Services, Governor, Legislative Assembly, and other state agencies on how state services for individuals who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing might be improved or better coordinated to meet the needs of these individuals.

(d) Providing information to individuals who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing about where they may obtain assistance in rehabilitation and employment and about laws prohibiting discrimination in employment as a result of disability.

(e) Cooperating with interest groups in rehabilitation and employment for individuals who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing, and encourage public and private employers to undertake affirmative action to ensure equitable employment of individuals who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing.

(f) Promoting information and education to employers and the general public to increase awareness of and sensitivity to the needs of individuals who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing and to increase opportunities for equitable education and training that shall ensure these individuals have the opportunity to reach their full vocational potential.

Stat. Auth.: [ORS 410.070, 410.740](#)

Stats. Implemented: [ORS 410.740](#)

#### **411-019-0010 Definitions** *(Effective 03/01/2017)*

Unless the context indicates otherwise, the following definitions apply to the rules in OAR chapter 411, division 019:

(1) "Deaf" is a term that describes individuals who usually have no useful residual hearing and who generally use sign language as their primary mode of communication. This group of individuals is culturally Deaf and uses the uppercase "D" when using this term.

(2) "deaf" is a term that describes individuals who are audiologically deaf. Individuals who are deaf generally use their residual hearing with speech reading, amplification, hearing aids, cochlear implants, and other hearing assistive technology, and usually speak as a primary mode of communication. This group of individuals uses the lowercase "d" when using this term.

(3) "Deaf-blind" denotes people with a variety of causes and degrees of combined vision and hearing losses that imposes barriers to communication, education, work, and social interaction. This term does not necessarily mean total lack of hearing and vision. Deaf-blind individuals

can use a variety of adaptive technology and may also use visual or tactile sign language.

(4) "Department" means the Department of Human Services.

(5) "Hard of Hearing" describes individuals with partial hearing loss. Individuals may also use the term Hard of Hearing to describe themselves if they have a severe or profound audiological level of hearing loss.

(6) "Late Deafened" describes people who acquired a severe to profound hearing loss as adults, generally well after the development of speech and language. Individuals who are late deafened generally will benefit from the use of visual display technology and cochlear implants and may also benefit from hearing aids and other hearing technology.

(7) "These Rules" mean the rules in OAR chapter 411, division 019.

Stat. Auth.: [ORS 410.070, 410.740](#)

Stats. Implemented: [ORS 410.740](#)

**411-019-0020 Composition of ODHHS Advisory Committee** *(Effective 03/01/2017)*

(1) The Director of the Department of Human Services shall appoint an advisory committee to advise the Director regarding the Oregon Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services Program. The Director shall try to achieve geographic diversity in advisory committee membership, if possible. The Director may elect to consult with the advisory committee regarding proposed committee membership.

(2) The Director shall appoint 12 individuals to the advisory committee:

(a) Four individuals who either are Deaf, deaf, or Deaf-blind.

(b) Four individuals who are Hard of Hearing.

(c) Two individuals who specialize in providing adaptive or communication services for the Deaf, deaf, Deaf-blind, or Hard of Hearing population.

(d) Two individuals who are well qualified by appropriate licensure, certification, or education and experience to practice in psychology, mental health, social services, or rehabilitation counseling services.

(3) The Director may conduct background checks prior to appointment.

Stat. Auth.: [ORS 410.070, 410.740](#)

Stats. Implemented: [ORS 410.740](#)

**411-019-0030 ODHHS Executive and Ad Hoc Committees** *(Effective 03/01/2017)*

(1) The ODHHS advisory committee shall elect an ODHHS executive committee from its membership.

(2) The executive committee shall consist of two co-chairs and one secretary.

(a) The executive committee reserves the right to expand the executive committee membership to include three at-large members to be determined by a vote of the advisory committee.

(b) The primary role of the executive committee is to assist the staff in planning and organizing advisory committee meetings and to make decisions that require critical resolution between regular meetings of the advisory committee, while keeping within the mission and values of the advisory committee.

(c) The executive committee will review applicants to the advisory committee and make appointment recommendations. Appointment recommendations shall be forwarded to the DHS Director.

(3) The co-chairs may establish ad hoc committees for particular purposes with stated objectives and limited duration.

(a) Chairs of any ad hoc committees must be members of the ODHHS advisory committee and be appointed by the co-chairs.

(b) Ad hoc committees may include members of the general public when appropriate.

Stat. Auth.: [ORS 410.070, 410.740](#)

Stats. Implemented: [ORS 410.740](#)