



Dickinson-Iron District Health Department

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Free Vision and Hearing Screenings

Kingsford and Iron River, Michigan, June 2026. – The Dickinson-Iron District Health Department will be offering FREE hearing and vision screenings for preschool and school-age children at clinics throughout the summer. Children ages 3–18 are encouraged to attend, including those who missed screenings previously offered at their daycare or school, as well as homeschooled students.

Michigan Law requires that children entering school be tested for hearing and vision problems prior to enrollment. In addition, health care professionals encourage young children to be screened to detect problems at an early age. School vision screening programs have demonstrated that too frequently children enter school with vision defects. Some serious defects cannot be corrected at school age while treatment in the preschool years can be highly successful. Preschoolers are tested for clearness of vision, muscle balance, and any obvious symptoms of eyesight problems. Five to ten percent of preschoolers screened may be referred to a professional eye care specialist for further examination.

Hearing loss is a common problem. A hearing problem can affect a child's behavior or performance in the classroom. Seven out of ten children need treatment for an ear problem before they reach the age of four. A child who has trouble hearing may hear you correctly at times, appear to ignore you at other times, or show signs of speech difficulty. Hearing screenings by a public health technician can identify hearing problems.

Please call the Health Department NOW to schedule an appointment for your child's screening at 906-774-1868 (Dickinson County) or 906-265-9913 (Iron County).

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