

**PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

LCB FILE NO. R110-24I

**The following document is the initial draft regulation proposed
by the agency submitted on 05/28/2024**

Based on the provided recommendations and definitions, the regulatory language for the adoption of criteria to evaluate the development of language and literacy skills in children under the age of 6 who are deaf, hard of hearing, blind, or visually impaired is as follows:

1. Assessment tools must be selected in consultation with families.
2. Providers, including school districts, Local Education Agencies (LEAs), and Part C (early intervention) representatives in Nevada, are recommended to conduct formal assessments of language milestones in children under the age of 6.
3. These assessments should consider the child's strengths and abilities, align with age or peer-expected skills, and adhere to early learning standards for the target population, irrespective of communication mode. Any assessment or evaluation method should be sensitive to the child and family's mode of communication whenever feasible.
 - a. Communication modes may include, but are not limited to, spoken or written English, visual supplements, American Sign Language, or braille.
4. The criteria recommend culturally sensitive, individualized, and developmentally appropriate evaluation methods that consider the holistic development of the child within the context of their home and community.
5. Assessments must be administered only by trained and licensed professionals proficient in the specific instrument being used.
6. The results of assessments must be made accessible to families promptly upon completion and presented in a format easily understandable by parents or guardians.

Definitions:

Language: A system of conventional spoken, manual (signed), or written symbols used by human beings for communication, identity expression, play, imaginative expression, and emotional release.

Literacy: The encompassing of activities involving speaking, listening, reading, writing, and appreciating both spoken and written language.

Early Literacy Skills: Skills emerging during the preschool years, including alphabet knowledge, phonological awareness, letter writing, print knowledge, and oral language.