

Webinar 2 – Q&A

Question: What recommended apps are there that identify reverb levels?

Answer: Unfortunately, none. Although there are some apps for measuring sound levels they are not considered highly accurate, and none of these apps measure reverberation. Apps that measure sound levels might give you an estimate of the overall noise level, but sound meters require calibration and expertise to use and interpret. Measuring reverberation requires special equipment and is usually done by an acoustic engineer.

Question: Do you recommend children using the FM system for when they start school? Or do you recommend using them earlier in life? My daughter has mild-moderate hearing loss.

Answer: FM systems are useful for children as soon as they can walk away from their parents because the FM system reduces the distance between the speaker and the child's ear. It is essential that they be fit and maintained by an educational audiologist, and that the parents and teachers need special instruction on how to use them appropriately.

Question: How can I learn about local consultants that can advise me on home acoustic treatments?

Answer:

An educational audiologist would be a good place to start. The Educational Audiology Association webpage (<http://www.edaud.org/>) has a great list of resources. Keep in mind that there are many reasonable accommodations you can make in your home that will improve the hearing environment. For example, carpet and curtains are helpful, and turning off background noises such as the radio and television. Also, be mindful of the child's hearing needs in large group gatherings in the home and when you go out to restaurants, amusement parks,

birthday parties, etc.