

## **Abstract**

This thesis deals with further education of deaf and hard of hearing people. Focus of the thesis is on possibilities of further education for these people in the Czech Republic and identification of their participation in it. Theoretical knowledge of hearing impairment is used in the thesis. Emphasis is put on differences among deaf and hard of hearing people. These differences are caused by diverse severity and type of hearing impairment and different communication systems used by deaf and hard of hearing people. The thesis deals with the impact of differences mentioned above on further education opportunities for deaf and hard of hearing people. Initial education of these people, their professional participation and connection of both to further education is concerned. Knowledge of further vocational education, hobby education and civic education is used in the thesis. Part of the thesis is dedicated to analysis of further education opportunities for deaf and hard of hearing people provided by organizations which support them. The analysis focuses mainly on character of education opportunities. Quantitative empirical research is conducted to identify the participation of deaf and hard of hearing people in further educational activities and the main reasons for participating or nonparticipating in it.

**Keywords:** hearing impairment, deaf and hard of hearing people, hearing impaired, deaf, hard of hearing, deafened, further education, adult education