

AUDIOLOGIST AND HEARING AID DISPENSER: WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE?



Audiologist		*Hearing Aid Dispenser
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	State licensure required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Degree requirement: master's or doctorate in audiology	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Degree requirement: high school diploma or associate's degree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Clinical education training: 1,800+ hours of hands-on experience	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hearing aid fitting and dispensing: adult population	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hearing aid fitting and dispensing: pediatric population	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	May bill insurance, including Medicare, for medically necessary hearing and balance evaluations	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Performs diagnostic hearing evaluations on children and adults	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Serves as part of a medical team to conduct pre- and post-operative hearing evaluations	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Evaluates and monitors patients who are at risk for ototoxicity (hearing and balance loss due to certain medications)	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Evaluates and treats patients with dizziness and balance disorders	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Evaluates and treats patients with tinnitus (ringing in the ears) and hyperacusis (sensitivity to sounds)	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Evaluates and treats patients with cochlear implants or other implantable hearing devices	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Performs hearing testing for the purposes of dispensing hearing aids	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Performs hearing evaluations for the purposes of diagnosing and treating hearing loss	<input type="checkbox"/>

*States may use a title other than hearing aid dispenser when referring to a nonaudiologist who is licensed to dispense hearing aids. Other similar titles are hearing instrument specialist, hearing aid specialist, hearing aid fitter, and hearing aid dealer.

Please visit [ASHA.ORG/OTC-HEARING-AID-TOOLKIT](https://www.asha.org/otc-hearing-aid-toolkit) for more information.