



## Oregon Health Licensing Agency Advisory Council on Hearing Aids Legislative & Rules Committee Meeting

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REVISED 9/27/10

Date: January 22, 2010

Committee Members: Donald Plapinger, Chair  
Don Cloutier  
C. Scot Frink

Staff: Randall Everitt, Director  
Samantha Patnode, Policy Analyst

Public Attendees: Chris Gustafson, Hearing Aid Specialist  
Cheryl Blackman, Hearing Aid Specialist

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Donald Plapinger, Chair, called the Advisory Council on Hearing Aids Legislative and Rules Committee meeting to order at 1:05 pm, January 22, 2010, in the Rhoades Conference Room of the Oregon Health Licensing Agency to discuss possible legislative concepts for 2011 related to a two year degree program reciprocity qualifications.

Chris Gustafson offered information regarding the International Hearing Society (IHS) distance learning course, which the state of Illinois is using as 30 credit hours towards a two-year degree, to consider in formulating legislative concepts. Other materials considered by the committee were: The Hearing Instrument Specialist Licensing Act of Utah, New Jersey reciprocity rule, and the International Hearing Society Model Licensure Act Dispensing of Hearing Instruments.

Priority items in the discussion included:

- Reciprocity Requirements
  - Applicant must be licensed and their continuing education requirements must be current.
  - Applicant must have worked four out of the last six years.
  - Applicant must have had no current violations.
  - Applicant must take the Oregon Laws & Rules examination.
  - Applicant must have completed a board approved examination, such as, the National Board of Certification in Hearing Instrument Sciences.
- Temporary License-The committee discussed the temporary license and how it dilutes licensure if a two-year degree program were adopted. The committee members agreed temporary licenses should be eliminated if a two-year degree program is adopted.
- Ear Molds-more research with OHLA Assistant Attorney General to clarify if costs for ear molds can be charged and not refunded with cancelled, returned hearing aid orders, or for molds that are never picked up.
- Three Pathways for Licensure
  - Two-year Associate Degree
  - Piecemeal
  - Reciprocity

Prepared by Sinnamon Harris, Board Specialist