



Hearing Aid Specialist Training Program Information

The State of Oregon, Advisory Council on Hearing Aids requires that all Licensed Hearing Aid Specialists complete a comprehensive Hearing Aid Specialist Training (HAST) program which includes training in theory and 520 hours of practical training.

The HAST program must be completed under the direct supervision of an approved supervisor. Prior approval must be obtained from the Health Licensing Office (HLO) for individuals to act as a supervisor according to Oregon Administrative Rules; "Direct supervision" means the supervisor is present in the facility for the purpose of supervising and is in view of the procedures performed by a registered trainee who has not completed the training requirements stated in OAR 331-630-0006.

Individuals must obtain a Trainee Registration and receive written approval by the HLO prior to commencing training.

An individual in the HAST program must complete the program in no less than 6 months and no more than 1 year as specified in OAR 331-640-0005.

Theory

Completion of the International Hearing Society's (IHS) Distance Learning for Professionals in Hearing Health Sciences has been approved as meeting the theory portion of the training program requirements. The Distance Learning Program can be accessed at: <https://www.ihinfo.org/professional-development/dlc>

Practical

Completion of 520 hours of practical training in specified core competencies has been approved as meeting the practical portion of the training program (see hours breakdown on the following page). The number of hours within each specified practical training category is required, however the sequence of training within the practical segments will be determined by the supervisor. The theory portion of the training must be completed to the point the supervisor determines the trainee is competent to commence practical training.

520 Practical Training Hours

60 Hours	Audiometric Testing
60 Hours	Counseling Regarding Hearing Examinations
60 Hours	Hearing Aid Selection
60 Hours	Ear-Mold Impressions
180 Hours	Hearing Aid Fitting and Follow-up Care
60 Hours	Business Practices <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ethics and Regulations• Sanitation and Infection Control
40 Hours	Electives – Elective hours may be completed in any of the above categories.

It is the responsibility of the trainee and supervisor to ensure all training requirements have been completed.

All training forms must be completed by the supervisor during the HAST program. The Certification of Training Form must be submitted to the HLO by the supervisor, upon completion of the HAST program. In addition, all forms must be maintained by the supervisor for a period of two years after the trainee has completed training. The training forms must be kept on file by the supervisor and made available for inspection by the HLO upon request.

Proof of completion of the IHS Distance Learning for Professionals in Hearing Health Sciences must be submitted directly from the IHS to the HLO.

Role of the Supervisor

- Construct a training plan with the trainee, using the basic building blocks of the training categories.
- Identify, establish, and revise, as needed, the training plan with the trainee.
- Assess with the trainee, his/her learning needs based on knowledge and understanding of the training program.
- Actively guide the trainee through the training program by providing:
 - A training program orientation.
 - Clarification and information regarding expectations.
 - Frequent progress and evaluation meetings including restructuring the planned program upon newly identified learning needs during the training process, if needed.

Role of the Trainee

- Assist the supervisor in identifying, establishing, and revising as needed the training plan based on knowledge and training.
- Engage in the training program in a professional manner.