



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 Oregon Health Licensing Agency 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 in view the procedures performed by a registered trainee who has not completed the training requirements stated in OAR 331-630-0040.

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

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 <http://ihsinfo.org/lhsV2/Home/Index.cfm>.

Practical

Completion of 520 hours of practical training in specified core competencies has been approved as meeting the practical portion of the training program. The amount of training 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.

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| 60 Hours | Audiometric Testing |
| 60 Hours | Counseling Regarding Hearing Examination |
| 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.

Hearing Aid Specialist Training & Program Information, Continued

All training forms must be completed, by the supervisor, during the HAST program. The Certification of Training Form* must be submitted, to the Oregon Health Licensing Agency (agency), 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 the HAST program. The training forms must be kept on file by the supervisor and made available for inspection by the agency upon request.

Certification of completion of the IHS Distance Learning for Professionals in Hearing Health Sciences must be submitted directly to the agency with the certification of practical training forms.

In addition, a copy of all forms must be maintained by the supervisor for a period of two years after the trainee has completed the HAST program. A copy of the training forms must be kept on file by the supervisor and made available for inspection by the agency upon request.

Role of the Supervisor

1. Construct a training plan with the trainee, with appropriate sequence, using the basic building blocks of the training categories.
2. Identify, establish, and revise, as needed, the training plan with the trainee.
3. Assess, with the trainee, his/her learning needs on the basis of knowledge and understanding of the training program.
4. Actively guide the trainee through the training program by providing:
 - a. A training program orientation.
 - b. Clarification and information regarding expectations.
 - c. Frequent progress and evaluation meetings; restructuring the planned program, if desired, upon newly identified learning needs as the training progresses.

Role of the Trainee

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

HAST & Program Packet

The packet contains information and forms that will guide the supervisor and the trainee through the HAST program. The packet includes the following:

1. **Step-By-Step Guide** – lists the steps necessary to guide you through the training, examination and licensing process.
2. **Training Program Information** - explains what the HAST program entails and the requirements within the HAST program.
3. **Practical Training Tracking Forms** - lists the required practical training categories which must be completed during the HAST program.
4. **Certification of Training Form*** – the form required to certify the trainee has completed the HAST program.
5. **Examination Information** – provides detailed information about the examinations required to gain licensure.
6. **Applications** – the applications required for the examination and licensing process.