



AUDIOLOGIST

What is an Audiologist?

An audiologist assesses and makes recommendations for treating children and adults with hearing loss, balance and related disorders. They also provide hearing rehabilitation and educational programs targeted at preventing hearing loss.

Audiologists work as part of a team that includes physicians, psychologists, social workers, nurses, teachers, speech language pathologists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, and counselors.

Job responsibilities for audiologists generally include:

- The diagnosis of hearing problems;
- The selection and fitting of hearing aids;
- The design and implementation of rehabilitation strategies for clients with hearing impairments; and
- Hearing loss prevention consultation and education.

Audiologists require:

- A desire to help people with language/hearing difficulties; and
- Excellent oral and written communication skills

How do you become an Audiologist?

- A master's degree or equivalent
- Eligibility for certification with the Canadian Association for Speech Language Pathologists and Audiologists is required by some Saskatchewan employers.
- Audiologists must be registered with the Saskatchewan Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists (SASLPA) (saslpa@sasktel.net).

Audiologists in Saskatchewan are governed by *The Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists Act*

Where can you get trained to be an Audiologist?

Nova Scotia

Dalhousie University
Human Communication Disorders
<http://www.dal.ca/>

Ontario

University of Western Ontario
School of Communicative Sciences and Disorders
<http://www.uwo.ca/fhs/index2.html>

Alberta

University of Alberta
Department of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology
<http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/rehabmed/nav02.cfm?nav02=10653&nav01=10646>

British Columbia

University of British Columbia
School of Audiology & Speech Sciences
<http://audiospeech.ubc.ca/programs/programsmain.htm>

What do you need to get into an Audiology program?

Each university has different requirements for entrance (e.g. their respective core and prerequisite undergraduate courses). Typically, the completion of a four-year undergraduate program from an accredited university is required. Please refer to the respective websites for admissions procedures and prerequisite courses.

What do Audiologists Study?

The Master of Science degree in audiology may include courses in:

- The fundamentals of audiology;
- Developmental phonetics and phonology;
- Communication disorders;
- Language and auditory disorders in children;
- Discourse analysis;
- Audologic assessment;
- Auditory mechanisms;
- Aural rehabilitation; and
- Childhood hearing disorders

There is typically a clinical practicum or externship included at the end of the first year and in the second year.

Where do Audiologists Work?

- Regional Health Authorities
- Private Practice
- Preschools and Schools
- Industry
- Universities
- Research Centres

What is the salary of an Audiologist?

Pay scales for Saskatchewan audiologists are part of the Health Sciences Association of Saskatchewan/SAHO Collective Agreement: <http://www.hsa-sk.com/bargaining.php>.

Related Links

Canadian Association of Speech Language Pathologists and Audiologists
<http://www.caslpa.ca/english/profession/facts.as>

Academy of Rehabilitative Audiology
<http://www.audrehab.org/>

Canadian Acoustical Society
<http://www.caa-aca.ca/>

Canadian Academy of Audiology
<http://www.canadianaudiology.ca/>

Please check the Saskatchewan Health Bursary webpage for information about bursaries for health science students: http://www.health.gov.sk.ca/hhrp_bursaries.html