

Educational Audiology

Who, What, Where and Why!

Who: Audiologists are professionals who evaluate, treat, and conduct research into human communication and its disorders. We have an interest in helping people, the ability to relate to students/clients and their families, patience, scientific aptitude, and communicate effectively orally and in writing regarding technology developments and devices, diagnostic test results, interpretation and treatment

What Educational Audiologists do:

- Coordinate hearing screening programs
- Provide community awareness about hearing
- Conduct comprehensive hearing evaluations
- Provide management for hearing aids and other assistive devices
- Provide medical and community referrals
- Assist in program placement
- Provide therapy in the areas of speechreading, listening, and hearing aid care
- Participate in multidisciplinary team meetings
- Counsel families about effects of hearing loss
- Provide training to staff
- Educate about noise pollution
- Evaluate educational environment for noise

What we study: A strong liberal arts focus on the undergraduate level is recommended with course work in linguistics, phonetics, psychology, speech and hearing and/or biological and physical sciences. A program of study in audiology is not available at the undergraduate level however; the undergraduate coursework needed is available through the SPARC project. An advanced degree in audiology is required.

Where we work: The practice and work of audiologists may take place across the age ranges and in various settings:

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| Public and private schools | State and local health departments |
| Hospitals | State and federal government agencies |
| Rehabilitation centers | Home health agencies (home care) |
| Residential health facilities | Long-term care facilities |
| Community clinics | Research laboratories |
| Colleges and universities | Industry with hearing conservation programs |
| Private practice offices | Physicians offices |

Why we are needed:

- Speech, language, and hearing disorders affect over 42 million Americans.
- One in 10 families in Ohio is affected by a communication disorder.
- 5% of children 18 years and under have hearing loss

Compiled from ASHA information at www.professional.asha.com and CASLPA information at www.caslpa.ca (5/03)