



What can I do with a Major in...

Audiology

What is Audiology at U of L?

The Doctor of Audiology degree program is a four-year post-bachelor's degree program designed to provide students with the academic and clinical background necessary to enter audiologic practice. The Au.D. program at the University of Louisville draws on the clinical activities of the Louisville Medical Center to provide an exciting educational experience in a dynamic medical environment. The program is physically located at the University of Louisville Health Sciences Campus and administratively located in the Division of Communicative Disorders of the Department of Surgery.

Degrees in Audiology at U of L:

Doctor of Audiology Au.D

Occupational Overview

Audiology is the science of hearing and the study of auditory vestibular processes. The audiologist is concerned with the development, anatomy, physiology, and pathology of the auditory and vestibular systems, as well as the evaluation, habilitation/rehabilitation, and psychology of hearing and/or balance impairment. In addition, audiologists provide counseling and training in the use of amplification devices and the remediation of hearing and vestibular disorders. The profession of audiology and its scope of practice have expanded enormously in the past decade. The demand on university and/or college training programs to keep pace with the expanding scope of practice has led the transition of audiology to a doctoring profession. Current master's programs are either closing down or are in the process of converting to residential, post-baccalaureate, four-year doctoral programs. This has created a need for master's level audiologists to further their education by becoming a doctor of audiology. The Doctor of Audiology Degree was approved by the Council of Post-secondary Education in July, 1997. This program is accredited by the Council of Academic Accreditation of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. A Master's Degree in Audiology is no longer offered at the University of Louisville.

Prerequisites

Students who apply to our program are expected to have completed undergraduate course work in the following areas:

Life Sciences – which may include Human Anatomy, Physiology, Neuroanatomy, Neurophysiology, Genetics

Physical Sciences – which may include Physics, Inorganic and Organic Chemistry

Behavioral Sciences – which may include Psychology, Sociology, Anthropology

Mathematics – which may include Mathematics beyond College Algebra, Statistics

Clinical Services

The Audiology Program at the University of Louisville offers a variety of unique clinical services at a variety of sites. Services are provided and/or supervised by the faculty and staff. Students will initially rotate through the university clinical sites, including the Ambulatory Care Building and University of Louisville Hospital, Kosair-Children's Hospital, University Audiology Associates, and HearCare Associates. Students also have the opportunity for clinical rotations in affiliated sites outside the university.

Fourth Year Externship

The 4th year of the academic program is designed to be a full-time clinical experience at an external site which provides a wide range of patient care activities. As modeled by the profession, the 4th year externship is designed to be a year-long experience where basic clinical skills are refined and



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advanced skills learned. The following guidelines have been developed to aid the student in understanding the requirements of the 4 th year externship experience.

Employment

Audiologists held about 10,000 jobs in 2004. More than half of all jobs were in offices of physicians or other health practitioners, including audiologists; in hospitals; and in outpatient care centers. About 1 in 7 jobs was in educational services, including elementary and secondary schools. Other jobs for audiologists were in health and personal care stores, including hearing aid stores; scientific research and development services; and State and local governments.

A small number of audiologists were self-employed in private practice. They provided hearing health care services in their own offices or worked under contract for schools, health care facilities, or other establishments.

Salary

Median annual earnings of audiologists were \$51,470 in May 2004. The middle 50 percent earned between \$42,160 and \$62,210. The lowest 10 percent earned less than \$34,990, and the highest 10 percent earned more than \$75,990.

According to a 2004 survey by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, the median annual salary for full-time certified audiologists who worked on a calendar-year basis, generally 11 or 12 months annually, was \$56,000. For those who worked on an academic-year basis, usually 9 or 10 months annually, the median annual salary was \$53,000. The median starting salary for certified audiologists with one to three years of experience was \$45,000 on a calendar-year basis.

Related Links in the Audiology Discipline:

University Sites

- University Audiology Associates
- HearCare Associates
- Kentucky Institute of Balance
- Kosair Children's Hospital
- The University of Louisville Hospital

Affiliated Sites

- Veteran's Administration Medical Center
- The Heuser Hearing Institute, home of the Louisville Deaf Oral School
- Avada



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<http://online.onetcenter.org>



<http://www.bls.gov/>