



Pediatric Audiology Specialty Certification Candidate Application Handbook

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For More Information

All questions and requests for information about certification should be directed to:

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Introduction

This handbook provides information about the application process and examination for the American Board of Audiology® (ABA) Board Certification with a Specialty in Pediatric Audiology. It outlines the design and content of the examination and guides candidates throughout the examination process from application through examination. For your convenience, this handbook may be downloaded at www.americanboardofaudiology.org

The application for Board Certification in Audiology may be downloaded from the ABA website at www.americanboardofaudiology.org. Both applications may be submitted simultaneously to the ABA if you do not currently hold Board Certification in Audiology. If you are already Board Certified in Audiology, please so indicate on your application form.

Applicants need not pay duplicate fees for Board Certification in Audiology and the specialty certification. The only additional fee for obtaining the specialty certification is the examination fee itself. See page 2 for further information regarding fees.

ABA and HumRRO made every effort to present all policies and direction in this handbook clearly. In the event clarification is required, contact ABA at 1•800•881•5410 or aba@audiology.org. Please indicate in the subject line "PASC Examination." Neither ABA nor HumRRO is responsible for information that is not understood by the reader or obtained from any source other than ABA or HumRRO.

About the ABA

The Board Certification in Audiology program is administered by the American Board of Audiology® (ABA) for the express purpose of certifying audiologists. The ABA began granting certification to audiologists in January 1999. Board Certification in Audiology represents a commitment to professional standards, ethical practices and continued professional development. The ABA does not, however, determine who shall or shall not engage in the practice of audiology. That a person is not Board Certified

in Audiology does not indicate that s/he is unqualified to perform audiology responsibilities, only that such person has not fulfilled the ABA requirements or has not applied for certification. Additionally, one need not be a member of any particular professional membership organization to obtain Board Certification in Audiology. Any audiologist who meets the ABA requirements may obtain Board Certification in Audiology, irrespective of membership in any professional association.

The Pediatric Audiology Specialty Certification recognizes the knowledge acquired by audiologists working with children, birth through 18 years of age.

Independent Testing Agency

The ABA has contracted with Human Resources Research Organization (HumRRO) to assist in the development, administration, scoring and analysis of the ABA's PASC Examination. HumRRO headquartered in Alexandria, VA, is a leading provider of licensing and certification examinations for professional organizations.

Nondiscrimination Policy

ABA and HumRRO do not discriminate against any person on the basis of color, ethnic ancestry, national origin, religion, creed, age, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, medical condition or physical disability.

About the Examination

The ABA Pediatric Audiology Examination is designed to test a well-defined body of knowledge representative of professional practice in pediatric audiology. Successful completion of a certification examination verifies broad-based knowledge in the discipline being tested.

No examination or certification program can guarantee results or the quality of care provided by certificants. The certification examination tests only the individual's familiarity with the subject matter at the time of the administration of the examination.

The content of the ABA Pediatric Audiology Examination had been defined by a national job analysis study. The study involved surveying pediatric audiology practitioners to identify tasks that are performed routinely and considered important to competent practice. The examination has been developed through a combined effort of qualified subject-matter experts and testing professionals who have constructed the examination in accordance with the ABA Pediatric Audiology Examination content outline.

The ABA Pediatric Audiology Examination is a 100 item exam consisting of multiple-choice items and multiple

response items (also known as multiple true-false or select all that apply). All questions have four response options. Candidates will be permitted two hours to complete the examination. Those who already hold Board Certification in Audiology—or apply for and meet requirements for general board certification—meet the eligibility requirements and achieve a passing score will be awarded the designation of “Board Certified in Audiology with a Specialty in Pediatric Audiology”. Those otherwise who meet the eligibility requirements and achieve a passing score will be awarded the designation “Certified Specialist in Pediatric Audiology”.

This handbook provides specific information related to the ABA Pediatric Audiology Examination. If you already hold ABA Board Certification in Audiology, to apply for the Pediatric Audiology Specialty certification, please simply complete the application included with this handbook and mail it, together with two copies of all supporting documents, to the ABA. Please indicate on the application that you already hold Board Certification in Audiology through the ABA.

If you are applying for Board Certification in Audiology concurrently with the Pediatric Audiology Examination, please download the Board Certification in Audiology application from www.americanboardofaudiology.org, complete the application and submit it in conjunction with the original and two copies of the fully completed Pediatric Audiology Examination Application contained in this handbook to the ABA.

Examination Dates and Locations

Please see the ABA website www.americanboardofaudiology.org for current dates and locations

Examination Fees

\$325 Examination fee plus applicable fees for individuals who currently hold ABA Board Certification in Audiology. There will be an additional \$100 application fee for those not currently holding ABA Board Certification in Audiology or are applying concurrently for ABA Board Certification.

Eligibility Requirements

1) Education and Credentials:

Applicants for ABA Board Certification in Audiology must hold a doctoral degree in Audiology granted from a regionally accredited institution. Applicants for only the Certified Specialist in Pediatric Audiology certification need only hold a graduate degree in Audiology granted from a regionally accredited institution.

Documentation:

a. Official Transcript mailed directly from the educational institution in a sealed envelope to the ABA (not necessary if already board certified).

b. Copy of current, valid license to practice audiology

2) Experience:

One year post-degree full-time (2,000 hours) paid professional experience as an audiologist.

Documentation:

a. Curriculum vitae. The candidate must demonstrate 550 direct pediatric patient contact hours and 50 hours of case management of pediatric cases over two consecutive years within the past five years. Direct patient contact may include the following areas: screening and diagnostic evaluation, counseling (patient and family) and habilitation/rehabilitation. Case management may include involvement in team meetings, school visits and interfacing with other agencies involved in pediatric patient care.

b. Two letters from professionals (preferably supervisor(s) familiar with the candidate's work in the area of pediatric audiology verifying the number of hours worked and eligibility for the specialty credential. (Please see Form 2 in this handbook).

Carefully review the application(s) before submission. An incomplete or improperly executed application(s) may cause a delay in processing. Such a delay could possibly preclude you from sitting for the Pediatric Audiology examination on the date for which you have applied and you may need to sit at a subsequent examination administration.

The ABA and HumRRO comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (“ADA”) and strive to ensure that no individual with a disability is deprived of the opportunity to take the examination solely by reason of that disability. HumRRO will provide reasonable accommodations for candidates with disabilities. A candidate with a disability may request special accommodations and arrangements to take the examination on the regularly scheduled date at established test centers. Verification of disability and statement of the specific assistance necessary must be included using the forms in this handbook and submitted with the application by the postmark deadline.

Translations

The Pediatric Audiology Examination is currently offered only in English. No translation into foreign languages is offered at this time.

Inclement Weather or Emergency

In the event of inclement weather or unforeseen emergencies on the day of an examination, the ABA will determine whether circumstances warrant the cancellation, and subsequent rescheduling, of an examination. The examination will usually not be rescheduled if the test center personnel are able to open the test center. Candidates may contact the ABA at 1•800•881•5410 or aba@audiology.org prior to the examination to determine if any test centers/sites are closed. Every attempt is made to administer examinations as scheduled; however, should an examination be canceled at a test center, all scheduled candidates will receive notification following the cancellation regarding a rescheduled examination date or reapplication procedures.

Deferment Policy

If you have been accepted as a candidate, but cannot take the written examination, you may request that you be allowed to sit for the examination on a following examination date. You may defer taking the examination only one year. Your request must be received in writing at least fourteen (14) days prior to the examination date. Should you defer, you may elect to have ABA hold your examination fee until the following year. Should you request a refund; a \$75 administrative fee will be charged. If you have applied concurrently for ABA Board Certification, your ABA application can be processed but should you be approved for Board Certification in Audiology, you may indicate you are Board Certified in Audiology but not as Board Certified in Audiology with a Specialty in Pediatric Audiology until such time as you have passed the Pediatric Audiology examination and have met all other requirements of the Pediatric Audiology Specialty Certification program.

Changes After the Application is Submitted

The ABA must be notified in writing twenty one (21) days prior to the examination date of any change in name, address or telephone number that occurs after the application has been submitted. Notice of change received less than 21 days before the examination date will not guarantee that the examination admission letter or examination results will reach the proper person or the new address. Neither ABA nor HumRRO is responsible for trying to locate such an individual.

Refund Policy

Should your application be incomplete or fail to meet eligibility requirements, your examination fee will be refunded, less an administrative fee of \$75. If you apply concurrently for ABA Board Certification in Audiology and fail to meet the criteria for general Board Certification, your application for the Pediatric Audiology Specialty Certification Program will be processed. No application materials will be returned. No other exceptions or refunds will be made.

Eligibility Appeal Policy

The ABA Managing Director conducts a preliminary review of each application for certification. The Chair of the ABA Eligibility Recertification Review Committee makes a determination regarding the applicant's eligibility for Board Certification in Audiology and the Chair(s) of the Pediatric Audiology Specialty Committee make(s) a determination with respect to the eligibility for the Pediatric Audiology Specialty. The full ABA Board of Governors then votes on the application for general Board Certification in Audiology exclusively. Should an applicant disagree with the decision of the Pediatric Audiology Specialty Committee Chair(s) regarding eligibility to sit for the specialty examination, the applicant may appeal to the full ABA Board of Governors with respect to the Specialty Committee Chair(s) decision. The ABA Board of Governors will allow the Pediatric Audiology Committee Chair(s) to submit a written statement in consideration of such an appeal of eligibility with respect to the Pediatric Audiology Specialty. An applicant's appeal shall be made in writing to the Chair of the ABA Board of Governors. The ABA Board of Governors shall be the final arbiter of each applicant's qualifications. If an applicant chooses to appeal a decision, and the appeal results in the applicant's favor, there is no guarantee that the applicant will be able to sit for the examination on the date applied for and there may be a need to sit at a subsequent examination administration.

Admission to the Test Center

Approximately two weeks before the examination date, HumRRO will mail all scheduled candidates an examination admission letter indicating the exact address of the test center. Any candidate who has not received an admission letter at least one week before the examination date should contact the ABA at 1•800•881•5410.

On the Examination Day

The time, date and location of the examination are included in the admission letter. Candidates must be on time; NO EXCEPTIONS. All candidates should report to the assigned test center at the time listed on the admission letter. This is to allow time for registration, identification verification and check-in procedures. Candidates who arrive after the examination booklets have been distributed will NOT be admitted and will NOT be permitted to take the examination. Pencils will be supplied at the test center. No scratch paper or any other materials will be allowed. No study materials may be brought to the test center and no unauthorized visitors will be allowed.

Identification

To gain admission to the test center and take the examination you **MUST PROVIDE TWO FORMS OF IDENTIFICATION, BOTH OF WHICH MUST MATCH YOUR NAME AS IT APPEARS ON THE CANDIDATE ROSTER.**

One ID must be a current legal identification bearing your photograph and signature. Legal identification includes a driver's license, government identity card, passport or military identification. Credit cards, employment badges, student ID cards or club membership cards are NOT acceptable for the legal identification, although they may be used as the second form of ID. The second ID must verify your Signature and name. Any ID verifying signature and name may be used as the second ID. Every candidate is required to sign his/her name on the sign-in roster when entering the test center. Candidates are prohibited from misrepresenting their identities or falsifying information to obtain admission to the examination.

Examination Time Limit

A maximum of two hours is allocated for candidates to take the examination. Candidates may wear a watch to help pace themselves if they so desire. The examination will be given only on the published examination date for which you registered and only at the time indicated in the admission letter. Please inform the examination proctor if you need to leave the room for any reason during the examination. You will not be allowed additional time to make up any time lost while you are out of the room.

Rules for the Examination

1. No eating, drinking or smoking will be allowed.
2. No calculators will be allowed.
3. Cell phones, pagers and other electronic devices are not allowed in the examination room.
4. No questions concerning the content of the examination may be asked during the examination.
5. You will be provided a Candidate Comment Sheet where you may comment on any question on the examination. Comments will be reviewed, but individual responses to question comments will NOT be provided.
6. The Test Administrator may dismiss a candidate from the examination for any of the following reasons:
 - the candidate's admission to the examination is unauthorized;
 - the candidate creates a disturbance, is abusive or otherwise uncooperative;
 - the candidate gives or receives help or is suspected of doing so;
 - the candidate attempts to record examination questions or make notes;
 - the candidate attempts to take the examination for someone else; or
 - the candidate is observed with study material.
7. Be sure to answer each question on the examination, even the ones for which you are uncertain. Avoid leaving any questions unanswered. There is no penalty for guessing.

Security

The ABA maintains examination administration and security standards that are designed to assure that all candidates are provided the same opportunity to demonstrate their abilities. Test centers are continuously monitored by trained examination proctors. Any candidate who gives or receives assistance from another candidate during the examination will be required to turn in his or her examination materials immediately and leave the testing center. In these Circumstances, the candidate's examination will

not be processed and the situation will be reported to the ABA. The performance of all examinees is monitored and may be analyzed statistically for purposes of detecting fraud. The ABA and testing agency reserve the right to cancel or withhold any examination scores if, in their opinion, there is adequate reason to question their validity. Any individual who removes or attempts to remove examination material or information from the test center will be prosecuted. Examinees that violate security will not have their examinations processed.

Failing to Report for an Examination

A candidate who does not report to the examination on the date and time specified in the admission letter, and who has not received a deferment forfeits the fee paid to take the examination. A complete application and examination fee are required to reapply.

Following the Examination

When you receive your score report, it will reflect either “pass” or “fail.” It will also include the functional areas covered by the examination, relative weights (i.e., the number of questions on the test related to each area), and bar graphs indicating your relative performance in each area. This information is provided as feedback to help you understand your performance within the major content categories. Your pass/fail status is determined by your overall raw score for the entire examination.

Score reports will be sent to candidates approximately eight weeks following the examination administration. To assure confidentiality, no examination results will be given by telephone, e-mail or facsimile.

Pass/Fail Score Determination

The methodology used to set the minimum passing score is the Angoff method, applied during the performance of a Passing Point Study by a panel of experts in the field. The experts evaluated each question on the examination to determine how many correct answers are necessary to demonstrate the knowledge required to pass the ABA Pediatric Audiology Examination. Your ability to pass the examination depends on the knowledge you display, not on the performance of other candidates.

Passing scores vary slightly for each version of the examination. To ensure fairness to all candidates, a process of statistical equating is used. This involves selecting an appropriate mix of individual questions for each version of the examination that meet the content distribution

requirements of the examination content blueprint. The process considers the difficulty level of each question selected for each version of the examination, attempting to match the difficulty level of each version as closely as possible. To assure fairness, slight variations in difficulty level are addressed by adjusting the passing score up or down, depending on the overall difficulty level statistics for the group of scored questions that appear on a particular version of the examination.

If You Pass the Examination

If you are already Board Certified in Audiology, or you applied concurrently for general board certification and you meet the requirements for Board Certification in Audiology, as well as for those for the Pediatric Audiology Specialty Certification and pass the ABA Pediatric Audiology Examination, you are entitled to use the designation “Board Certified in Audiology with a Specialty in Pediatric Audiology” with your name on letterheads, business cards, and all forms of address. Those otherwise who meet the eligibility requirements and achieve a passing score will be awarded the designation “Certified Specialist in Pediatric Audiology” and are entitled to use that designation with your name on letterheads, business cards, and all forms of address.

Pediatric Audiology Certification is for individuals only and is valid for a period of nine years. After nine years of Pediatric Audiology certification passing a current version of the examination is required.

If You Do Not Pass the Examination

If you do not pass the examination, you may reapply for a subsequent examination. If you fail the examination on two occasions, you will be required to show proof of courses or seminars taken to remedy deficiencies. Repeat candidates must submit a new application and full examination fee.

Scores Canceled by ABA or HumRRO

The ABA and HumRRO are responsible for the integrity of the scores they report. Misconduct by a candidate may cause a score to be suspect. The ABA and HumRRO are committed to rectifying such discrepancies as expeditiously as possible. The ABA may void examination results if, upon investigation, violation of its regulations is discovered.

Duplicate Score Report

Candidates may purchase additional copies of their score reports at a cost of \$25 per copy. Requests must be submitted to HumRRO, in writing, within ninety (90) days after the examination. The request must include the candidate's name, mailing address, date of examination and authorization signature.

Hand scoring Requests

Candidates who do not pass the examination may request a manual verification of the computer scoring. Requests for manual rescoring must be submitted to HumRRO in writing along with a \$15 hand scoring fee (check or money order made payable to HumRRO). Requests must be postmarked no later than 90 days after the examination date. Requests mailed after that date will not be honored. The testing agency will mail a notice of the results of the hand score to the candidate within four weeks of receipt of the request.

This process involves inspection and scoring the answer sheet by hand to ensure no stray pencil marks or other conditions have interfered with the computer scanning. Due to the high degree of accuracy of scanning and scoring, the ABA does not encourage candidates to request hand scoring. The testing agency randomly samples and hand scores answer sheets of candidates who score within one point of passing before results are released as a quality control measure. It is extremely doubtful that any examination score will change from "fail" to "pass" as a result of hand scoring. In the unlikely event the score changes, the hand score will be final. The ABA will be notified of any change from the original results report.

Recertification

All ABA certifications are valid for a limited period of time. Board Certification in Audiology or Certified Specialist in Pediatric Audiology is valid for a period of 3 years and continuing education is required for recertification. Additionally, PLEASE NOTE, *passing results of the Pediatric Audiology Specialty Examination will be valid for a period of nine years. Successfully passing an updated examination will be required to maintain the Pediatric Audiology Specialty Certification after that period of time.*

Recertification is required of all certificants at the end of their initial three-year certification period. The continuing education component is designed to ensure that audiologists continue to expand their knowledge base in audiology.

All applicants for recertification must obtain 60 clock hours of continuing education (6.0 CEUs), including 3 hours (.3 CEUs) in professional ethics, every three years with a two-tiered system. Tier 1 CEUs will be high professional level courses of a minimum of three hours' duration with some form of outcome measures. A minimum of 15 of the 60 hours must be Tier 1. Tier 2 CEUs may be shorter courses or longer duration courses that do not require outcome measures. Of the 60 hours, 45 may be Tier 2. For those with Board Certification in Audiology with a Specialty in Pediatric Audiology or Certified Specialist in Pediatric Audiology, 30 of the required 60 hours must be pertaining, to Pediatric Audiology. These 30 pediatric audiology hours may be Tier 1 or Tier 2 courses. If the continuing education requirements are not met within the three year period, the professional's certification will no longer be valid. To re-obtain Board Certification in Audiology with a Specialty in Pediatric Audiology or Certified Specialist in Pediatric Audiology, the professional must meet all then-current requirements of Board Certification in Audiology, all then-current requirements for the Specialty in Pediatric Audiology, re-take the examination and receive a passing score on the examination.

Those earning Board Certification in Audiology will receive information regarding recertification at the time such Board Certification is conferred. For further information on the recertification process, see the ABA application handbook found at www.americanboardofaudiology.org

Suspension or Disciplinary Procedures

Once approved for ABA Certification, one's certification is subject to suspension or revocation by the ABA Board of Governors. Please see the ABA application handbook found at www.americanboardofaudiology.org/application/pdf for further details.

Examination Preparations

Examination Content

The two-hour, 100 question examination is developed through a collaborative effort between the ABA and HumRRO. A group of experts drawn from a wide variety of work environments and geographical areas write the examination items. The examination consists of multiple-choice and multiple-response items (also known as multiple true-false or select all that apply). All questions have four response options. The content of the exam is shown in the test blueprint below (see Table 1). The breakdown of the exam is shown by content dimension and the number of scored items on the test in each dimension.

Table 1. Audiology Pediatric Test Blueprint

Content Dimension	Percentage
1. Laws and Regulations	10%
2. General Knowledge about Hearing and Hearing Loss	20%
3. Child Development	9%
4. Screening and Assessment Procedures	21%
5. Counseling	9%
6. Communication Enhancement Technology	16%
7. Habilitation/Rehabilitation Strategies, Educational Supports	15%

The detailed test blueprint is shown in Table 2 below. Specific knowledge areas included in each content dimension are indicated. The number to the right of each dimension shows the total number of scored items on the test in that dimension.

Table 2. Specific Knowledge Areas on the Audiology Pediatric Test

LAWS AND REGULATIONS		10%
1	The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)	
2	Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) laws and regulations	
3	Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and regulations	
4	Section 504 laws and regulations	
5	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) laws and regulations	
6	Newborn hearing screening policies and programs (e.g., state EHDI requirements)	
7	American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standards and calibration requirements	
8	American Academy of Audiology (AAA), Joint Commission on Infant Hearing (JCIH) and American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) guidelines	
9	Pertinent American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommendations (e.g. hearing screening, audiologic evaluation for children suspected of being on the autism spectrum)	
10	Pertinent Joint Commission guidelines (e.g., sedation, safety)	
11	Local, state and federal requirements (e.g., licensure, health, education) including reporting requirements	
12	Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA)	
13	Infection control protocols	
14	Professional organizational codes of ethics (e.g., AAA, ASHA, ABA)	
GENERAL KNOWLEDGE ABOUT HEARING AND HEARING LOSS		20%
15	The anatomy and physiology of the head, neck, ear and central nervous system (CNS)	
16	Type, degree and configuration of hearing loss and implications	
17	Auditory processing disorders	
18	Auditory neuropathy spectrum disorder	
19	The role of ear canal acoustics in assessment and management	
20	Otolaryngological development	
21	Disorders, syndromes and conditions that may affect hearing (e.g., canal atresia, otitis media, Mondini malformation, kernicterus)	
22	Genetics as it relates to hearing loss	
23	Risk indicators for hearing loss	
24	Vestibular problems in children and associated risk factors	
25	Pseudohypoacusis	
26	Tinnitus and hyperacusis	
27	Noise-induced hearing loss and prevention strategies	
28	Environmental acoustics and impact on communication	
29	Phonetics and acoustical properties of speech	

- 30 Pharmacology (e.g., ototoxicity, monitoring protocols)
- 31 Comprehensive medical examination components for hearing loss (e.g., otology, imaging, lab studies, EKG)
- 32 The roles of and criteria for referral to multi-disciplinary healthcare providers (e.g., otolaryngologist, geneticist, neurologist, ophthalmologist, speech language pathologist, medical home)

CHILD DEVELOPMENT

9%

- 33 Auditory, speech, and language milestones
- 34 Stages of child development (e.g., motor, cognitive, social and emotional)
- 35 The impact of communication disorders on psychosocial development
- 36 The impact of hearing loss on speech and language development
- 37 Bilingual language development
- 38 Common signs and symptoms of developmental disorders (e.g. autism spectrum disorder) and available screening tools

SCREENING AND ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES

21%

- 39 General screening principles
- 40 Hearing screening techniques and protocols for various populations (e.g., newborn, preschool, school-aged)
- 41 Comprehensive pediatric case history components
- 42 Test battery selection and cross-check principle
- 43 Techniques to involve the family in diagnostic test procedures
- 44 Principles of evoked responses and electrophysiological testing procedures and limitations
- 45 Age-appropriate behavioral audiometric procedures and limitations
- 46 Age-appropriate measures of speech perception
- 47 Testing techniques for differential diagnosis (e.g., conductive, sensory, auditory neuropathy spectrum disorder, auditory processing disorder)
- 48 Testing procedures for children with developmental delays and/or medical challenges
- 49 Test and test battery interpretation
- 50 Test result implications
- 51 Age-appropriate follow-up timelines for assessment and management of hearing loss
- 52 Follow-up procedures for high-risk populations (e.g., fluctuating, progressive or delayed-onset hearing loss)
- 53 Data collection and analysis to support clinical decision making and practice management for screening and assessment procedures

COUNSELING

9%

- 54 The social/emotional aspects of childhood hearing disorders
- 55 How emotions associated with grief impact acceptance of diagnosis and treatment plan
- 56 Child/parent/caregiver learning styles including the impact of family's culture
- 57 Family empowerment as a key component of family-centered care
- 58 Family/patient rights (e.g., to choose communication options and services)
- 59 Personal adjustment counseling including patient- and family-centered counseling
- 60 Conveying test results
- 61 Referral indicators for mental health services

COMMUNICATION ENHANCEMENT TECHNOLOGY

16%

- 62 Candidacy criteria for nonsurgical amplification devices (e.g., hearing aids, HATs)
- 63 Selection criteria for hearing aids and HATs including type, style, and compatibility with other devices
- 64 Features and signal processing selection (e.g., WDRC, bandwidth, directional microphones, feedback and noise management systems)
- 65 Age-appropriate programming options for different listening environments
- 66 Wireless (e.g., FM, infrared and Bluetooth) and induction transmission technology and applications
- 67 Prescriptive fitting methods
- 68 Verification procedures (e.g., real-ear measures, RECD)

69	Device orientation and training
70	Validation procedures and outcome measures
71	Earmold materials and styles
72	Earmold impression-taking techniques
73	Signaling and alerting devices
74	Augmentative communication devices
75	Data collection and analysis to support clinical decision making and practice management for screening and assessment procedures for communication enhancement technology
76	Candidacy and referral criteria for surgically-implanted devices (i.e., cochlear implant)
77	Candidacy and referral criteria for surgically-implanted devices (i.e., bone conduction)

HABILITATION/REHABILITATION STRATEGIES, EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT

15%

78	Informational and advocacy resources (e.g., written and web-based sources, parent and peer support groups including financial and social assistance)
79	Candidacy for habilitative/rehabilitative services
80	Modes of communication and communication continuum
81	Early intervention service options (e.g., natural learning opportunities in everyday activities, center-based services)
82	School-aged placement options (e.g., general education, special education, school for the deaf)
83	Educational service delivery models (e.g., consultative, itinerant, direct instruction)
84	Communication access accommodations (e.g., proximity, noise reduction, language facilitators, interpreters, notetakers, captioning)
85	Strategies that promote auditory/linguistic/literacy development
86	Inter-disciplinary and multi-disciplinary team approaches
87	Personal responsibility and self-advocacy
88	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) process and Individualized Family Service Plan/Individual Education Plan (IFSP/IEP) development (e.g., multi-disciplinary planning and implementation, parent participation)
89	Resources (e.g., itinerant teacher of the hearing impaired, educational audiologist) and strategies (e.g., team teaching, in-services) for implementing educational recommendations

▲ Sample Examination Questions

Following are sample questions in the same style and similar content as will be on the examination. Use the sample questions to verify your understanding of the topics in the examination. Answers are provided below,

1. A two-month old was referred to you because of failed ABR newborn hearing screening at the birth hospital. The most appropriate diagnostic test would be:

- A. BOA
- B. VRA
- C. OAE
- D. ABR

2. You have identified a five-year-old as having severe unilateral sensorineural hearing loss. As you discuss potential impact of this hearing loss on the child's educational development you would tell the parents:

- A. With preferential seating the hearing loss will probably have no impact the child's educational development.
- B. A hearing aid for the affected ear would be the best strategy for alleviating problems that the hearing loss may cause.
- C. A much higher risk for educational difficulties exists for this child than for children with two normal hearing ears.
- D. A binaural FM system would be the best strategy for alleviating problems that the hearing loss may cause.

3. A ten-year-old child with bilateral moderate sensorineural hearing loss has been referred to you for case management and hearing aid fitting. Your primary objective for the hearing aid fitting is:
- A. Selecting a hearing aid color acceptable to child and parents to encourage acceptance and usage.
 - B. Selecting hearing aids that will allow the child full access to the speech spectrum.
 - C. Selecting hearing aids that will accommodate the greatest variety of HATS.
 - D. Selecting hearing aids that your use with a history of having very low maintenance requirements.

Sample Questions – Answer Key

1.	D.
2.	C.
3.	B.

▲ Suggested Readings:

The references listed below may prove helpful in the review of the subject matter areas included on the examination. The listing of these references is intended for use as a study aid only. The ABA does not intend the list to be exhaustive or to imply endorsement of these specific references, nor are the examination questions necessarily taken from these sources.

AAA Clinical Practice Guideline: Diagnosis, Treatment and Management of Children and Adults with Central Auditory Processing Disorders

AAA Clinical Practice Guidelines: Remote Microphone Hearing Assistance Technologies for Children and Youth from Birth to 21 Years

AAA Pediatric Amplification Protocol

AAA Pediatric Assessment and Treatment Clinical Practice Guidelines

ASHA Pediatric Guidelines

Assessment and Management of Central Auditory Processing Disorders in the Educational Setting from Science to Practice (2nd ed)

Children with Hearing Impairment

Clinical Management of Children with Cochlear Implants

Comprehensive Handbook of Pediatric Audiology

Counseling in Audiologic Practice

Counseling Persons with Communication Disorders and Their Families (4th ed)

EHDI Program Information

Foundations of Pediatric Audiology

Handbook of Auditory Evoked Responses

Hearing in Children (5th ed)

IDEA Advocacy for Children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing

Infection Control in the Audiology Clinic

JCIH Pediatric Guidelines

Legal Rights: The Guide for Deaf and Hard of Hearing (5th ed)

NCHAM Resource Guide for Early Hearing Detection and Intervention

Pediatric Audiological Medicine (2nd ed)

Pediatric Audiology

Rehabilitative Audiology: Children and Adults (3rd ed)

Sound Field Amplification: Amplifications to Speech Perception and Classroom Acoustics (2nd ed)



American Board of Audiology Pediatric Audiology Specialty Application

Please complete and submit this application, with the examination fee payable to ABA, 11730 Plaza America Drive, Suite 300, Reston, VA 20190. You must complete Sections I, II, III, V and VI; Section IV is optional but is helpful for informational purposes. **Please carefully note the relevant postmark deadlines on the ABA website at www.americanboardofaudiology.org.**

If you are not currently Board Certified in Audiology, you may also submit the application for Board Certification in Audiology concurrently with the application for Pediatric Audiology Specialty Certification. This application may be downloaded from www.americanboardofaudiology.org

I. Personal Information (please print using black or blue ink)

Name: _____
 (Last, First, Middle)

Social Security Number: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Daytime Telephone Number: _____ Evening Telephone Number: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip/Postal Code: _____ Country: _____

E-mail Address: _____

II. Eligibility Requirements

- A. Education:
 Graduate degree in Audiology granted from a regionally accredited institution.
 Documentation: Official Transcript mailed directly from the educational institution in a sealed envelope to the ABA. Copy of a current valid state license to practice Audiology.
- B. Experience:
- One year, post-degree, full-time (2,000 hours) paid professional experience as an audiologist.
 Documentation: Curriculum vitae
 - The candidate must demonstrate 550 hours of direct pediatric audiology patient contact hours and 50 hours of case management of pediatric cases over two consecutive years within the past five years. Direct patient contact includes the following areas: screening and diagnostic evaluation counseling (patient and family) and habilitation/rehabilitation. Case management may include involvement in team meetings, school visits and interfacing with other agencies involved in pediatric patient care.
 Documentation: Two letters from professionals (preferably supervisor(s) familiar with the candidate's work in the area of pediatric audiology verifying the number of hours worked and eligibility for the specialty credential. (See Form 2)

An incomplete or improperly completed application may cause a delay in the processing of your application. Such a delay could possibly preclude you from sitting for the Pediatric Audiology examination on the date for the administration for which you have applied.

III. Examination Information

- I am a:
- New Applicant Who Holds Board Certification in Audiology. I have enclosed a fully completed Pediatric Audiology Examination Application with all required forms, or with a notation that the forms will be sent to the ABA with the required postmark date, plus the examination fee of \$325.
 - New Applicant Who Is Concurrently Applying For Board Certification In Audiology. I have enclosed a fully completed application for Board Certification in Audiology and a fully completed Pediatric Audiology Examination Application with all required forms, or with a notation that the forms will be sent to the ABA with the required postmark date, plus the Board Certification in Audiology with application fee plus \$325 Pediatric Audiology examination fee.
 - New Applicant Who Is Applying Only For Pediatric Audiology Certification. I have enclosed a fully completed Pediatric Audiology Examination Application with all required forms, or with a notation that the forms will be sent to the ABA with the required postmark date, plus the application fee plus the \$325 Pediatric Audiology examination fee.
 - Re-applicant Who Holds Board Certification in Audiology. I have enclosed a fully completed Pediatric Audiology Examination Application with all required forms, or with a notation that the forms will be sent to the ABA with the required postmark date, plus the examination fee of \$325.
 - Re-applicant Who Is Applying Only For Pediatric Audiology Certification. I have enclosed a fully completed Pediatric Audiology Examination Application with all required forms, or with a notation that the forms will be sent to the ABA with the required postmark date, plus application fee, plus \$325 Pediatric Audiology examination fee.

I would like to take the following administration of the examination listed on the ABA website:

- _____
- I am requesting Special Accommodations. (Complete the forms included in this handbook.)

IV. Demographic Information

The following information is solicited for statistical purposes. All questions are optional, but the ABA asks that you please respond to the questions below.

1. What is your current employment status?
 Full-time
 Part-time
 2. Where is your primary practice setting?
 Hospital
 Clinic
 School
 Private practice/consultancy
 Other (please specify):

 3. How did you learn of the Pediatrics Audiology specialty certification (please check all that apply)?
 Through the ABA website
 Through a colleague
 Through a publication (please specify):

 Through another website (please specify):

 Through a broadcast email:

 At a conference or seminar (please specify):

 4. Why are you pursuing this specialty credential? (please check all that apply)
 Professional recognition
 To assist with reimbursement
 My employer suggested that I do so.
 My employer indicated that s/he would pay for the costs associated with obtaining the credential.
- I had planned to pursue ABA Certification in Audiology previously and this specialty credential became available.
 Marketing reasons
 Other (please specify):

 5. I am a member of (please check all that apply):
 The American Academy of Audiology
 The American Speech-Language Hearing Association
 A state academy of audiology (please specify):

 A state speech-language-hearing association (please specify) :

 Other professional organization (please specify):

 6. Traditionally, how have you obtained CEUs? (please check all that apply)
 At work, through opportunities facilitated by my employer.
 Through books, journals, periodicals and other printed materials.
 Audiotapes, videotapes or CD-ROMs.
 E-learning
 National conferences or conventions.
 Regional conferences/conventions
 Academic courses
 Other (please specify):

 7. What is your primary criterion for choosing a CEU course? (please choose one)
 Cost

- Convenience
 Quality C Other (please specify):

8. Currently, what topic(s) are particularly of interest to you in the Pediatric Audiology field?

V. Examination Fee

Fees may be paid by credit card, cashier's check or money order made payable to ABA. Application fee of \$100 unless already Board Certified plus \$325 examination fee.

Payment must be properly received prior to sitting for the examination.

If payment is made by credit card, complete the following;

- VISA MasterCard
 American Express Discover

Total Amount to be Charged: _____

Credit Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Name on Card: _____

Signature: _____

VI. Signature (Sign and date in ink the statement below. Without a signature and date your application is INCOMPLETE.)

This is to affirm that the information contained in this application and all submitted materials are true. I understand that submission of false or misleading information will be grounds for denial of certification and/or suspension or revocation of the opportunity to reapply for certification. I understand that if the information I or my professional references have submitted is found to be incomplete or inaccurate or not timely, my application may be rejected, my examination results may be delayed or voided and/or I may not be able to sit for the examination on my desired administration date.

I certify that I agree to abide by regulations of the ABA Board Certification in Audiology program as contained in its handbook as well as the Pediatric Audiology Certification Program contained in this handbook. I agree to be governed by the ABA Code of Ethics. I understand that the information gathered in the certification process may be used for statistical purposes and for evaluation of the certification program. I understand that ABA reserves the right to verify any or all information on this application and in the supporting materials and that any incorrect or misleading information may constitute grounds for rejection of my application, revocation or suspension of my certification, or other disciplinary action.

I specifically recognize the ABA as the sole and only judge of my qualifications to receive and retain a certificate issued by the ABA. I agree to have my name and business address and other business contact information listed on the ABA website. I further agree to hold harmless individually and collectively the officers, directors, staff, members and volunteers of the ABA, its Pediatric Audiology Committee and the American Academy of Audiology, Inc. for any decision or action pursuant to their duties in connection with this application, the examination, the score or scores given with respect to this examination or certification. I specifically understand and agree that in the consideration of my application my ethical and professional standing will be reviewed and assessed by the ABA; that ABA may make inquiry of such persons as ABA deems appropriate with respect to my moral, ethical and professional standing; that if information is received that would adversely so affect my application I will be so advised and given an opportunity to rebut such allegations, but I will not be advised as to the identity of the individuals who have furnished adverse information concerning me; and that all such statements furnished to ABA in connection with such inquiry shall be confidential. and not subject to examination by me or anyone acting or my behalf. I understand that such a review may preclude me from taking the examination at a particular time or date and that, as a result of the review, I may be precluded from taking the examination.

Name (Please Print): _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____



FORM 1

Make additional copies as needed.
PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT LEGIBLY IN INK

Candidate Name: _____

Company Name/Employer: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

Dates of Employment: Start (mo./yr.) _____ End(mo./yr) _____

Supervising Audiologist's Name/Title: _____

Average Number of Hours Per Week Worked: _____

Number of Hours Per Week Devoted to the Following Pediatric Audiology Patient Services:

_____ Screening

_____ Diagnostic Assessment

_____ Counseling

_____ Re(habilitation)

_____ Other (please specify below)

Number of Hours Per Week Devoted to the Following Case Management Activities:

_____ Team Meetings

_____ School Visits

_____ Working with Other Agencies

_____ Other (please specify below)

I specifically affirm that the information contained on all copies of Form 1 pertaining to both direct pediatric audiology hours and case management hours is correct and accurate.

Candidate Signature

Candidate Name

Date



FORM 2

Make additional copies as needed.

Please type or print legibly in ink and submit directly to the ABA at 11730 Plaza America Dr. Suite 300, Reston, VA 20190. Please confirm with candidate the final postmark date that will be accepted by ABA. If submitted by the candidate, this form must be received by the ABA in a sealed envelope with the original signature of the professional reference on the back flap of the envelope.

Professional Reference for _____
 (Candidate Name)

Please indicate in what capacity you work(ed) with the candidate.

How are you familiar with the candidate's pediatric audiology practice?

What dates do (did) you work with the candidate (please indicate start and end dates including month and year (00/0000)?

Please indicate the direct pediatric audiology services the candidate does (or did) provide to patients including the estimated number of hours per week devoted to each.

Type of Service	Provided – Yes or No	Number of Hours Per Week
Screening	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Diagnostic Assessment	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Counseling	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
(Re)habilitation	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Other (please specify)		

Please indicate what case management services does (did) the candidate provides to patients.

Type of Service	Provided – Yes or No	Number of Hours Per Week
Team Meetings	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
School Visits	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Working with Other Agencies	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Other (please specify)		

I specifically affirm that all information contained on all copies of Form 2 I am submitting is accurate and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

 Date Printed Name

 Signature Title

Contact Phone and E-mail: _____

REQUEST FOR SPECIAL EXAMINATION ACCOMMODATIONS

If you have a disability covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), please complete this form and the Documentation of Disability-related Needs on the reverse side so your accommodations for testing can be processed efficiently. The information you provide and any documentation regarding your disability and your need for accommodation in testing will be treated with strict confidentiality.

Applicant Information

Requested Examination Date: _____

Social Security # _____ - _____ - _____ Requested Examination Location: _____

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Middle Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Daytime Telephone Number _____

Special Accommodations

I request special accommodations for the _____ / _____ administration of the _____ examination(s).
Month Year

Please provide (check all that apply):

- Special seating or other physical accommodation
- Large print examination
- Reader
- Circle answers in examination booklet
- Extended examination time (time and a half)
- Separate examination area
- Other special accommodations (please specify)

Comments: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

**Return this form with your examination application to be received by the application deadline to: ABA, 11730 Plaza America Drive, Suite 300, Reston, VA 20190 USA.
 If you have questions, call ABA at 1•800•881•5410.**

