

The logo features the text "TAA Talks" in a large, white, sans-serif font. The background is a black horizontal band containing a colorful audio waveform. The waveform is composed of vertical lines of varying heights, colored in a rainbow gradient from red on the left to yellow on the right. The text "TAA Talks" is centered over this waveform.

TAA Talks

LIVE WEBINAR AND DISCUSSION FORUMS

April 2022:
Licensed
Audiology
Assistants

Assistant in Audiology- Why? Concerns and Challenges

- 3% Decline in Audiologists (Hosford-Dunn, 2017)
 - Estimated employment need increase of 16%
 - ~35 million individuals with hearing loss (Kochkin, 2009)
- Comparable education salary discrepancy (bls.gov)
 - \$81,030 in May 2020 Audiologists
 - \$80,480 per year May 2020 Speech Pathologist
 - \$91,010 per year May 2020 Physical Therapist
 - \$118,050 per year May 2020 Optometrists

Assistant in Audiology- Why? Concerns and Challenges

- “Not enough audiologists in the workforce to provide for all the auditory testing and rehabilitation needs of otolaryngology patients, let alone for the patients of pediatricians, internists, neurologists, and others involved in the assessment of hearing and balance.”
- “economic pressures have forced physicians to consider the cost-effectiveness of each allied health professional whom we employ. Similar concerns exist for evaluation of patients with balance disorders, voice disorders, and other maladies.”
- CPOP and oto techs- Trained to provide basic diagnostic audiometric, evoked potential, and vestibular testing under a licensed physician

Certificate Program for Otolaryngology Personnel (CPOP): a good solution for many practice challenges.. (n.d.) >*The Free Library*. (2014). Retrieved Oct 01 2021 from [https://www.thefreelibrary.com/Certificate+Program+for+Otolaryngology+Personnel+\(CPOP\)%3a+a+good...-a0151200202](https://www.thefreelibrary.com/Certificate+Program+for+Otolaryngology+Personnel+(CPOP)%3a+a+good...-a0151200202)

Assistant in Audiology- Application Requirements

- High school diploma or higher equivalent
- Proof of completion and pass exam score from CAOHC certification course
- Juris Prudence Exam and Background/Fingerprinting
- After licensure, minimum 25 hours of competency-based training by supervisor
 - Cannot practice without DIRECT supervision until this is complete
 - [Report of Completed Training for an Assistant in Audiology Form](#)
- 20 hours CEUs every renewal period
 - 2 must be in Ethics
 - Child Trafficking prevention course

Assistant in Audiology-Supervisor Requirements

- Supervisor requirements
 - Must have at least 2 years of licensed experience
 - Cannot supervise more than combined 4 externs and assistants at a given time
 - [Assistant in Audiology Supervisory Responsibility Statement \(SRS\)](#).
 - Only 2 assistants if they hold a high-school degree only
- All supervisors must complete a separate supervising plan to TDLR
 - Assistants should work under and on caseloads of supervisors with a plan on file with TDLR
- After licensure, must supervise at least 10 hours per week/40 hours per month
 - Direct supervision must be done 1 hour per week

AuD Assistant Tasks and Duties

Write a scope

Keep records on:

- training
- supervision
- performance
- updated responsibilities

- Cleaning, troubleshooting devices
- Clinic Infection Control
- Non-diagnostic Otoscopy
- Patient triage
- Demonstrating assistive devices
- Orientation and care of devices
- Run electroacoustic analysis
- Sorting, packaging, and inventory of devices
- Connectivity troubleshooting
- Pediatric appointment Assist
- Pure-tone non-diagnostic reassessment
- VNG/ENG, Evoked potential patient prep
- Newborn Hearing Screening
- Assisting patients with case history and forms
- Administering questionnaires, validation forms
- Communication with manufacturers
- Escorting and scheduling patients
- Hearing screening and health fair marketing
- If qualified, translation and interpretation
- Patient database maintenance
- Telehealth assistant
- Assistive device set-up and orientation
- Earmold modifications
- Software updates and troubleshooting

AuD Assistant Tasks and Duties

What's not allowed

- Diagnostic testing (tinnitus evaluation, diagnostic ABR/OAE, Vestibular testing)
- Interpretation of diagnostic testing
- Modifying programming or dispensing of hearing devices
- Ear impression taking
- Cerumen removal
- Aural rehabilitation therapy or activities
- conducting any type of audiometric testing other than air conduction, such as bone-conduction testing or speech audiometry
- diagnosing hearing or vestibular disorders
- conducting noise surveys and analyses or being responsible for noise-control solutions.
- Determining or modifying management and evaluation protocols
- Initiate Referrals to other agencies or professionals
- Signing formal documents



Texas Administrative Code: Rules and Regulations

Supervision Requirements:

[Texas Administrative Code \(state.tx.us\)](https://state.tx.us)

Practice and Duties:

[Texas Administrative Code \(state.tx.us\)](https://state.tx.us)