



State of Nevada
Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Board

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Advisory Committee on Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids

Tuesday, January 16, 2024 ~ 4:30pm

Location: Board Office ~ 6170 Mae Anne Avenue, Suite 1, Reno, Nevada 89523

Supporting materials relating to this meeting will be physically available but in an effort to reduce costs and preserve resources, attendees are encouraged to access electronic copies on the Board's website at <https://www.nvspeechhearing.org/about/Minutes.asp>

Teleconference Access

ZOOM VIDEO & AUDIO:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81985548249?pwd=QXV3bERHTmtoQ2hwYnVreUtpN0tpZz09>

AUDIO ONLY BY TELEPHONE: (669) 900-6833

Meeting ID: 819 8554 8249 **Passcode:** 303117

If you are outside the United States or need **toll-free audio access**, please contact the Board office at board@nvspeechhearing.org to request a toll-free number no later than 3:00pm Pacific on the day of the meeting.

AGENDA

The **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON FITTING AND DISPENSING HEARING AIDS** of the **NEVADA SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY, AUDIOLOGY AND HEARING AID DISPENSING BOARD** may: (a) address agenda items out of sequence (b) combine agenda items or (c) pull or remove items from the agenda at any time.

The Board may convene in closed session to consider the character, alleged misconduct, professional competence or physical or mental health of a person. (NRS 241.020, NRS 241.030).

Action by the Committee on any item may be to approve, deny, amend, or table.

1. Call to Order, Confirmation of Quorum

2. Public Comment

No vote may be taken upon a matter raised during a period devoted to public comment until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. (NRS 241.020)

3. Approval of the Minutes: Advisory Committee on Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids of September 21, 2023 *(for possible action)*

4. Review and Recommendation to the Board on Possible NRS and/or NAC Revisions

- a. Education and Training Requirements for HAS and HAS Apprentices: NRS 637B.193, NRS 637B.200, NRS 637B.201, NAC 637B.0391, NAC 637B.0392, and/or NAC 637B.0394 *(for possible action)*
- b. Required Dispensing Examinations and Endorsement for Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids for Dispensing Audiologists: NRS 637B.203, NRS 637B.204, NRS 637B.205, NAC 637B.0373, & NAC 637B.0374 *(for possible action)*

5. Reports from Committee Chair and Members

- a. Report from Committee Chair and Board Members *(for possible action)*
- b. Next Meeting (proposed): Wednesday, April 10, 2024 at 4:30pm *(for possible action)*
- c. Future Agenda Items *(for possible action)*

6. Public Comment

No vote may be taken upon a matter raised during a period devoted to public comment until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. (NRS 241.020)

7. Adjournment

(for possible action)

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment is welcomed by the Committee. Public comment will be limited to five minutes per person and comments based on viewpoint will not be restricted. A public comment time will be available prior to action items on the agenda and on any matter not specifically included on the agenda as the last item on the agenda. At the discretion of the Committee Chair, additional public comment may be heard when that item is reached. The Committee Chair may allow additional time to be given a speaker as time allows and in their sole discretion. (NRS 241.020, NRS 241.030)

Prior to the commencement and conclusion of a contested case or a quasi-judicial proceeding that may affect the due process rights of an individual, the Board may refuse to consider public comment. (NRS 233B.126).

ACCOMMODATIONS

Persons with disabilities who require special accommodations or assistance at the meeting should contact the Board office at (775) 787-3421 or email at board@nvspeechhearing.org no later than 48 hours prior to the meeting. Requests for special accommodations made after this time frame cannot be guaranteed.

AGENDA POSTING & DISSEMINATION

This meeting has been properly noticed and posted in the following locations:

- Nevada Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Board
 - Board Office: 6170 Mae Anne Avenue, Suite 1, Reno, Nevada 89523
 - Board Website: www.nvspeechhearing.org
- State of Nevada Public Notices Website: www.notice.nv.gov

This agenda has been sent to all members of the Board and other interested persons who have requested an agenda from the Board. Persons who wish to continue to receive an agenda and notice must request so in writing on an annual basis.

SUPPORTING MATERIALS

Supporting material relating to public meetings of the Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Board is available at the Board's administrative office located at 6170 Mae Anne Avenue, Suite 1, Reno, Nevada 89523 on the Board's website at <https://www.nvspeechhearing.org/about/Minutes.asp> or by contacting Jennifer R. Pierce, Executive Director by phone at (775) 787-3421 or email at board@nvspeechhearing.org.

Anyone desiring additional information regarding the meeting is invited to call the Board office at (775) 787-3421 or board@nvspeechhearing.org.



State of Nevada

Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology & Hearing Aid Dispensing Board

Advisory Committee on Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids

AGENDA ITEM 1

Call to Order, Confirmation of Quorum

Call to Order, Confirmation of Quorum.

ACTION: Meeting called to order.

ATTACHMENT(S): None.



State of Nevada

Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology & Hearing Aid Dispensing Board
Advisory Committee on Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids

AGENDA ITEM 2

Public Comment

No vote may be taken upon a matter raised during a period devoted to public comment until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. (NRS 241.020).

CHAIR: PLEASE READ PRIOR TO CALLING FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

I will now review the instructions for providing public comment during this meeting:

Any person wishing to make public comment may attend this meeting and provide public comment in one of the following ways:

1. Attend the meeting and provide public comment in-person at the physical location; OR
2. Attend the meeting and provide public comment virtually through the Zoom teleconference video link listed on the agenda; OR
3. Attend the meeting and provide public comment telephonically through the Zoom telephone number listed on the agenda. Please see additional public comment instructions at the end of the agenda.

Public comment is welcomed by the Committee.

- Public comment will be limited to five minutes per person and comments based on viewpoint will not be restricted.
- A public comment time will be available prior to action items on the agenda and on any matter not specifically included on the agenda as the last item on the agenda.
- At the discretion of the Committee Chair, additional public comment may be heard when that item is reached.
- The Committee Chair may allow additional time to be given a speaker as time allows and in their sole discretion.
- Prior to the commencement and conclusion of a contested case or a quasi-judicial proceeding that may affect the due process rights of an individual, the Board may refuse to consider public comment.

ACTION: Informational only.

ATTACHMENT(S): None.



State of Nevada

Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology & Hearing Aid Dispensing Board

Advisory Committee on Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids

AGENDA ITEM 3

Approval of the Minutes: Meeting of the Advisory Committee on Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids of September 21, 2023

The minutes of the meeting of September 21, 2023 are presented for approval.

ACTION: Approve, table, or take no action on the matter.

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. 2023 9 21 Minutes Not Yet Approved

Minutes have not yet been approved and are subject to revision at the next meeting.



State of Nevada

Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology & Hearing Aid Dispensing Board

MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

Advisory Committee on Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids

September 21, 2023

Members Present: Timothy Hunsaker; Lynee Anderson; Nanci Campbell; Jennifer Joy-Cornejo; Melissa Maestas

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Jennifer Pierce, Executive Director
Stacey Whittaker, Licensing Coordinator
Henna Rasul, Sr. Deputy Attorney General

Public Present: Laura Fink

Call to Order, Confirmation of Quorum

Executive Director Pierce began the meeting as the Committee would be tasked to elect a new Chair later in this meeting to replace Michael Hodes who termed off the Board in July 2023. Ms. Pierce called the meeting to order at 4:33pm. A roll call confirmed a quorum was present.

Public Comment

Ms. Pierce introduced this agenda item and read the following statement pursuant to AB219 (2023): "I will now review the instructions for providing public comment during this meeting: Any person wishing to make public comment may attend this meeting and provide public comment in one of the following ways: 1. Attend the meeting and provide public comment in-person at the physical location; OR 2. Attend the meeting and provide public comment virtually through the Zoom teleconference video link listed on the agenda; OR 3. Attend the meeting and provide public comment telephonically through the Zoom telephone number listed at the end of the meeting agenda with additional public comment instructions. Public comment is welcomed by the Board. Public comment will be limited to five minutes per person and comments based on viewpoint will not be restricted. A public comment time will be available prior to action items on the agenda and on any matter not specifically included on the agenda as the last item on the agenda. At the discretion of the Board Chair, additional public comment may be heard when that item is reached. The Board Chair may allow additional time to be given a speaker as time allows and in their sole discretion. Prior to the commencement and conclusion of a contested case or a quasi-judicial proceeding that may affect the due process rights of an individual, the Board may refuse to consider public comment."

Ms. Pierce then called for public comment. There was no public comment.

Election of Committee Chair

Ms. Pierce explained the purpose of this item, pursuant to NAC 637B.034(3), which requires that "the Committee shall select a Chair from among the members of the Committee who are members of the Board." Ms. Pierce then invited Committee members to nominate either Lynee Anderson or Timothy Hunsaker for the Chair role. Jennifer Joy-Cornejo nominated Timothy Hunsaker. No other nominations were offered. Ms. Pierce called for a motion. Jennifer Joy-Cornejo made a motion to elect Timothy Hunsaker to the role of Committee

Minutes have not yet been approved and are subject to revision at the next meeting.

Chair. Nanci Campbell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Timothy Hunsaker, Committee Chair took over leadership of the meeting.

Approval of the Minutes

Timothy Hunsaker asked for corrections or a motion to approve the April 12, 2023 minutes as written. Nanci Campbell made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Lynee Anderson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Review and Recommendation to the Board on Possible NRS and/or NAC Revisions:

a. Education and Training Requirements for HAS and HAS Apprentices: [NRS 637B.201](#), [NAC 637B.0391](#), [NAC 637B.0392](#), and/or [NAC 637B.0394](#)

In 2022, the Board approved future legislation to remove NBC-HIS certification as a requirement for a Standard HAS License. This decision highlighted the requirement in NAC 637B.0391 for a HAS Apprentice with no formal education in hearing instrument sciences to complete a 2 year in-service training program, which mirrors the NBC-HIS clinical training requirement to sit for the certification exam. The 2 year requirement was reviewed and reaffirmed as appropriate by the Advisory Committee in June 2022. Currently, the NBC-HIS requirement ensures that an applicant has completed a 2 year training program to obtain the Standard HAS license, however, once the NBC-HIS requirement is removed, passage of the dispensing exams will be the only other requirement. The Committee considered several options for revisions to NRS and NAC to clarify the requirements for a HAS license in the absence of the NBC-HIS requirement, as well as options to grant training credit to an applicant who has completed all or a portion of a training program in another state but not licensed there.

As any proposed changes cannot occur until an NRS change is made regarding NBC-HIS, the Committee agreed to continue discussing the matter and took no action on a recommendation to the Board.

b. Required Dispensing Examinations and Endorsement for Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids: [NRS 637B.203](#), [NRS 637B.204](#), [NRS 637B.205](#), [NAC 637B.0373](#), & [NAC 637B.0374](#)

This matter was previously before the Committee and a request was made to revisit the item, specific to the requirement for an Audiologist to hold the required endorsement and/or pass both the written ILE and practical dispensing exams. The Committee discussed the matter and opted to continue the conversation in its next meeting and make no recommendation at this time. No action was taken.

c. Practical Examination Fee Increase: [NAC 673B.030](#)

Ms. Pierce explained that IHS is revising its Dispensing Practical exam and raising the per-exam cost. Our Board has benefited from a negotiated rate of \$50 per exam booklet, but the new rate will top out at \$200 per booklet. Any rate increase poses a negative fiscal impact for the Board, as the current \$200 fee covers \$50 for the exam booklet, \$100 paid to the exam proctor, and nets the Board \$50 to cover staff & scheduling costs. The Board's [NRS 637B.175](#) sets a fee cap of \$300 for the examination and the actual fee charged is \$200 as established in [NAC 673B.030](#). Notably, this is the only fee that is not already at the maximum cap limit. IHS has offered a graduated budget increase, and a draft contract scheduled for the Board's review at its next meeting will increase the rate to \$100 beginning 1/1/2024. This increase will result in the current \$200 rate covering only the cost of the booklet and the reimbursement paid to the exam proctor. An assessment of fees charged by similar Boards in Nevada, and practical examination fees in other states indicates that the \$200 currently charged by this Board is lower than both averages. There was discussion and consensus that an increase is appropriate to cover Board costs.

Minutes have not yet been approved and are subject to revision at the next meeting.

Timothy Hunsaker called for a motion. Melissa Maestas made a motion to recommend the Board pursue a revision to NAC 637B.030 to increase the practical exam fee to \$250. Jennifer Joy-Cornejo seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

d. Tinnitus Care by Hearing Aid Specialists: [NRS 637B.055](#)

Ms. Pierce explained that the Board recently received an inquiry regarding whether Hearing Aid Specialists are allowed to treat tinnitus as part of their scope of practice, as there is no reference in NRS or NAC currently. It is understood that while hearing aids may be used for tinnitus masking and treatment, the practice is not the same as fitting for hearing loss, as tinnitus treatment requires training and counseling beyond the initial hearing aid fitting.

IHS offers a [Tinnitus Care Provider Certificate](#) earned during a three-day training workshop and assessment that culminates in a Tinnitus Care Provider certificate. IHS also advises practitioners that “If you use the title, “Tinnitus Care Provider” you must also state “Holding a Certificate from the International Hearing Society.” This certificate title does not replace your job title. Certificate holders must check with their own state/provincial licensing agencies for rules, regulations and scope of practice regarding providing tinnitus care. All Tinnitus Care Provider Certificate Program participants and certificate holders are expected to understand and abide by all applicable local, state/provincial, and federal laws and rules governing scope of practice, licensure/registration requirements, and permissible titles.” The Committee discussed the matter and consensus was that it would be acceptable to allow this practice by a HAS with the appropriate training.

Timothy Hunsaker called for a motion. Jennifer Joy-Cornejo made a motion to recommend the Board pursue a revision to NRS 637B.055 to allow tinnitus care by a HAS with the appropriate training. Lynee Anderson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

e. Medical Evaluation/Waiver for Sale of Hearing Aids by Catalog, Mail or Internet: [NRS 637B.242](#), [NAC 637B.0444](#), and/or [NAC 637B.045](#)

The [FDA Final Rule on Over the Counter \(OTC\) Hearing Aids](#) of October 2022 repealed the requirement in 21 CFR 801.421 for a medical evaluation or signed waiver to obtain hearing aids. The federal rule takes precedence over state law but authorizes states to maintain existing state laws or regulations that require the evaluation or waiver. One section of our NRS (637B.242), and two sections of NAC (637B.0444 and 637B.045) remain in effect, but only apply to the sale of hearing aids by catalog, mail, or Internet. The Advisory Committee reviewed the matter in January 2023 and recommended no changes to either the NRS or NAC. However, we have since been informed that AAA recommends states consider removing medical clearance requirements for prescription hearing aids to clear up confusion and remove restrictions. The Committee discussed the matter and consensus was that these sections should be revised/removed to align with federal law.

Timothy Hunsaker called for a motion. Nanci Campbell made a motion to recommend the Board pursue revisions to NRS 637B.242, NAC 637B.0444, and NAC 637B.045 to remove requirements for a medical evaluation or waiver and align these with the Final Rule. Lynee Anderson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Review and Recommendation on Guidance for Scope of Practice Related to Earmold Impressions Pursuant to [NRS 637B.055\(1\)](#)

The Board recently received a request for guidance on the scope of practice for fitting and dispensing hearing aids, specific to “making earmold impressions” included per NRS 637B.055(1). The guidance request was specific to the use of the Earlens® Contact Hearing Solution, a non-surgical hearing device that uses resonant inductive coupling to transmit and receive sound information from a Processor and Ear Tip to a Tympanic Lens

Minutes have not yet been approved and are subject to revision at the next meeting.

(Lens). The lens requires an ear canal impression and placement on the skin around the Tympanic Membrane, both of which must be done by a trained physician.

This request came from a Dispensing Audiologist working within an ENT practice that is using this system, who wanted guidance/permission from the Board to conduct the ear canal impression and lens placement with permission from Earlens. The Committee members quickly and unanimously responded that this activity is not part of “making an impression” for an earmold and adamantly stated that that this is a very risky procedure that should not be allowed within this scope of practice.

Timothy Hunsaker called for a motion. Jennifer Joy-Cornejo made a motion to recommend the Board issue a response to the guidance request that this activity is not allowable within the scope of practice for fitting and dispensing hearing aids pursuant to NRS 637B.055. Nanci Campbell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Reports from Committee Chair and Members

There were no reports from the Chair or Members. The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for Thursday, January 18, 2024 at 4:30pm.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjournment

Timothy Hunsaker adjourned the meeting at 6:07pm.



State of Nevada

Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology & Hearing Aid Dispensing Board
Advisory Committee on Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids

AGENDA ITEM 4

Review and Recommendation to the Board on Possible NRS and/or NAC Revisions

- a. Education and Training Requirements for HAS and HAS Apprentices: NRS 637B.193, NRS 637B.200, NRS 637B.201, NAC 637B.0391, NAC 637B.0392, and/or NAC 637B.0394

BACKGROUND

The Board's 2025 legislative priorities include removing NBC-HIS certification for a Standard HAS License. This decision highlighted the requirement in NAC 637B.0391 for a HAS Apprentice with no formal education in hearing instrument sciences to complete a 2 year in-service training program, which mirrors the NBC-HIS training requirement. The 2 year requirement was reviewed and reaffirmed by this Committee in June 2022.

- Once the NBC-HIS requirement is removed, passage of the dispensing exams will be the only other requirement for a Standard HAS license.
- Currently, the NBC-HIS requirement ensures that an applicant has completed a 2 year training program and under [NRS 637B.193](#) a Standard HAS license requires either:
 - An associate's degree or bachelor's degree in hearing instrument sciences; OR
 - A high school diploma or its equivalent or an associate's degree or bachelor's degree in any field other than hearing instrument sciences, and successful completion of ***"a training program in hearing instrument sciences as prescribed by regulation of the Board"***. (The "training program" referenced here is described in NAC but only address Apprentices.
- This revision could also eliminate the Provisional HAS license as outlined in [NRS 637B.201](#), as it currently an applicant not holding NBC-HIS certification the option to practice while completing the 2 year experience requirements to sit for the certification exam.
- The planned revision will not affect the Temporary HAS license which is available to applicants licensed in another state that wish to begin practicing immediately while completing the dispensing exams.
- There is no current option to grant credit to an applicant who has completed all or a portion of a training program in another state but is not licensed there. These applicants do not qualify for a Standard HAS license but a full Apprenticeship program would not be appropriate.

TRENDS

A review of national trends for HAS training (44/46 states) found the average minimum requirement is 10 months. Please see the HAS State-by-State attachment for details.

HAS Apprentice Training Minimum Requirement in Months	
Months	States
24	Idaho, Nevada, Utah
12	Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming
8	New Mexico
6	California, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Maine Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania
5	Connecticut
3	Mississippi, New York, Tennessee
2	Vermont



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CONSIDERATIONS/PROPOSED REVISIONS

The following NRS/NAC revisions are proposed to establish authority to require 2 years dispensing experience for HAS applicants in the absence of the NBC-IHS certification requirement. These revisions also include revising the current Provisional License to allow an out-of-state licensee to begin practicing while completing the experience requirement, as many states require less than 2 years of training for HAS licensure. Please refer to the referenced attachments for detailed and visual illustrations of what is described below.

The Committee may also choose to revisit the 2 year requirement in a future meeting.

- **NRS 637B.193: Hearing aid specialists: Qualifications of applicants.** Revise to add NBC-HIS Certification as an automatic qualifier (not required) for a Standard HAS license.
- **NRS 637B.200: Temporary licenses.** No revisions.
- **NRS 637B.201: Provisional license to practice speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids.** Revise criteria to include a HAS applicant completing the 2 year experience requirement.
- **NAC 637B.0391: In-service training for apprentices: General requirements; direct supervision; exemption from participation.** Revise to include HAS applicants and establish 2 year experience requirement, with option to grant credit for training/licensure completed in another state.
- **NAC 637B.0392: In-service training for apprentices: Contents and approval of academic training; maintenance of list of approved programs.** Revise to include HAS applicants.
- **NAC 637B.0394: In-service training for apprentices: Requirements for on-site training and work experience; core competencies; review and documentation of progress; report and proof of compliance.** Revise to include HAS applicants.

ACTION: Approve, table, or take no action on the matter.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. *HAS State-by-State*
2. *HAS NRS-NAC Revisions*
3. *HAS License Grid DRAFT*
4. *HAS License Flowchart DRAFT*

The information listed below was collected as accurately as possible from publicly available state sources, including state Board websites, forms, laws, and regulations accessed in February and March 2023.

State	HAS Equivalent	Training/Education	Written Exam	Practical Exam	NBC-HIS
Alabama	NBC-HIS Dispenser OR Licensed Hearing Aid Specialist	NBC-HIS Dispenser: Holds NBC-HIS Cert; passage of written/practical/jurisprudence exams. LHAS: Under Sponsorship of NBC-HIS Dispenser; has met Apprentice requirements; passage of written/ practical/ JP exams.	IHS	IHS	No
Alaska	Hearing Aid Dealer	Unable to determine.			No
Arizona	Hearing Aid Dispenser	None; exam passage only.	IHS	STATE	No
Arkansas	Hearing Instrument Dispenser	Education equivalent to 2 years of college-level work from a regionally accredited College or University.	IHS	STATE	No
California	Hearing Aid Dispenser	Completion of trainee period or licensure in another state AND pass both CA written & practical exams.	STATE	STATE	No
Colorado	Hearing Aid Provider (HAP)	At least 6 mos training (300 hours) as an Apprentice under AUD/HAS; OR related AA degree.	IHS		No
Connecticut	Hearing Instrument Specialist	One of the following: A) 20 weeks/no less than 30 hours per week supervised training and 40 hours of instruction covering core content areas; B) IHS distance course and final exam with 40 hours of direct practical supervised training; C) Master's in AUD with coursework covering core content areas; D) Post-secondary coursework in hearing aid dispensing approved on a case-by-case basis by the Dept as covering core content areas.	IHS	STATE	No
DC	Hearing Aid Dispenser	Unable to determine.			No
Delaware	Hearing Aid Dispenser	Completion of Delaware training period and passage of examination; OR license by reciprocity.	IHS		No
Florida	Hearing Aid Specialist	Met the requirements of a Florida sponsored training program OR meets reciprocity requirements OR holds NBC-HIS Cert and actively practicing at least 12 months.	IHS* (Waived for NBC-HIS Cert)		No
Georgia	Hearing Aid Dispenser	Completion of apprenticeship and passage of exams.	IHS	IHS	No
Hawaii	Hearing Aid Dealer and Fitter	None; exam passage only.	IHS		No
Idaho	Hearing Aid Dealer and Fitter	None; exam passage only.	IHS	IHS	No
Illinois	Hearing Instrument Dispenser	Minimum of an AA degree with at least 12 semester/18 quarter hours as follows: 3 hours anatomy and physiology of the speech and hearing mechanism, 3 hours hearing science, 3 hours introduction to audiology, and 3 hours aural rehabilitation or the quarter hour equivalent.	IHS	IHS	No
Indiana	Hearing Aid Dealer	None; exam passage only.	IHS	STATE	No
Iowa	Hearing Aid Specialist	Completion of training/supervision and passage of exam.	IHS		No
Kansas	Hearing Aid Dispenser	Temporary training requirements met, or reciprocal licensing.	IHS	STATE	No
Kentucky	Specialists in Hearing Instruments	Completion of Apprenticeship; or completion of a course in the selling or fitting of hearing instruments approved by the board may be considered equivalent to stages I and II of the apprenticeship period.	IHS	STATE	No
Louisiana	Hearing Aid Dealer	Two years of college or accredited higher education; OR continuously engaged in fitting and selling hearing aids during the two years preceding.	IHS	IHS	No
Maine	Hearing Aid Dealer	Completion of trainee program and passage of exams; or reciprocity.	IHS	IHS	No
Maryland	Hearing Aid Dispenser	Completion of training to pass exams; or reciprocity.	IHS		No
Massachusetts	Hearing Instrument Specialist	Completion of 12 month Apprenticeship (including training program and supervised work experience) and meet one of the following: NBC-HIS Cert or passage of exams.	IHS		No
Michigan	Hearing Aid Dealer	Two years experience as a Hearing Aid Salesperson under the direct supervision of a licensed Hearing Aid Dealer.	STATE	STATE	No
Minnesota	Hearing Instrument Dispenser	Completion of trainee program and passage of exams.	IHS	STATE	No
Mississippi	Hearing Aid Specialist	Completion of trainee program and passage of exams.	IHS	IHS	No
Missouri	Hearing Instrument Specialist	Any of the following: 1) AA Degree or higher in hearing instrument sciences; 2) AA degree or higher and completion of IHS Distance Learning Course; 3) Master's or Doctoral degree in AUD; 4) Meets reciprocity options.	IHS	IHS	No
Montana	Hearing Aid Dispenser	Completion of trainee program and passage of exams.	IHS	IHS	No
Nebraska	Hearing Instrument Specialist	None; exam passage only.	IHS	STATE	No

State	HAS Equivalent	Training/Education	Written Exam	Practical Exam	NBC-HIS
Nevada	Hearing Aid Specialist	An associate or bachelor’s degree in hearing instrument sciences; OR Have: 1) A high school diploma/equivalent, associate, or bachelor’s degree in any field other than hearing instrument sciences, AND 2) have successfully completed a training program in hearing instrument sciences approved by the Board.	IHS	IHS	Yes
New Hampshire	Hearing Aid Dealer	AA Degree in any field; At least 60 credits toward a Baccalaureate degree in any field; OR NBC-HIS Cert for at least 2 years.	IHS	IHS	No
New Jersey	Hearing Aid Dispenser	One of the following: A) 6 months (FT or 12 mos PT) training and experience under direct supervision of NJ HAD; B) Two years of training and experience fitting and dispensing hearing aids; or C) Completion of county college course in hearing aid selection and fitting approved by the Committee.	IHS	STATE	No
New Mexico	Hearing Aid Dispenser	Eight months training, passage of exams.	IHS	IHS	No
New York	Hearing Aid Dispenser	Completion of Trainee education & training; or by reciprocity.	STATE	STATE	No
North Carolina	Hearing Aid Dealer and Fitter	One full year of apprenticeship, with exception to those eligible for waiver under G.S. 93D-5(c) or those applying for licensure pursuant to 21 NCAC 22F .0123.	IHS	STATE	No
North Dakota	Hearing Aid Specialist	Completion of training requirements to pass exam; or reciprocity.	IHS	STATE	No
Ohio	Hearing Aid Fitter	Completion of trainee program and passage of exams.	IHS	STATE	No
Oklahoma	Hearing Aid Dealer & Fitter	High school diploma; passage of exams.	IHS or STATE	STATE	No
Oregon	Hearing Aid Specialist	Completion of Trainee education & training; or by reciprocity.	IHS	STATE	No
Pennsylvania	Hearing Aid Fitter	Completion of Trainee education & training; or by reciprocity.	STATE		No
Rhode Island	Hearing Aid Dealer/Fitter	Completion of apprenticeship and passage of exams.	IHS	STATE	No
South Carolina	Hearing Aid Specialist	High school diploma; passage of exams.	IHS	IHS	No
South Dakota	Hearing Aid Dispenser	Completion of provisional training; passage of exams.	IHS	STATE	No
Tennessee	Hearing Instrument Specialist	Two years of coursework, or its equivalent, from an accredited college or university OR hold NBC-HIS Cert.	IHS	IHS	No
Texas	Hearing Instrument Fitter and Dispenser	Completion of Apprenticeship under the supervision of a licensed individual and 20 hours classroom continuing education in approved subject matter during the one year Apprenticeship.	IHS	STATE	No
Utah	Hearing Instrument Specialist	NBC-HIS Certification or reciprocity.	IHS	IHS	Yes
Vermont	Hearing Aid Dispenser	Completion of training to pass exam.	STATE		No
Virginia	Hearing Aid Specialist	Completion of training and experience under temporary permit, or by reciprocity.	IHS	STATE	No
Washington	Hearing Aid Specialist	Successful completion of two-year degree or nine-month HAS training program.	IHS	IHS*	No
West Virginia	Hearing Aid Dispenser	Completion of training to pass exams; letter from healthcare provider stating they are free from communicable disease.	IHS	STATE	No
Wisconsin	Hearing Instrument Specialist	Completion of training and passage of examinations.	IHS	STATE	No
Wyoming	Hearing Aid Specialist	Experience fitting hearing aids in Wyoming for at least 2 of previous 3 years and 3 written references; or by reciprocity.	IHS	IHS	No

EXAMS	Written	Practical	NBC-HIS
NOT REQUIRED	2	11	49
REQUIRED	49	40	2
IHS EXAM	43	17	
STATE EXAM	5	23	
EITHER/OR	1		
MAY BE WAIVED WITH NBC-IHS CERT	1		

HAS & HAS-A Revisions Draft re: NBC-HIS Removal
NRS 2025 Session | NAC 2026 Interim

ALREADY APPROVED: [REMOVAL] INSERTION

SAMPLE NEW PROPOSED : [REMOVAL] INSERTION

NRS 637B.045 “Hearing aid specialist” defined. “Hearing aid specialist” means any person licensed to engage in the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.

NRS 637B.193 Hearing aid specialists: Qualifications of applicants. An applicant for a license to engage in the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids must:

1. Successfully complete a program of education or training approved by the Board which requires, without limitation, that the applicant:
 - (a) Hold an associate’s degree or bachelor’s degree in hearing instrument sciences; or
 - (b) Hold a high school diploma or its equivalent or an associate’s degree or bachelor’s degree in any field other than hearing instrument sciences, and successfully complete a training program in hearing instrument sciences as prescribed by regulation of the Board; or
 - (c) be certified by the National Board for Certification in Hearing Instrument Sciences.
- [2. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 637B.201, be certified by the National Board for Certification in Hearing Instrument Sciences.]
- [3] 2. Pass the examination prescribed pursuant to NRS 637B.194.
- [4] 3. Comply with the regulations adopted pursuant to NRS 637B.194.
- [5] 4. Include in his or her application the complete street address of each location from which the applicant intends to engage in the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids.

NRS 637B.200 Temporary licenses.

1. The Board may issue a temporary license to engage in the practice of:
 - (a) Audiology, speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids upon application and the payment of the fee required pursuant to NRS 637B.175 to any person who is so licensed in another state and who meets all the qualifications for licensing in this State; and
 - (b) Fitting and dispensing hearing aids upon application and payment of the fee required pursuant to NRS 637B.175 to any person who meets all the qualifications for licensing as a hearing aid specialist or an endorsement of a license to engage in the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids other than passing the examination concerning the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids prescribed pursuant to NRS 637B.194.
2. The Board may issue a temporary license to engage in the practice of audiology, speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids upon application and payment of the fee required pursuant to NRS 637B.175 to any spouse of a member of the Armed Forces of the United States who:
 - (a) Is so licensed in another state; and
 - (b) Attests that he or she meets all of the qualifications for licensure in this State.
3. A temporary license issued pursuant to this section:
 - (a) Is valid for not more than 6 months;
 - (b) May be renewed not more than once; and
 - (c) May be converted to an active license upon the completion of all requirements for a license and payment of the fee required by NRS 637B.175.

NRS 637B.201 Provisional license to practice speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids.

1. Upon application and payment of the application fee required pursuant to NRS 637B.175, the Board may issue a provisional license to engage in the practice of:
 - (a) Speech-language pathology to a person who is completing the clinical fellowship requirements for obtaining a certificate of clinical competence issued by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.
 - (b) Fitting and dispensing hearing aids to a person who:
 - (1) Holds a license to engage in the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids in another state; and
 - (2) Has completed the program of academic training prescribed in NRS 637B.0392 but is completing the on-site training and work experience prescribed in NRS 637B.0394. [Is completing the training required for certification by the National Board for Certification in Hearing Instrument Sciences.]
2. A provisional license issued pursuant to this section may be:
 - (a) Renewed not more than twice; and
 - (b) Converted to an active license upon payment of the fee required pursuant to NRS 637B.175 for converting the license and submission the award of:
 - (1) A certificate of clinical competence awarded by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association; or
 - (2) Proof satisfactory of completion of the on-site work experience prescribed in NRS 637B.193. [Certification by the National Board for Certification in Hearing Instrument Sciences.]

NAC 637B.0391 In-service training for hearing aid specialists and apprentices: General requirements; direct supervision; exemption from participation. (NRS 637B.132, 637B.194, 637B.235)

1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, the in-service training of a person who has been issued an apprentice license by the Board pursuant to NRS 637B.195 must consist of:
 - (a) An academic portion, as set forth in NAC 637B.0392; and
 - (b) An on-site training and work experience portion which is competency-based, as set forth in NAC 637B.0394.
2. An apprentice shall participate in the in-service training set forth in subsection 1 under the direct supervision of a sponsor for a minimum of 2 years and, in accordance with NRS 637B.238, may not serve as an apprentice for more than 3 years without passing the examination set forth in NAC 637B.0373.
3. An apprentice is not required to participate in the in-service training required by this section if the apprentice:
 - (a) Holds an associate's degree in hearing instrument sciences which is approved by the National Board for Certification in Hearing Instrument Sciences; or
 - (b) Successfully completes a program of education or training in hearing instrument sciences which is approved by the Board.
4. An apprentice may receive credit toward the 2 year requirement prescribed above for verified on-site training and work experience completed under a licensed audiologist or hearing aid specialist or equivalent in the District of Columbia or any state or territory of the United States.
5. If approved by the Board, an apprentice whose license as an apprentice expired but is reinstated may receive credit for not more than 2 years of in-service training completed during the initial license period.
6. An applicant for a license to engage in the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids not holding an associate's degree or bachelor's degree in hearing instrument sciences pursuant to NRS 637B.193 or current NBC-HIS Certification must provide proof satisfactory of completion of the following:
 - (a) Completion of an academic training program prescribed in NAC 637B.0392; and
 - (b) Any combination of the following totaling 2 years on-site training and work experience:
 - (1) On-site training and work experience prescribed by NAC 637B.0394 under a licensed audiologist or hearing aid specialist or equivalent in the District of Columbia or any state or territory of the United States. Verification must be completed by the supervising practitioner by signature and date, on a form provided by the Board;

- (2) On-site training and work experience while licensed as a Hearing Aid Specialist, Hearing Aid Specialist Apprentice or Equivalent in the District of Columbia or any state or territory of the United States.

NAC 637B.0392 In-service training for hearing aid specialists and apprentices: Contents and approval of academic training; maintenance of list of approved programs. (NRS 637B.132, 637B.194, 637B.235)

1. The academic portion of the in-service training of a[n] hearing aid specialist or apprentice required by NAC 637B.0391 must be specific to the training and education necessary to perform competently the duties and responsibilities necessary for the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids and must include, without limitation, training and education concerning:
 - (a) Laws and rules relating to ethics;
 - (b) Federal laws and rules governing hearing aids;
 - (c) Infection controls;
 - (d) Basic hearing science;
 - (e) Hearing instrument science and fitting practices; and
 - (f) Audiometric testing and masking.
 2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, a customized program of academic training and a proposed curriculum must be submitted to the Board for evaluation and approval.
 3. A program of academic training accepted by the National Board for Certification in Hearing Instrument Sciences, the International Hearing Society or an accredited institution of higher education that meets the minimum requirements of subsection 1 does not require the approval of the Board.
- [4. The Board will maintain a list of approved programs of academic training.]

NAC 637B.0394 In-service training for hearing aid specialists and apprentices: Requirements for on-site training and work experience; core competencies; review and documentation of progress; report and proof of compliance. (NRS 637B.132, 637B.194, 637B.235)

1. The on-site training and work experience portion of the in-service training of a[n] hearing aid specialist or apprentice required by NAC 637B.0391 must consist of a minimum of 16 hours per week and 30 weeks per year and may be completed in conjunction with the academic portion of the in-service training set forth in NAC 637B.0392.
2. The on-site training and work experience portion must include, without limitation, the evaluation of the applicant or apprentice's achievement of core competencies concerning:
 - (a) Sanitation protocols;
 - (b) The identification and documentation of the needs of a client;
 - (c) Visual inspections of the ear and otoscopic examinations;
 - (d) Audiometric testing;
 - (e) The results of hearing evaluations;
 - (f) Ear impressions, preparations and molds;
 - (g) Physical and electronic checks of hearing aids;
 - (h) The fitting, programming, troubleshooting, adjusting and repairing of hearing aids; and
 - (i) Client documentation.
3. An apprentice and his or her sponsor shall jointly:
 - (a) Review the progress of the apprentice in achieving each core competency set forth in subsection 2; and
 - (b) Document the proficiency of the apprentice in each core competency, by signature and date, on a form provided by the Board.
4. The Board may require a sponsor to provide to the Board:
 - (a) A report on the training of and core competencies achieved by an apprentice; and
 - (b) Proof of compliance with the supervisory responsibilities of the sponsor.

NEVADA HAS LICENSE GRID DRAFT | Revised 1.16.2024

APPROVED BY THE BOARD FOR: [REMOVAL] INSERTION | SAMPLE NEW PROPOSED: [REMOVAL] INSERTION

Applicant Type	applying for	License Type	Other License Required	Academic Training (NRS 637B.193; NAC 637B.0391-0392)	On-Site Training & Work Experience (NRS 637B.193; NAC 637B.0391, .0394)	Sponsor (NAC 637B.0396)	Supervision (NAC 637B.0398)	NBC-HIS Certification (NRS 637B.193)	Dispensing Exams ^A (NRS 637B.194)	Requirements for Conversion to Standard
				May be completed concurrently. <i>Credit may be granted for up to 2 years' on-site training and work experience as a Nevada HAS-A or in another state.</i>						
OPTION A New Applicant NEITHER: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Academic Training Completed2+ Years Experience				1. HS Diploma/Equivalent, or AA/BA/BS degree in any field other than Hearing Instrument Sciences - AND - 2. <i>One</i> of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">IHS Distance Learning ProgramOther Prescribed Academic Training^BCustomized Academic Training Approved by the Board	Completion of two (2) years prescribed & supervised on-site training and work experience. Minimum 30 weeks at 16 hours per week) ^C	Required (Licensed NV AUD-D or HAS, 3+ yrs. experience, in good standing/ no discipline, & same employer)	Required (Direct/on-site first year; may be indirect after 1 year at Sponsor's request with Board approval.)	Not Required [Required]	Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Complete Apprenticeship[NBC-HIS Certification]Pass dispensing exams
OPTION B New Applicant BOTH: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Academic Training Completed2+ Years Experience				One of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Degree in Hearing Instrument Sciences (AA/BA/BS)^DNBC-HIS CertificationAcademic Training Listed in Option A	One of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Degree in Hearing Instrument Sciences (AA/BA/BS)NBC-HIS CertificationProof satisfactory of at least 2 years hearing aid dispensing experience^E	Not Required	Not Required	Not Required [Required]	Required	N/A
OPTION C Out-of-State Licensee	Standard	Out-of-State License (current & in good standing)		Required Same as Option B	Required Same as Option B	Not Required	Not Required	Not Required [Required]	Required	N/A
	Temporary (max 1 year)			Required Same as Option B	Required Same as Option B	Not Required	Not Required	Not Required [Required]	Not Required	Pass dispensing exams
	Provisional (max 3 years)			Required Same as Option A	Not Required (May practice while obtaining 2 years' experience [NBC-HIS Certification])	Not Required	Not Required	Not Required	Required	Complete 2 years dispensing experience
OPTION D Expired HAS	Standard	License Reinstatement		Not Required	Not Required	Not Required	Not Required	Not Required [Required]	Required (with exceptions) ^F	N/A
OPTION E Expired HAS-A	Standard	License Reinstatement		Required Same as Option A	Required Same as Option A	Not Required	Not Required	Not Required [Required]	Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Complete Apprenticeship[NBC-HIS Certification]Pass dispensing exams

NEVADA HAS LICENSE GRID DRAFT | Revised 1.16.2024

APPROVED BY THE BOARD FOR: [REMOVAL] INSERTION | SAMPLE NEW PROPOSED: [REMOVAL] INSERTION

^A IHS Written ILE Exam passing score of 71% or above & IHS Practical Exam passing score of 75% or above.

^B Must cover laws and rules relating to ethics; Federal laws and rules governing hearing aids; Infection controls; Basic hearing science; Hearing Instrument science and fitting practices; and Audiometric testing and masking.

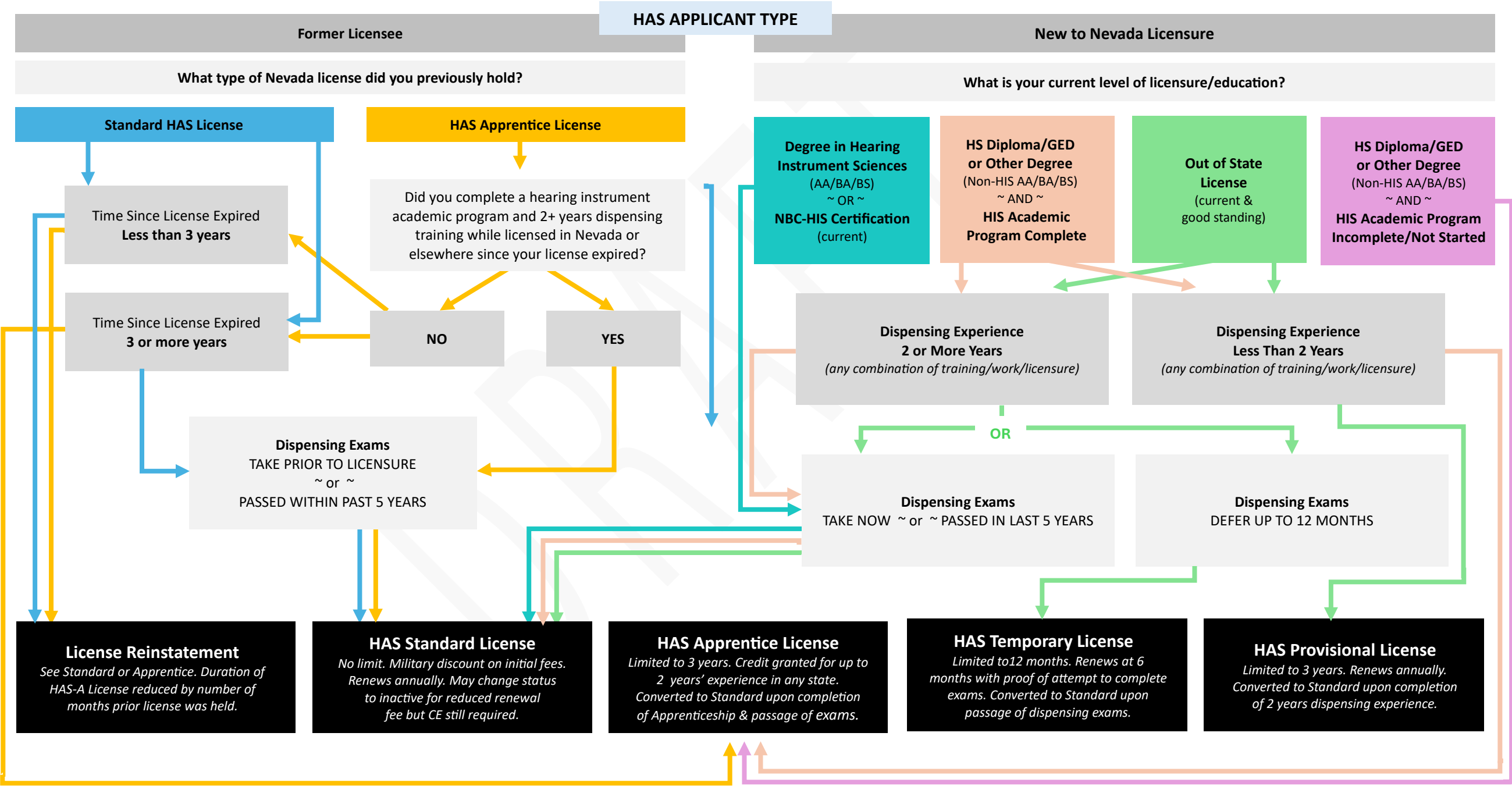
^C Must cover sanitation protocols; identification and documentation of the needs of a client; visual inspections of the ear and otoscopic examinations; audiometric testing; results of hearing evaluations; ear impressions, preparations and molds; physical and electronic checks of hearing aids; fitting, programming, troubleshooting, adjusting and repairing of hearing aids; and client documentation.

^D Degree must be awarded by an NBC-HIS sanctioned program: Grant MacEwan Hearing Aid Practitioner Program; Bates Technical College Hearing Instrument Sciences; Burlington County College Hearing Instrument Sciences; Douglass College; George Brown Hearing Instrument Sciences; Conestoga College Hearing Instrument Sciences; Ozarks Technical Community College Hearing Instrument Sciences; Spokane Falls Community College Hearing Instrument Sciences.

^E May be a combination of licensure as a Hearing Aid Specialist, Hearing Aid Specialist Apprentice or equivalent in the District of Columbia or any state or territory of the United States AND/OR On-site in-service training under a licensed audiologist or hearing aid specialist (or equivalent) in the District of Columbia or any state or territory of the United States. Verification must be completed by the supervising practitioner by signature and date, on a form provided by the Board.

^F Per *Board Policy 03 Dispensing Examinations*: Must retake both exams unless one of the following applies: 1) They passed the exams within the past 5 years; OR 2) They did not pass the exams within the past 5 years but are currently licensed and actively practicing in another state.

HAS LICENSE FLOWCHART | DRAFT PROPOSED 1.16.2024 (NBC-HIS REQUIREMENT REMOVED)





State of Nevada

Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology & Hearing Aid Dispensing Board
Advisory Committee on Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids
b. Required Dispensing Examinations and Endorsement for Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids for Dispensing Audiologists: NRS 637B.203, NRS 637B.204, NRS 637B.205, NAC 637B.0373, & NAC 637B.0374

This matter was previously before the Committee in 2022, but a request has been made to revisit the requirement for an AuD to hold an endorsement and pass both the written ILE and practical dispensing exams. The Committee reheard the matter in October 2023 and tabled it for future discussion.

BACKGROUND

In June 2022, the Committee unanimously recommended no changes made to the current examination requirement:

- “Citing the safety of the public and consumers, it was agreed that both examinations serve important protective functions to ensure that only qualified and skilled practitioners are licensed in Nevada. Specific examples were cited of states not requiring any examinations to fit and dispense hearing aids, and anecdotal examples of practical exam test-takers licensed elsewhere who performed poorly on the exam.” (6/21/2022 Meeting Minutes)
- It was reported that fitting & dispensing content varies within AuD program curricula, and the Praxis exam does not include a practical component, so it could not be assumed that any AuD-D applicant has received comprehensive training in this area as part of the AuD degree.
- Board staff follow-up to locate out-of-state proctor options revealed no available alternatives.

TRENDS

The following Board and national trends are presented for consideration:

Table 1: Nevada License Options

	License Type	Allowances/Requirements
New Grad or Not Currently Licensed in Another State	Standard AuD License <i>with</i> Dispensing Endorsement	License is issued upon passage of exams.
	Standard AUD License <i>without</i> Dispensing Endorsement	May NOT fit/dispense. Add Dispensing Endorsement upon passage of exams.
Out-of-State Licensee	Temporary AUD License <i>(valid for one year)</i>	MAY fit/dispense. Convert to Standard AUD with Dispensing Endorsement on passage of exams.
	Standard AuD License via LBE <i>with</i> Dispensing Endorsement	License is issued upon passage of exams.
	Standard AuD License via LBE <i>without</i> Dispensing Endorsement	May NOT fit/dispense. Add Dispensing Endorsement upon passage of exams.
Prior Nevada AUD-D License Reinstatement	Standard AuD License <i>with</i> Dispensing Endorsement	Must retake both exams unless 1) passed in last 5 years, or 2) not passed in last 5 years but currently licensed/practicing in another state.

Table 2: Nevada Exam Outcomes

Between FY20-23, the Board administered 88 practical exams, of which 48 were completed by AuD-D applicants. Of those 48, only 3 exams (6%) resulted in failure on the first attempt, compared to 22% of HAS applicants and 29% of Apprentices seeking conversion to a HAS license.

	AUD	HAS	HAS-A	TOTAL
Total	48	18	24	88
Fail	3 (6%)	4 (22%)	7 (29%)	14 (16%)



State of Nevada

Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology & Hearing Aid Dispensing Board
Advisory Committee on Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids
Table 3: Educational Degree Required for Audiology: State-by State

D (33)				M or D (15)		M (3)
Alabama	Indiana	Montana	Rhode Island	Alaska	New Hampshire	Hawaii
Arizona	Iowa	Nebraska	South Carolina	Arkansas	New Jersey	Kansas
California	Kentucky	New Mexico	Tennessee	DC	New York	West Virginia
Colorado	Louisiana	North Carolina	Texas	Idaho	North Dakota	
Connecticut	Maryland	Ohio	Utah	Maine	South Dakota	
Delaware	Massachusetts	Oklahoma	Virginia	Michigan	Vermont	
Florida	Minnesota	Oregon	Wisconsin	Missouri	Washington	
Georgia	Mississippi	Pennsylvania	Wyoming	Nevada*		
Illinois						

Table 4: Exam(s) and/or Separate License/Endorsement: State-by State

- Nevada is 1 of 13 states requiring a separate license/endorsement for an Audiologist to dispense hearing aids. Of those 13, 10 require the written exam, and only 4 require the practical exam.
- For a HAS license, Nevada is 1 of 44 states requiring the written dispensing exam, and one of 16 states requiring the practical exam.

	Written (10)	Practical (4)	Separate License/Endorsement (13)			
Alabama	X	X	HAD License			
California			HAD License			
DC			Certificate of Registration to Dispense Hearing Aids			
Iowa	X		HAS License			
Kansas	X		HAD License			
Kentucky	X		HAS License			
Minnesota	X		Hearing Instrument Dispenser License			
Nevada	X	X	Requires additional endorsement			
New Mexico	X	X	Endorsement + 6 months experience			
North Dakota	X		HAD License			
New Hampshire	X	X	Hearing Aid Dealer Registration			
New York			Hearing Aid Dispenser Registration			
Virginia	X		HAD License required			
Allowed With Provisions (3)	Illinois	Must comply with Hearing Instrument Consumer Protection Act				
	Alaska	Must comply with certain consumer practices.				
	Arkansas	Must comply with state regs on medical clearance & consumer protections.				
Allowed (35) (States in RED have passed ASLP-IC legislation)		Arizona	Idaho	Mississippi	Oklahoma	Texas
		Colorado	Indiana	Missouri	Oregon	Utah
		Connecticut	Louisiana	Montana	Pennsylvania	Vermont
		Delaware	Maine	Nebraska	Rhode Island	Washington
		Florida	Maryland	New Jersey	South Carolina	West Virginia
		Georgia	Massachusetts	North Carolina	South Dakota	Wisconsin
		Hawaii	Michigan	Ohio	Tennessee	Wyoming

CONSIDERATIONS/PROPOSED REVISIONS

Should the Committee elect to recommend a revision to the Board, potential options are listed below. Please click on each to jump to potential/draft language.

Please also note that any recommendation to revise NRS **should be finalized prior to summer 2024** at the latest for inclusion in the Board's planned BDR for the 2025 legislative session.



State of Nevada

Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology & Hearing Aid Dispensing Board
Advisory Committee on Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids

Option	NRS/NAC Sections	Detail	Affected Applicants
<u>OPTION 1</u>	NRS 637B.205	Remove exam & endorsement requirements for all applicants.	ALL
<u>OPTION 2</u>	NRS 637B.205	Retain exam & endorsement requirements but allow reciprocity/exam waiver for out-of-state licensees.	Out-of-State Licensees
<u>OPTION 3</u>	NRS 637B.203 NRS 637B.204	Retain exam & endorsement requirements but expand License by Endorsement statutes to include dispensing for out-of-state licensees.	Out-of-State Licensees
<u>OPTION 4</u>	NRS 637B.200	Retain exam & endorsement requirements but expand Temporary License statute to allow any eligible AUD applicant to begin fitting & dispensing while completing exams.	ALL
<u>OPTION 5</u>	NAC 637B.0373	Retain exam & endorsement requirements but revise NAC to include an exam waiver for out-of-state licensees.	Out-of-State Licensees
<u>OPTION 6</u>	NRS/NAC New	Recommend legislation to join <u>ASLP Interstate Compact (ASLP-IC)</u> (does not require endorsement/ exam).	ALL

OPTION 1: NRS 637B.205 | Remove exam & endorsement requirements for all applicants, including new graduates and out-of-state licensees.

[NRS 637B.205 Endorsement for certain licensees or applicants to practice fitting and dispensing hearing aids.

An audiologist or an applicant for a license to engage in the practice of audiology who wishes to engage in the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids must:

1. Request an endorsement of the license to engage in the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids; and
2. Pass an examination prescribed by the Board pursuant to NRS 637B.194. The examination must be identical to the examination required for the licensure of hearing aid specialists.]

[RETURN TO OPTION LIST](#)

OPTION 2: NRS 637B.205 | Retain exam & endorsement requirements but allow reciprocity/exam waiver for out-of-state licensees.

NRS 637B.205 Endorsement for certain licensees or applicants to practice fitting and dispensing hearing aids.

An audiologist or an applicant for a license to engage in the practice of audiology who wishes to engage in the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids must:

1. Request an endorsement of the license to engage in the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids; and
2. Pass an examination prescribed by the Board pursuant to NRS 637B.194. The examination must be identical to the examination required for the licensure of hearing aid specialists.
3. The examination requirement may be waived for any applicant holding a corresponding valid and unrestricted license to engage in the practice of audiology that includes fitting and dispensing hearing aids, as applicable, in the District of Columbia or any state or territory of the United States.

[RETURN TO OPTION LIST](#)



State of Nevada

Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology & Hearing Aid Dispensing Board
Advisory Committee on Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids

OPTION 3: NRS 637B.203 and .204 | Retain exam & endorsement requirements but expand License by Endorsement statutes to include dispensing for out-of-state licensees.

NRS 637B.203 Expedited license by endorsement to practice audiology or speech-language pathology: Requirements; procedure for issuance.

1. The Board may issue a license by endorsement to engage in the practice of audiology or speech-language pathology to an applicant who meets the requirements set forth in this section. An applicant may submit to the Board an application for such a license if the applicant:
 - (a) Holds a corresponding valid and unrestricted license to engage in the practice of **[audiology or]** speech-language pathology, as applicable, in the District of Columbia or any state or territory of the United States.
 - (b) Holds a corresponding valid and unrestricted license to engage in the practice of audiology that includes fitting and dispensing hearing aids, as applicable, in the District of Columbia or any state or territory of the United States.

NRS 637B.204 Expedited license by endorsement to practice audiology or speech-language pathology for active member of Armed Forces, member's spouse, veteran or veteran's surviving spouse: Requirements; procedure for issuance; provisional license pending action on application.

1. The Board may issue a license by endorsement to engage in the practice of audiology or speech-language pathology to an applicant who meets the requirements set forth in this section. An applicant may submit to the Board an application for such a license if the applicant:
 - (a) Holds a corresponding valid and unrestricted license to engage in the practice of **[audiology or]** speech-language pathology, as applicable, in the District of Columbia or any state or territory of the United States; **[and]** or
 - (b) Holds a corresponding valid and unrestricted license to engage in the practice of audiology that includes fitting and dispensing hearing aids, as applicable, in the District of Columbia or any state or territory of the United States; and
 - (c) **[(b)]** Is an active member of, or the spouse of an active member of, the Armed Forces of the United States, a veteran or the surviving spouse of a veteran.

[RETURN TO OPTION LIST](#)

OPTION 4: NRS 637B.200 | Retain exam & endorsement requirements but expand Temporary License statute to allow any eligible AUD applicant to begin fitting & dispensing while completing exams.

NRS 637B.200 Temporary licenses.

1. The Board may issue a temporary license to engage in the practice of:
 - (a) Audiology, **speech-language pathology or including** fitting and dispensing hearing aids upon application and the payment of the fee required pursuant to NRS 637B.175 to any person who **is so licensed in another state and who** meets all the qualifications for licensing in this State **other than passing the examination concerning the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids prescribed pursuant to NRS 637B.194;** or
 - (b) **[Audiology, s]** Speech-language pathology **or fitting and dispensing hearing aids** upon application and the payment of the fee required pursuant to NRS 637B.175 to any person who is so licensed in another state and who meets all the qualifications for licensing in this State; **[and]** or
 - (c) **Fitting and dispensing hearing aids upon application and payment of the fee required pursuant to NRS 637B.175 to any person who is so licensed in another state as a hearing aid specialist and who meets all the qualifications for licensing in this State other than passing the examination concerning the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids prescribed pursuant to NRS 637B.194.**



State of Nevada

Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology & Hearing Aid Dispensing Board
Advisory Committee on Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids

2. The Board may issue a temporary license to engage in the practice of **[audiology,]** speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids upon application and payment of the fee required pursuant to NRS 637B.175 to any spouse of a member of the Armed Forces of the United States who:
 - (a) Is so licensed in another state; and
 - (b) Attests that he or she meets all of the qualifications for licensure in this State.
3. **The Board may issue a temporary license to engage in the practice of audiology, including fitting and dispensing hearing aids upon application and payment of the fee required pursuant to NRS 637B.175 to any spouse of a member of the Armed Forces of the United States who attests that he or she meets all of the qualifications for licensure in this State.**
- 4.**[3.]** A temporary license issued pursuant to this section:
 - (a) Is valid for not more than 6 months;
 - (b) May be renewed not more than once; and
 - (c) May be converted to an active license upon the completion of all requirements for a license and payment of the fee required by NRS 637B.175.

[RETURN TO OPTION LIST](#)

OPTION 5: NAC 637B.0373 | Retain exam & endorsement requirements but revise NAC to include an exam waiver for out-of-state licensees.

NAC 637B.0373 Examination for license to engage in practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids: Contents; eligibility; passing score; authorization to retake upon payment of fee.

1. The examination prescribed by the Board pursuant to NRS 637B.194 must consist of a written portion and a practical portion. The examination may also include a portion that tests the familiarity of an applicant with the provisions of this chapter and chapter 637B of NRS and all other federal laws and regulations relevant to the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids in this State.
2. To be eligible to take the examination set forth in subsection 1, an applicant must:
 - (a) File a completed application with the Executive Director of the Board; and
 - (b) Pay the examination fee prescribed by NAC 637B.030.
3. The Board will establish the passing score for the examination set forth in subsection 1.
4. If an applicant does not achieve a passing score on the examination set forth in subsection 1, as established by the Board pursuant to subsection 3, he or she may retake the examination not sooner than 30 days after the date of the previous examination upon payment of the examination fee prescribed by NAC 637B.030.
5. The Board may approve and accept a passing score obtained on a written examination taken within the immediately preceding **[12]** 24 months if the examination taken by the applicant was substantially the same as the written portion of the examination prescribed by the Board.
6. **The Board may approve and accept a passing score obtained on a practical examination as follows:**
 - a. **Taken within the immediately preceding 24 months if the examination taken by the applicant was substantially the same as the written portion of the examination prescribed by the Board.**
 - b. **Taken within the immediately preceding 5 years if the examination taken by the applicant was substantially the same as the written portion of the examination prescribed by the Board and the applicant holds a corresponding valid and unrestricted license to engage in the practice of audiology, including fitting and dispensing hearing aids, as applicable, in the District of Columbia or any state or territory of the United States.**

[RETURN TO OPTION LIST](#)



State of Nevada

Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology & Hearing Aid Dispensing Board
Advisory Committee on Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids

OPTION 6: Recommend legislation to join [ASLP Interstate Compact \(ASLP-IC\)](#) Membership, which does not require endorsement or exam.

The Board previously heard a presentation from the ASLP-IC, an interstate compact intended to provide a single-point entry for AuD and SLP licensure through a home state with expedited “privilege to practice” in participating compact states. The ASLP-IC Commission held its initial meeting in January 2022 to begin establishing rules and bylaws and to date, there are 29 member states, with applications for compact privileges anticipated to open in early 2024. This compact does not include Hearing Aid Specialists.

[ASLP-IC Model Legislation:](#)

For an audiologist:

1. Must meet one of the following educational requirements:
 - a. On or before, Dec. 31, 2007, has graduated with a master’s degree or doctorate in audiology, or equivalent degree regardless of degree name, from a program that is accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation, or its successor, or by the United States Department of Education and operated by a college or university accredited by a regional or national accrediting organization recognized by the board; or
 - b. On or after, Jan. 1, 2008, has graduated with a Doctoral degree in audiology, or equivalent degree, regardless of degree name, from a program that is accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation, or its successor, or by the United States Department of Education and operated by a college or university accredited by a regional or national accrediting organization recognized by the board; or
 - c. Has graduated from an audiology program that is housed in an institution of higher education outside of the United States (a) for which the program and institution have been approved by the authorized accrediting body in the applicable country and (b) the degree program has been verified by an independent credentials review agency to be comparable to a state licensing board-approved program.
2. Has completed a supervised clinical practicum experience from an accredited educational institution or its cooperating programs as required by the Commission;
3. Has successfully passed a national examination approved by the Commission;
4. Holds an active, unencumbered license;
5. Has not been convicted or found guilty, and has not entered into an agreed disposition, of a felony related to the practice of audiology, under applicable state or federal criminal law;
6. Has a valid United States Social Security or National Practitioner Identification number

[RETURN TO OPTION LIST](#)

ACTION: Approve, table, or take no action on the matter.

ATTACHMENT: None.



State of Nevada

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Advisory Committee on Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids

AGENDA ITEM 5

Reports from Committee Chair and Members

- a. Report from Committee Chair and Board Members
- b. Next Meeting (proposed): **Wednesday, April 10, 2024 at 4:30pm**
- c. Future Agenda Items

ACTION: Approve, table, or take no action on the matter.

ATTACHMENT(S): None.



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AGENDA ITEM 6

Public Comment

No vote may be taken upon a matter raised during a period devoted to public comment until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. (NRS 241.020)

ACTION: Informational only.

ATTACHMENT(S): None.



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AGENDA ITEM 7

Adjournment

ACTION: Meeting adjourned.

ATTACHMENT(S): None.