

# USE OF UNLICENSED AUDIOLOGY ASSISTANTS

## A Guide to NRS 637B & NAC 637B



### **Nevada Speech Language-Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Board**

- REVISED APRIL 2026 -

#### **DISCLAIMER**

This guide is intended to serve as a compilation of laws and regulations prescribed in [NRS Chapter 637B](#) and [NAC Chapter 637B](#) including recent revisions in Assembly Bill 177 (2025) and LCB Files R108-23 & R026-25, not yet codified, regarding the allowable use of unlicensed audiology assistants.

Details of the Board's laws & regulations are summarized in this document to provide a user-friendly, quick-reference guide, but this document may not be exhaustive of all sections and should not be used as a substitute for the responsibility of knowing the contents of NRS Chapter 637B and NAC Chapter 637B.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.	Requirements for Delegating to an Unlicensed Assistant .....	3
A.	Conditions for Delegating.....	3
B.	Liability for Negligence or Incompetence .....	3
C.	Allowable Duties that May be Delegated by AUD or HAS.....	3
D.	Allowable Duties Involving Direct Physical Contact with a Client or Instrument .....	4
E.	Prohibited Duties & Activities that May Not Be Delegated.....	4
F.	Use of Title by Unlicensed Assistants.....	4
II.	Licensee & Unlicensed Assistant Conduct.....	5
A.	NRS Chapter 637B & NAC Chapter 637B.....	5
	Scopes of Practice.....	5
	Disciplinary Action.....	5
	Responsibilities to Clients & Treatment .....	5
	Professional Responsibilities .....	5
	Contact Information Updates and Notices to the Board.....	5
	Unlicensed Practice .....	5
B.	Adopted Professional Codes of Conduct.....	5
	Practice of Audiology.....	5
	Practice of Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids.....	5

# I. REQUIREMENTS FOR DELEGATING TO AN UNLICENSED ASSISTANT

---

Licensed audiologists (AUD) and hearing aid specialists (HAS) may assume responsibility for and delegate certain tasks to unlicensed audiology assistants, effective June 20, 2024 per revisions to NAC 637B.0442 in [NAC 637B.0442\(1\) as Revised in LCB File R108-23](#) (not yet codified).

## A. Conditions for Delegating

An AUD or HAS may delegate certain duties to an unlicensed assistant if:

1. The duty being delegated is within the scope of the license held by the AUD or HAS; and
2. The AUD or HAS determines, before delegating a duty, that the unlicensed assistant possesses the necessary knowledge, competence, training and skills to perform the duty.

## B. Liability for Negligence or Incompetence

[NAC 637B.0442\(2\) as Revised in LCB File R108-23](#)

If an AUD or HAS delegates a duty to an unlicensed assistant, they are responsible and civilly liable for any negligence or incompetence of the unlicensed assistant in performing the duty.

## C. Allowable Duties that May be Delegated by AUD or HAS

[NAC 637B.0442\(3\) as Revised in LCB File R108-23](#)

- (a) Cleaning hearing aids and amplification devices.
- (b) Repairing or replacing a broken part of a hearing aid with the same part.
- (c) Replacing a thin tube or dome with a similar size or style.
- (d) Replacing filters.
- (e) Returning to a client a repaired hearing aid that does not require fitting, programming or adjusting.
- (f) Accepting an in-office return of a hearing aid if a receipt is provided to document proof of the return.
- (g) Performing clerical, secretarial and general administrative duties, including, without limitation, providing information that is readily available to the general public.
- (h) Greeting, escorting and scheduling clients.
- (i) Packaging/mailing orders of ear molds, repaired devices, & returns to manufacturers or laboratories.
- (j) Maintaining inventories of supplies and checking the function of equipment.
- (k) Performing checks on hearing aids and other amplification devices.
- (l) Performing troubleshooting & minor repairs to hearing aids, earmolds, & other amplification devices.
- (m) Performing electroacoustic analysis of hearing aids and other amplification devices.
- (n) Demonstrating alerting and assistive listening devices.
- (o) Verbally instructing a client in proper ear hygiene.
- (p) Assisting an AUD or HAS with treatment programs.
- (q) Assisting an AUD or HAS with setup and technical tasks.
- (r) Preparing materials for an ear impression.
- (s) Maintaining and restocking test and treatment rooms.
- (t) Performing equipment maintenance and biological checks.
- (u) Performing infection control duties within the clinic.
- (v) Assisting a client in completing a case history or other relevant forms.
- (w) Interacting with a manufacturer/supplier of hearing instruments on the status of an order or repair.
- (x) Translating and interpreting only if the unlicensed assistant is fluent in a language other than English and has the necessary training and skills to perform such translation or interpretation.

## **D. Allowable Duties Involving Direct Physical Contact with a Client or Instrument**

[NAC 637B.0442\(4\) as Revised in LCB File R108-23](#)

Duties that involve direct physical contact with a client or a hearing-related procedure or instrument are prohibited, except for the duties listed below:

- (a) Instructing a client in the proper use and care of hearing aids and other amplification devices.
- (b) Conducting hearing and tympanometric screening on older children and adults without interpretation.
- (c) Conducting an otoacoustic emission screening.
- (d) Performing a nondiagnostic otoscopy.
- (e) Performing a pure-tone audiologic reassessment on an established client.
- (f) Preparing a client for electronystagmography and videonystagmography or evoked testing.
- (g) Assisting a hearing aid specialist or audiologist in testing the hearing of a pediatric client.
- (h) Performing a pure-tone hearing screening and universal newborn hearing screening test.

## **E. Prohibited Duties & Activities that May Not Be Delegated**

[NAC 637B.0442\(5\)\(a-n\) as Revised in LCB File R108-23](#)

An AUD or HAS may not delegate any duty to an unlicensed assistant that requires professional or advanced training in the practice of audiology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids, including, but not limited to the following:

- (a) Removing a hearing aid from or placing a hearing aid into a client's ear.
- (b) Programming, adjusting or fitting a hearing aid.
- (c) Conducting an interview, examination or evaluation relating to a client's hearing or hearing loss.
- (d) Any activity involving direct physical contact with a client and a hearing-related procedure or instrument except for those listed in Section D., above.
- (e) Determining case selection or evaluation protocols.
- (f) Interpreting observations or data into a diagnostic statement of a clinical management strategy or procedure.
- (g) Participating in a team or case conference or on any interdisciplinary team without the presence of a supervising AUD or an AUD designated by the supervising AUD.
- (h) Writing, developing or modifying a client's individualized treatment plan.
- (i) Assisting a client without following the treatment plan prepared by the supervising AUD or HAS without proper supervision.
- (j) Composing or signing any formal document such as a treatment plan, reimbursement form, progress note or other report, as applicable.
- (k) Transmitting or disclosing clinical information, either verbally or in writing, to anyone, including, without limitation, the client, without the approval of the supervising AUD or HAS.
- (l) Selecting a client for treatment services or discharging a client from treatment services;
- (m) Counseling or consulting with a client, a family member of a client or others regarding the client's status or treatment services or making referrals for additional services.

## **F. Use of Title by Unlicensed Assistants**

[NAC 637B.0442\(5\)\(n\) as Revised in LCB File R108-23](#)

Unlicensed assistants may not refer to themselves, either verbally or in writing, with a title other than the one designated by the supervising AUD or HAS.

## II. LICENSEE & UNLICENSED ASSISTANT CONDUCT

---

All licensees, students, and unlicensed assistants should be familiar with the following sections of NRS 637B and NAC 637B addressing practitioner conduct, with attention to conduct specific to audiology and fitting and dispensing hearing aids.

### A. NRS Chapter 637B & NAC Chapter 637B

#### Scopes of Practice

[NRS 637B.050](#) "Practice of audiology", defined.

[NRS 637B.055](#) "Practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids" defined.

#### Disciplinary Action

[NRS 637B.250](#) Grounds for Initiating Disciplinary Action

[NAC 637B.046](#) Grounds for Disciplinary Action: Unprofessional Conduct

#### Responsibilities to Clients & Treatment

[NAC 637B.044](#) Responsibility to Client

[NAC 637B.0446](#) Case History & Procedures Required For Prospective Hearing Aid Candidate

[NAC 637B.0448](#) Duties of HAS or AUD Concerning Hearing Aids Sold or Fitted

[NAC 637B.045](#) Preparation & Retention of Health Care Records and Other Records

#### Professional Responsibilities

[NRS 637B.237](#) HAS Apprentice Self-Identification & Use of Title

[NRS 637B.239](#) HAS & HAS Apprentice Display of License

[NAC 637B.042](#) Professional Responsibility

#### Contact Information Updates and Notices to the Board

[NAC 637B, LCB File R026-25, Sec 28](#) Notification of Adverse Action Against Licensee within 30 Days

[NAC 637B.038](#) Name Change Notification within 30 Days/Practice Under Another Name Prohibited

[NRS 637B.241](#) HAS & HAS Apprentice Notice to Board of Change in Business Address

[NAC 637B.0385](#) All Licensees Address & Contact Information to Be Maintained With the Board

#### Unlicensed Practice

[NRS 637B.290](#) Practice without license: Prohibition; penalties.

[NRS 637B.291](#) Practice or offering to practice without license: Reporting requirements of Board.

### B. Adopted Professional Codes of Conduct

[NAC 637B, LCB File R026-25, Sec 16](#)

The Board has adopted, by reference, the following professional codes of conduct in the form most recently published, as standards of professional conduct in the State of Nevada. A copy of any of these publications may be obtained free of charge from the Board upon written request. A violation of the provisions of a code of ethics adopted by reference in this section constitutes *cause for disciplinary action*.

#### Practice of Audiology

[American Academy of Audiology \(AAA\) Code of Ethics](#) and [American Speech-Language-Hearing Association \(ASHA\) Code of Ethics](#). If the ASHA and AAA standards conflict, the more restrictive standards apply.

#### Practice of Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids

[National Board for Certification in Hearing Instrument Sciences \(NBC-HIS\) Code of Ethics](#) and [International Hearing Society \(IHS\) Code of Ethics](#). If the NBC-HIS and IHS standards conflict, the more restrictive standards apply.