



UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT LITTLE ROCK  
UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS FOR MEDICAL SCIENCES

2801 South University Little Rock, Arkansas 72204 501.569.3155

Department of Audiology and Speech Pathology  
Speech and Hearing Clinic

UAMS

Dear Prospective Au.D. Student:

Thank you for your inquiry regarding our audiology graduate program and the Doctor of Audiology (Au.D.) degree. This is a four-year program across 11 semesters beginning only with Fall semester admission. The UAMS/UALR Au.D. program is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation (CAA) in Audiology and Speech Pathology. All graduates will complete the academic and clinical requirements to be eligible for national certification in audiology (CCC-A) offered by the Council for Clinical Certification (CFCC). The graduate may also be eligible to apply for Board Certification in Audiology with the American Board of Audiology (ABA).

Enclosed is program information including degree requirements, steps in the application process, recommendation form (three are required), an 'Essential Functions' document, and a graduate assistantship application (optional). **All application materials are due February 1, 2015. We strongly encourage submitting before January 1, 2015 to ensure adequate time.** Please review this application packet carefully to maximize your chances of a completed application. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed or considered. At the discretion of the program, early offers of admission may be extended to a limited number of exemplary applicants.

In order to assist you in making an informed decision, the Au.D. Program Academic Handbook, Fast Facts, Program Statistics, and Frequency Asked Questions are all listed in the Doctor of Audiology section of the Department Website:

<http://healthprofessions.uams.edu/programs/audandspeechpathology/>

We appreciate your interest in our program, and we look forward to hearing from you. If you have any questions about the admissions process or our program, or if you would like to check on the status of your materials, please feel free to contact me at 501-569-3155 or [sratcherson@ualr.edu](mailto:sratcherson@ualr.edu) (e-mail is probably faster).

Samuel R. Atcherson, Ph.D., Associate Professor  
Chair, Audiology Admissions Committee

The masters (M.S.) education program in speech pathology and the doctoral (Au.D.) program in audiology at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences/University of Arkansas at Little Rock are accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, 2200 Research Boulevard #310, Rockville, Maryland, 20850, 800-498-2071 or 301-5700.

## WHAT'S IN THIS APPLICATION PACKET?

### 1) UAMS/UALR DOCTOR OF AUDIOLOGY PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS (P. 3)

- THE BASIC REQUIREMENTS FOR SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE AU.D. PROGRAM.

### 2) STEPS IN THE APPLICATION PROCESS (P. 4)

- PLEASE FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY, PARTICULARLY WHAT DOCUMENTS ARE SENT WHERE.

To: CHP WELCOME CENTER	To: AU.D. ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• APPLICATION (DO THIS FIRST)</li><li>• TRANSCRIPTS FROM EVERY POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTION YOU'VE EVER ATTENDED</li><li>• GRADUATE RECORDS EXAMINATION (GRE) SCORES (CODE 6146)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PERSONAL ESSAY</li><li>• THREE RECOMMENDATION FORMS (SUPPLEMENTAL LETTERS MAY BE APPENDED TO THE FORM)</li></ul>

NOTE: INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS SHOULD ALSO CONSULT WITH THE CHP CATALOG FOR ADDITIONAL CRITERIA AND REQUIREMENTS. LINK: <http://healthprofessions.uams.edu/current-students/catalogs-and-handbooks/>

### 3) RECOMMENDATION FORM (P. 5-6)

- RECOMMENDATION FORMS MUST COME FROM THREE FACULTY MEMBERS WHO HAVE TAUGHT OR SUPERVISED YOU IN A CLINICAL PRACTICUM. IF YOU HAVE BEEN OUT OF SCHOOL FOR A WHILE, OR ARE HAVING DIFFICULTY FINDING A RECOMMENDATION, PLEASE LET US KNOW.

### 4) ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS DOCUMENT AND SIGNATURE PAGE (P. 7-10)

- THIS IS REQUIRED READING. DURING FALL ORIENTATION, YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO SIGN THIS FORM DURING ORIENTATION AFTER YOU HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED AND ENROLLED IN THE PROGRAM.

### 5) APPLICATION FOR GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIP (P. 11-12)

- THOUGH NOT TIED TO THE ADMISSIONS PROCESS, THESE ARE COMPETITIVE PAID WORK OPPORTUNITIES FOR AU.D. STUDENTS, AND MAY BE AVAILABLE FOR INCOMING STUDENTS. PLEASE CONTACT DR. PAT HIGHLEY FOR MORE INFORMATION AT [PHIGHLEY@UAMS.EDU](mailto:PHIGHLEY@UAMS.EDU).

## UAMS/UALR DOCTOR OF AUDIOLOGY PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

### SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

1) UNDERGRADUATE COURSES (REQUIRED PRIOR TO OR DURING ENROLLMENT IN THE AU.D. PROGRAM)

- Phonetics (3 credit hours)
- Language acquisition/development (3 credit hours)
- Statistics (3 credit hours)
- Mathematics (3 credit hours)
- Physical Science (3 credit hours)
- Behavioral Science (3 credit hours)
- Social Science (3 credit hours)

2) AU.D. COURSE WORK (Earn a minimum of 118 semester credits)

- 72 semester credits of course work
- 11 semester credits of clinical lab
- 6 semester credits of directed research
- 17 semester credits of clinical practicum
- 12 semester credits of clinical externship

3) MEET THE ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS (TECHNICAL STANDARDS)

4) PASS THE PERFORMANCE-BASED EVALUATIONS

5) PASS THE COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION AT THE END OF THE THIRD YEAR

6) COMPLETE A DIRECTED RESEARCH (CAPSTONE) PROJECT

7) MEET KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS ACQUISITIONS (KASA) OBJECTIVES

8) COMPLETE CHECKOUT AND EXIT INTERVIEW PRIOR TO GRADUATION

## Checklist & Steps in the Application Process - Deadline: February 1

Check when completed

### STEP 1

----- STEP 1 SHOULD BE COMPLETED BEFORE PROCEEDING! -----

Complete the Application for Admission  
You will find both online and printable versions of the applications at:  
<http://healthprofessions.uams.edu/prospective-students/apply/>

Mail both the Application and your \$40.00 application fee to:  
(Please make check payable to: UAMS College of Health Professions)

CHP Welcome Center  
UAMS College of Health Professions  
4301 West Markham Street, #619  
Little Rock, AR 72205-7199

Check when completed

### STEP 2

Have **each** college or university that you attended send **an official transcript through Fall 2014** directly to the CHP Welcome Center. "Official" means that the transcript must be sent by the registrar at the institution directly to CHP.

Copies sent or delivered by the applicant will not be accepted.

Check when completed

### STEP 3

Arrange for an official copy of your **GRE** scores to be sent to the  
**UAMS College of Health Professions, INSTITUTION CODE: 6146.**

Check when completed

### STEP 4

Have 3 faculty members complete and mail/fax a **recommendation form** (a supplemental letter of recommendation is welcome) the following address:

**AUSP Audiology Admissions Committee**  
**AUSP-UALR, UP 600**  
**2801 South University Ave.**  
**Little Rock, AR 72204 Fax: 501.569.3157**

Check when completed

### STEP 5

Send a personal essay to the Audiology Admissions Committee at the address above.  
Your letter should be no more than 1.5 pages (single-spaced) using a 12-point font  
in a business letter format. In the letter you should tell us:

- 1) why you are choosing audiology
- 2) your short- and long-term career goals
- 3) why you chose to apply to our program
- 4) any other information about yourself you consider relevant

Check when completed

### STEP 6

Watch for communications by Email and/or on the department website regarding opportunities to visit the department and have your interview. We understand that some applicants may not be able to visit the campus and we are able to set up distance technology (e.g., Skype) interviews, at the applicant's request. Though not required, it is highly recommended that all applicants consider visiting the campus.

<b>University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences/University of Arkansas at Little Rock</b> <b>Doctor of Audiology Program</b> <b>Recommendation Form</b>
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**To the applicant:** This form is to be completed by a faculty member under whom you have studied, taught, or worked and who is able to comment on your qualifications for graduate study. If you have been out of school for some time or are having difficulty finding recommenders, please contact us.

Please type or print neatly this page and give both this page and the second page to your recommender to complete and mail or fax to us.

Applicant's Last Name	Applicant's First Name	Applicant's Middle Name

Street	City	State	Zip

Applicant's Phone Number	Applicant's Permanent Email Address

Name of Recommender	Title	Institution

If you are admitted to the Doctor of Audiology program, you have the right as a student to review your permanent record, including this recommendation form, which will be on file with the university. Some recommenders prefer not to complete recommendation forms unless they can be assured of the confidentiality of their comments. It is our opinion that comments provided on a confidential basis are likely to be more helpful to us in judging important characteristics such as creativity, originality, independence and research capability. Accordingly, the university is affording you the opportunity to waive your right of subsequent access to this recommendation. In any event, your application for admission and/or financial support will be given full consideration based on all the information in your application file, including this form, regardless of your decision on waiving your right of future review. Do you waive your right of subsequent access to this recommendation?

Under provisions of Public Law 93-380, the Family Education Rights Act, and under University guidelines pursuant to that act, a student (defined as any person who has been officially admitted and registered at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences) has the right to review recommendations made in her/his behalf unless the applicant waives this right at the time s/he solicits the recommendation. If you wish to waive your right to review, please indicate below.

	I hereby waive my right to review this recommendation
	I hereby DO NOT waive my right to review this recommendation

\_\_\_\_\_  
 APPLICANT SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
 DATE

Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

**To the Recommender:**

Please be sure you have the first page of this form indicating the applicant's decision regarding his or her right to review this recommendation form. As the form is sent to us, we need both pages for successful completion. To expedite the submission, the form may be faxed (501-569-3157) instead of mailed.

Please rate the applicant on a 1 – 5 scale with 5 indicating the applicant possesses the highest amount/level of that characteristic.

	5	4	3	2	1	Insufficient Information
Potential for successful completion of graduate studies						
Problem solving ability						
Motivation and initiative						
Reliability and dependability						
Maturity and stability						
Ability to work independently						
Ability to work with others						
Oral expression in English						
Written expression in English						

Although not required, you may supplement this recommendation form with a letter of recommendation (on letterhead) of the applicant's suitability as a graduate student.

\_\_\_\_\_  
How long have you known the applicant?

\_\_\_\_\_  
In what capacity have you known the applicant?

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed name of recommender

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of recommender

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Recommender's email address: \_\_\_\_\_

**UPON COMPLETING THIS FORM, PLEASE MAIL THIS FORM TO: AUSD A&D ADMISSIONS, UALR-UP 600, 2801 S. UNIVERSITY AVE., LITTLE ROCK, AR 72204-7199 OR FAX TO 501-569-3157.**

## ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS DOCUMENT AND SIGNATURE PAGE

**University of Arkansas at Little Rock  
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences  
Department of Audiology and Speech Pathology**

### Essential Functions of Candidates for Program Continuance

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The graduate degrees in Audiology (Au.D.) and Speech Pathology (M.S.) are recognized as broad degrees requiring the acquisition of general knowledge and basic skills in all applicable domains. The core curriculum is designed to support student attainment of the academic and clinical competencies needed for graduation, optional certification, and licensure. The education of speech-language pathologists and audiologists requires assimilation of knowledge, acquisition of skills, and development of judgment through client care experiences in preparation for independent and appropriate decisions required in practice. The current practices of speech-language pathology and audiology emphasize collaboration among audiologists, speech-language pathologists, other health care and education professionals, the client, and the client's family.

#### **POLICY**

The accredited graduate programs in speech-language pathology and audiology of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock (UALR) / University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS), Department of Audiology and Speech Pathology (ASP) adhere to the standards set by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA). Within ASHA standards, the ASP program has the freedom and ultimate responsibility for: the selection of students; the design, implementation, and evaluation of the curriculum; the evaluation of student progress; and, the determination of who should be awarded a degree.

The ASP faculty has a responsibility for the welfare of clients tested, treated, or otherwise affected by students enrolled in the programs. The department has the responsibility to the public to assure that its graduates can become fully competent audiologists and speech-language pathologists, capable of delivering quality care in a timely manner and preserving the well-being of the clients they serve. Thus, it is important that persons admitted, retained, and graduated possess the intelligence, integrity, compassion, humanitarian concern, and the physical and emotional capacity necessary to practice speech-language pathology or audiology.

The Department of Audiology and Speech Pathology, as part of the College of Professional Studies (UALR) and the College of Health Related Professions (UAMS), is committed to the principle of equal opportunity. The Universities, Colleges, and the Department do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, age, marital status, or disability. When requested, the Universities, Colleges, and the Department will provide reasonable accommodations to otherwise qualified students with properly certified disabilities. The ASP faculty has responsibility for the welfare of students in the department. In order to fulfill this responsibility, the department has established academic standards and minimum essential requirements that must be met, with or without reasonable accommodations, in order to participate in the program and graduate.

## **ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS**

In order to acquire the knowledge and skills requisite to the practice of speech-language pathology or audiology to function in a broad variety of clinical situations, and to render a wide spectrum of client care, students must have essential skills and attributes in five areas: communication, motor, intellectual-cognitive, sensory-observational, and behavioral-social. These skills enable a student to meet graduate and professional requirements as measured by state and national credentialing agencies. Many of these skills can be learned and developed during the course of the graduate program through coursework and clinical experience. Failure to meet or maintain essential functions may result in action against the student, including, but not limited to, dismissal from the program.

### **Communication**

A student must possess adequate communication skills to:

- Speak, hear and observe others for the purpose of eliciting and/or perceiving information.
- Communicate effectively and efficiently in oral and written forms.
- Modify their communication style to meet diverse communicative needs.

### **Motor**

A student must possess adequate motor skills to:

- Execute movements reasonably required to move from area to area, maneuver in small places, use equipment, materials and technology (i.e. microphones, hearing aids, computers, AAC devices, etc.) as needed to provide clients with appropriate general care.
- Access transportation to clinical and academic placements.
- Participate in classroom and clinical activities for the defined workday.

### **Intellectual / Cognitive**

A student must possess adequate intellectual, ethical, emotional, and cognitive skills to:

- Achieve academic and clinical knowledge and skills.
- Participate in clinical settings and achieve the levels of competence required by the academic and clinical faculty and off-campus supervisors.
- Solve problems critical to the practice of speech-language pathology and audiology.
- Self evaluate, identify, and communicate limits of one's own knowledge and skills.
- Identify and utilize resources in order to increase knowledge and skills.
- Utilize detailed written and verbal instruction in order to make unique and independent decisions.
- Measure, calculate, reason, analyze, and synthesize as needed in the academic and clinical arenas.

### **Sensory / Observational**

A student must possess adequate senses of vision and hearing to:

- Accurately observe clients and interpret and analyze their behaviors.
- Adequately treat clients and use equipment appropriately.

### **Behavioral / Social**

A student must possess adequate behavioral and social attributes to:

- Display mature, empathetic, and effective professional relationships by exhibiting compassion, integrity, and concern for others.



- Recognize and show respect for individuals of different ages, genders, races, religions, sexual orientations, cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds, and disabilities.
- Recognize when a client's family does or does not understand the clinician's written and/or verbal communication.
- Maintain generally good emotional and mental health to fully utilize their intellectual abilities and exercise good judgment including prompt completion of all academic and clinical responsibilities.

Candidates for the Master of Science in Communicative Disorders (M.S.) and/or the Doctor of Audiology (Au.D.) who have been accepted for admission will be required to verify that they understand and meet these essential functions. Admission decisions are made on the assumption that each candidate can meet the essential functions and fulfill essential functions without consideration of disability.

The *Disability Support Services* office at UALR will review a student's request for accommodation and confirm that the stated condition qualifies as a disability under applicable laws.

If an applicant states she/he can meet the essential functions with accommodation, then the department will determine whether it agrees that the student can meet the essential functions with reasonable accommodation; this includes a review of whether the accommodation would jeopardize client safety or the educational process of the student or the institution, including all coursework and internships/practicum placements deemed essential to graduation. At any time in the course of a student's enrollment in the department, should their needs change, the student can request accommodation through the *Disability Support Services* office.

*Disability Support Services* and the Department of Audiology and Speech Pathology will jointly decide what accommodations are suitable and possible in terms of reasonable accommodation, and will render the person capable of performing all essential functions established by the program.

*Reference: Adapted from the Council of Academic Programs in Communication Sciences and Disorders (2007)*



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 2801 South University Little Rock, Arkansas 72204 501.569.3155  
 Department of Audiology and Speech Pathology  
 Speech and Hearing Clinic



*Please sign one of the following Essential Functions statements:*

**Statement for Students who are NOT Requesting Accommodations**

I certify that I have read and understand the Essential Functions of Candidates for Program Admission and Continuance listed above and I believe to the best of my knowledge that I meet each of these standards without accommodation. I understand that if I am unable to meet these standards, I may be dismissed from the program.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature of Applicant**

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Printed Name of Applicant**

**Statement for Students Requesting Accommodations**

I certify that I have read and understand the Essential Functions of Candidates for Program Admission and Continuance listed above and I believe to the best of my knowledge that I can meet each of these standards with certain accommodations. I will contact the *Disability Support Services* Office to determine what accommodations may be available. I understand that if I am unable to meet these standards with or without accommodation, I may be dismissed from the program.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature of Applicant**

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Printed Name of Applicant**

Rev. 8-12-09

**UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS FOR MEDICAL SCIENCES  
DEPARTMENT OF AUDIOLOGY AND SPEECH PATHOLOGY**

**APPLICATION FOR GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIP  
DOCTOR OF AUDIOLOGY PROGRAM**

Graduate assistants serve as clinic, teaching, research, and/or administrative assistants and must be enrolled in a full-time course of study (a minimum of 10 semester credits in the fall and spring semesters and at least seven (7) semester credits in the summer). Applicants must meet prerequisite requirements for regular, full-time admission to the Doctor of Audiology Program. Satisfactory academic performance must be maintained throughout the assistantship. For example, if a student earns a grade of "C" in any course, the graduate assistantship must be relinquished at the end of that semester.

**YEAR OF ANTICIPATED ENROLLMENT:** \_\_\_\_\_

**UNDERGRADUATE MAJOR:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE**

1. Name: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Race/ethnicity\* \_\_\_\_\_ (\*Optional, but indication of race may assist in identifying candidates who may qualify for any available minority assistantships.)

3. Personal Information:

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Resident of Arkansas?                      Yes                      No

Citizen of the U.S.?                      Yes                      No

4. Current complete mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Permanent address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Current phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent phone: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Colleges and universities attended with dates and degrees (if any):

College/University Name	Dates	Degree(s)
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Cumulative GPA: \_\_\_\_\_ GPA in Major: \_\_\_\_\_

8. Scholastic honors and significant extracurricular activities:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

9. Work experience:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

10. Previous graduate assistantships:

\_\_\_\_\_

11. Do you have any special interest areas in audiology (e.g., hearing aids, early identification, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_

12. What is your preferred population with which to work?

Adult \_\_\_\_\_ Geriatric \_\_\_\_\_ Pediatric \_\_\_\_\_ Undetermined \_\_\_\_\_

13. List any volunteer activities you have participated in that were related to audiology.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Please attach a 1-page, double-spaced, typed statement explaining why you wish to be considered for an audiology graduate assistantship. Send graduate assistantship application and essay to: Au.D. Graduate Assistantship Committee, AUSP-UALR, UP-600, 2801 S. University Ave., Little Rock, AR 72204 or Fax to 501-569-3157.**

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_