



**AHIP Hearing Instrument Dispenser (H.I.D.)
& Hearing Instrument Specialist (H.I.S.)
Entry to Practice Information**

Those who have met the educational requirements leading to obtaining a provincial certificate* or diploma* in the field of audiometric evaluation and hearing instrument provision are eligible for full membership in AHIP as a **Hearing Instrument Dispenser (H.I.D.)**. When requesting membership from AHIP, applicants must provide proof of education (certificate or diploma), payment of registration fees and valid Certificate of Professional Liability Insurance for a minimum of \$2,000,000.

A **Hearing Instrument Dispenser (H.I.D.)** is certified in the fitting, counselling and dispensing of hearing instruments and associated devices, and the removal of cerumen from the external ear canal where a member's practice includes it. Hearing Instrument Dispensers whose practice includes the removal of cerumen shall have successfully completed the educational requirements of AHIP for the **removal of cerumen**.

Once graduates have become Full members of AHIP, they are eligible for the **Hearing Instrument Specialist (H.I.S.)** Internship Program. Internship applicants must successfully complete 1000 hours of practical work within 36 months of graduation, monitored by either a Hearing Instrument Specialist or Audiologist. 300 of the 1000 Internship hours must be direct, continual supervision. During this time period it is acceptable for an Intern to have more than one monitor however AHIP requires a separate application for each monitor. Also in order to finish their Internship program interns must successfully complete the **International Licensing Exam (ILE)**.

Hearing Instrument Specialists (H.I.S.) are certified in the practice of testing hearing, selection, fitting, counselling and dispensing of hearing instruments and associated devices and the removal of cerumen from the external ear canal where a member's practice includes it. Hearing Instrument Specialists' whose practice includes the removal of cerumen shall have successfully completed the educational requirements of AHIP for the **removal of cerumen**.

After successfully completing all requirements of the program, the applicant's qualifications are reviewed by the AHIP Board of Directors before the **Hearing Instrument Specialist** is certified by AHIP.

In order to maintain their certification in good standing with AHIP and Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care – Assisted Devices Program, the practitioner must complete 12 hours of continuing education units annually, be paid up to date with their membership, provide a valid yearly Certificate of Insurance for \$2,000,000 covering professional practice and abide by the AHIP Professional Code of Conduct, with no pending or outstanding grievances.

Once certified, as a **Hearing Instrument Specialist (H.I.S.)**, you are then eligible to apply to Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care – Assisted Devices Program (ADP), for an **Authorizer number**. The Authorizer package must be requested directly from ADP.

Note: Application forms for AHIP are available on line to be downloaded or can be requested from the AHIP office.

**AHIP recognizes educational certificates or diplomas offered by the following colleges and universities: George Brown College, Ontario; Conestoga College, Ontario; MacEwan University, Alberta; Rosemont College, Quebec. Douglas College, British Columbia, and Cégep de La Pocatiere, Quebec