



Student-HIP Practicum Requirements

PURPOSE

To outline the supervised practicum requirements for registration as a Hearing Instrument Practitioner (HIP).

To ensure that applicants understand that they may not practice independently -- i.e., without approved supervision -- until all education, practicum, and examination requirements for registration have been successfully completed.

SCOPE

All applicants applying for registration as a HIP.

Supervised Student-HIP practicum requirements.

POLICY

- 1. Completion of a practicum of 660 supervised hours to be completed on a graduated progression from close (330 hours) to general (330 hours) supervision.**

The applicant must complete 660 supervised hours within 12 consecutive months from the date of Student-HIP application acceptance.

With the exceptions noted below, practicum hours commence once the application has been approved.

Close Supervision

During the first 330 practicum hours, the student will provide clinical services, always under direct, onsite supervision. During this phase, the student will practice under close supervision, with the supervisor on site 100% of the time. The supervisor must co-sign written reports, audiograms, and verification measures. A student may not provide services to clients in the supervisor's absence from the clinic.

General Supervision

During the final 330 practicum hours, the supervisor will provide general supervision; that is, the supervisor monitors the actions performed by a student, co-signs written reports, audiograms, and verification measures. The supervisor will also be available for case discussions and will review case files at least weekly. The student may provide services to clients on occasions when the supervisor is not in the clinic, provided the supervisor is available for



Student-HIP Practicum Requirements

consultation via telephone or electronic means, and as long as the supervisor is present in the clinic at least 60% of the time the student is providing clinical services.

2. Credit for previous supervised clinical work

Applicants who are recent graduates¹ of a graduate or doctoral degree in audiology will be given credit for supervised clinical work directly related to audiology and hearing aids, but not for speech language pathology practicum work, and must work under general supervision until successful completion of the practical exam.

Recent graduates must provide documentation signed by their program coordinator or practicum supervisor of supervised clinical practicum hours.

3. Supervisors

The applicant must make his/her own arrangements to secure a supervisor, and pursuant to Bylaw section 82(2)(b)(i), own or have access to the minimum equipment for the practice of the profession as required by the Registration Committee.

To qualify as a supervisor, the individual must be an Active registrant with the College as a Hearing Instrument Practitioner (HIP), and in active practice in British Columbia for a minimum of two years.

A supervisor must provide the necessary clinical setting to students if they are to sign-off on Student Declarations and Work Plan objectives, and may supervise a maximum of two students concurrently. Supervisors and students must be located at the same place of business, with the exception noted under 'general supervision' as described above.

A student must inform the Registrar in advance of any proposed change in supervisor or work location during the practicum period.

4. Student-HIP Practicum Supervision Plans for Remote Locations

Graduates of a Recognized Diploma Program²

Applicants who have completed their practicum requirements and are accepted to take the next scheduled registration examinations (i.e., where they have submitted a completed and signed Work Plan – Declaration (see *Guidelines - Student-HIP Practicum Training*)), may also be employed in off-site/remote locations under general supervision.

¹ Note: Thesis students of a master's or doctoral program in audiology are not eligible for this exemption.

² See Policy R-01 – Approved Academic Programs



Student-HIP Practicum Requirements

An off-site/remote location is based on geography and service needs, and not on corporate and/or human resource needs.

Written supervision plans must be developed and co-signed by the supervisor and applicant and submitted to the Registrar prior to the start of the applicant's change of workplace. The supervision plan must include an assessment of the applicant's strengths and weaknesses as they pertain to hearing aid dispensing, and identify a competency development plan to address any weaknesses. In addition, an applicant's competency to take earmold impressions must be established by the supervisor before off-site supervision will be approved. To this end, the applicant must have satisfactorily performed a minimum of 25 impressions. The supervision plan must also include:

- A statement describing the relevant work history of the applicant;
- The location where applicant will be working;
- A schedule for on-site visits by the supervisor (minimum of monthly), including observation of fitting sessions with verification;
- The supervision plan for remotely monitoring the activities of the applicant (e.g., monthly site visits, teleconferences, videoconferences, method for reviewing reports and audiograms) and complete co-signing requirements;

Supervisors are required to review and co-sign written reports, audiograms, and verification measures in a timely fashion.

5. Substantial Equivalency

Applicants who meet the education requirements as substantially equivalent under section 73 of the College Bylaws, and have at least 5 years dispensing experience from another jurisdiction, may be employed in off-site/remote locations during the fulfillment of practicum requirements under a supervision plan approved by the Registrar.

An off-site/remote location is based on geography and service needs, and not on corporate/human resource needs. Submission and approval of the written supervision plan must take place prior the applicant's employment start date and must include the following:

- A statement describing the relevant work history of the applicant;
- The location where the applicant will be working;
- The primary Location of the supervisor;



Student-HIP Practicum Requirements

- The supervision plan for monitoring the activities of the applicant (e.g., monthly site visits, teleconferences, videoconferences, method for reviewing reports and audiograms) and complete co-signing requirements;

Subject to approval by the Registrar, supervisors are not required to co-sign written reports, audiograms, and verification measurements.

RELATED CSHHPBC DOCUMENTS

Policy R-01 -- Approved Education Programs

Policy R-04 – Student-HIP Examinations

Policy QA-06 -- Levels of Supervision (Definitions and Applications)

Policy QA-07 – Qualifications of Supervisors

Guidelines – Student-HIP Practicum Training

FORM 8 Student-HIP Application