

AFSC 42N4, Staff
AFSC 42N3, Qualified
AFSC 42N1, Entry

★AUDIOLOGIST
(Changed 31 Oct 23)

1. Specialty Summary. Audiologists identify, assess, and manage disorders of the auditory and balance system. Additionally, they promote prevention and mitigation strategies for noise induced hearing loss through occupational Hearing Conservation Programs. Related DoD Occupational Group: 260801.

2. Duties and Responsibilities:

- 2.1. Conducts and interprets assessment of peripheral and central auditory function, balance, and related systems through comprehensive behavioral, electroacoustic, and/or electrophysiologic evaluation methods.
- 2.2. Promotes noise induced hearing loss prevention as a consultant to, or manager of, base level occupational Hearing Conservation Programs.
- 2.3. Manages hearing loss through evaluation and fitting of prosthetic devices to include hearing aids, assistive listening and implantable devices. Provides auditory rehabilitation to optimize communication skills and device use.
- 2.4. Designs and conducts clinical research relative to new methods and programs for hearing loss diagnosis, treatment, and hearing protection devices and programs.
- 2.5. Consults with professionals of related and/or allied services and refers patients to other medical specialists as needed.

3. ★Specialty Qualifications:

- 3.1. Knowledge. Knowledge is mandatory of one or more areas of specialization within the field of audiology.
- 3.2. Education. For entry into 42N1, it is mandatory to possess a Doctor of Audiology (Au.D.) or Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) with concentration in Audiology or a Master's Degree in Audiology (M.A. or M.S.). All degree programs must be accredited. Conferred doctorate degrees are preferred. However, individuals applying during a 4th year externship who have met all other academic requirements for award of a Doctor of Audiology (Au.D.), and are in valid student status, and have a cumulative GPA of 3.3 or higher on 4.0 scale or equivalent and have a record of a passing score on a national exam in Audiology will be considered.
- 3.3. Training. Not used.
- 3.4. Experience. For award of AFSC 42N3, AF Audiologists must attend the hearing conservation program-training course at USAFSAM and complete certification from the Council for Accreditation in Occupational Hearing Conservation (CAOHC) Professional Supervisors Course or CAOHC Course Director Course.
- 3.5. Other. The following are mandatory:
 - 3.5.1. For entry into AFSC 42N1, a current, valid, and unrestricted license to practice in the District of Columbia or any state or U.S. territory, and either a valid Certificate of Clinical Competence in Audiology (CCC-A) from the American Speech-Language and Hearing Association (ASHA) or a valid Board Certification in Audiology from the American Board of Audiology (ABA) (may be waived only for individuals accessed within six (6) months following Au.D. program graduation).
 - 3.5.2. For retention of AFSC 42N1:
 - 3.5.2.1. Officers accessed without a license must obtain such license within six (6) months of entering active duty.
 - 3.5.2.2. Officers accessed without ASHA certification or ABA board certification must obtain such within six (6) months of entering active duty
 - 3.5.3. For award and retention of AFSC 42N3, maintenance of a current, valid, active, and unrestricted license to practice in the District of Columbia or any state or U.S. territory, and either a valid ASHA certification or ABA board certification.
 - 3.5.4. ★Must obtain and maintain clinical privileges IAW DHA-PM 6025.13 Vol 4 and/or AFI 44-119, *Medical Quality Operations* (or be immediately eligible for said privileges if assigned to a non-clinical position.)