

Audiologists

SOC: 29-1181 • Career Profile Report

■ Key Facts

\$92,120

Median Salary

15,800

Employment

+9.0%

Growth Rate

■ Requirements & Salary Range

Education: Doctoral

■ Automation Risk Assessment

Low Risk - 8.0% probability of being automated in the next 10-20 years.

This job is relatively safe from automation due to its creative, social, or complex problem-solving requirements.

■■ Work-Life Balance

10.0/10 - Excellent work-life balance

■ Personality Fit (RIASEC)

Higher scores indicate better personality fit for this career type.

Realistic	5.4/10	Investigative	8.6/10
Artistic	4.8/10	Social	9.0/10
Enterprising	5.4/10	Conventional	6.2/10

■ Top Skills Required

Communication skills, Compassion, Critical-thinking skills, Interpersonal skills, Patience, Problem-solving skills

✓ Strengths

- High Demand
- Flexible Work
- Continuous Learning

■ Challenges

- Burnout Risk
- Rapid Technological Change

■ What They Do

Audiologists diagnose, treat, and manage **hearing, balance, and related disorders**. They evaluate auditory and vestibular function, provide hearing aids or assistive devices, and counsel patients on hearing health. Their work is critical in healthcare, rehabilitation, and patient quality of life.

This career is well suited for individuals who enjoy healthcare, patient interaction, and problem-solving in clinical settings.

What Do Audiologists Do?

These professionals assess hearing and balance, develop treatment plans, and provide ongoing patient care.

Common responsibilities include:

- Conducting hearing and balance assessments using specialized equipment
- Diagnosing hearing loss, tinnitus, and vestibular disorders
- Prescribing and fitting hearing aids or assistive listening devices
- Providing auditory rehabilitation and counseling for patients
- Educating patients and families on hearing health and preventive care
- Maintaining accurate and confidential patient records
- Collaborating with healthcare providers, educators, and specialists

Key Areas of Audiology

Audiologists may specialize in particular populations or clinical settings:

- Pediatric Audiology: Assessing and treating hearing issues in children
- Geriatric Audiology: Managing age-related hearing and balance disorders
- Clinical Rehabilitation: Providing therapy and device management for patients
- Hearing Aid Fitting and Evaluation: Selecting and programming auditory devices
- Research and Education: Studying auditory health trends and educating patients or students

Skills and Abilities Needed

Audiologists combine clinical, analytical, and interpersonal skills.

Core Professional Skills

Personal Qualities That Matter

Education and Career Pathway

This role typically requires advanced education and clinical training:

- Doctoral Degree (minimum): Doctor of Audiology (Au.D.)
- Clinical Internship: Supervised hands-on experience in hearing assessment and therapy
- Licensure: Required to practice as an audiologist in all states
- Continuing Education: Maintaining licensure and staying current on techniques and technology
- Specialty Certifications (optional): Areas such as pediatric audiology or vestibular rehabilitation

Where Do Audiologists Work?

They are employed in settings providing diagnostic and rehabilitative auditory services:

- Hospitals and Clinics
- Private Practice Offices
- Schools and Educational Institutions
- Rehabilitation Centers

- Research and Academic Settings

Work environments include offices, examination rooms, classrooms, and clinics.

Is This Career Difficult?

This career requires advanced education, technical knowledge, and patient care skills. Audiologists must diagnose complex conditions, fit devices accurately, and provide ongoing patient support.

Who Should Consider This Career?

This career may be a strong fit if you:

- Enjoy healthcare and patient interaction
- Are detail-oriented and analytical
- Can use technical equipment accurately
- Have strong communication and counseling skills
- Want a career improving hearing, balance, and quality of life for patients

How to Prepare Early

- Take courses in biology, anatomy, and health sciences
- Gain experience through internships or volunteering in healthcare or audiology clinics
- Develop communication, patient care, and analytical skills
- Explore undergraduate programs in communication sciences or related fields
- Plan for doctoral-level education and clinical training in audiology

Audiologists assess, diagnose, and treat hearing and balance disorders, providing patients with devices, therapy, and guidance to improve auditory health and quality of life.

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Source: <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/audiologists.htm>