

What may be required

Working as an audiologist you may be required to:

- Examine patients who have hearing, balance, or related ear problems
- Use audiometers and audiograms to show the softest sounds that patients can hear at different frequencies and pitches
- Determine the extent of hearing damage, and identify the underlying cause
- Treat hearing loss with hearing aids and other assisted-listening devices
- Prescribe, fit, repair and check hearing aids
- Examine patients who have complex hearing, balance, or related ear problems
- Research hearing problems
- Assess and manage problems processing sound
- Do workplace and classroom assessments of sound levels
- Adjust a client's cochlear implants
- Collaborate with ear, nose and throat surgeons

Personal Qualities

- Be patient
- Be caring and supportive
- Be understanding
- Have excellent communication skills
- Be good at research
- Have problem-solving skills
- Have good practical skills to deal with hearing aids and cochlear implants



Where to go for more information:

www.kiwihealthjobs.com

www.careers.govt.nz

www.kiaorahauora.co.nz

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Audiologist



What do they do?

Audiology involves the measurement, diagnosis and management of hearing and balance problems.

Audiologists

- Measure, diagnose and manage hearing loss at all ages
- Work with rehabilitation of hearing loss in adults, possibly due to stroke, age degeneration, or industrial effects
- Support the management of tinnitus (ringing in the ears)
- Assess the area of the ear responsible for balance and motion
- Diagnose and manage auditory processing disorders (APD). APD is a problem with processing auditory information in the brain.
- Work with children referred from special education service where hearing loss causes learning difficulties
- Work with patients who have hearing loss due to a head injury
- Supervise the training of audiometrists

Qualifications

You can study Audiology at University of Auckland or University of Canterbury. It takes 5 years of study to complete an undergraduate degree and a Master of Audiology degree. Check the University of Auckland and University of Canterbury's websites as entry requirements differ somewhat.

Here are University of Auckland entry requirements into the Masters programme: You will be selected according to your Grade Point Average (GPA) and performance in an interview.

You must have completed a Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science or a Bachelor of Science (Honours). Your Grade Point Average for Physiology, Psychology, Chemistry, Biology or Zoology, Physics or Acoustics will be taken into account.

You will be asked to provide a brief statement of your reasons for wishing to take the programme. A letter of support from an academic referee is also required.

Where they work

Public hospitals
Private practice
Hearing aid companies

Pros and Cons

Job prospects are good as there is a shortage of audiologists.

Audiology is a satisfying profession that improves the quality of people's lives. It also provides an exciting opportunity to work with state-of-the-art technology.

