

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

I. APPRENTICE REGISTRATION & EXAM INFO

1. ***What do I need to do to become a registered fitter/dispenser in Pennsylvania?***
 - Establish a relationship with a Pennsylvania Registered Hearing Aid Fitter who is willing to sponsor and train you as an apprentice.
 - Complete an apprentice application and return it to the Department of Health/Hearing Aid Program with the required fee for approval. A Sponsor signed training and education outline must be enclosed for approval.
 - Certificate and information package will be mailed to you within 7-10 days of application approval.
 - You must complete a minimum six-month training period.
 - You must be supervised by your sponsor for as long as you remain an active (practicing) apprentice
 - Upon completion of your six-month training period, you must pass all eight parts of the hearing aid fitters' exam given by the Department of Health
 - Change in sponsorship requires 10-day notification and refilling of a signed Training & Education Sheet by your new sponsor.

2. ***When do I have to take the PA Hearing Aid Fitters Exam?***
 - ***Upon completion of the six month apprentice training period:***
 - You will have the opportunity to register for the next scheduled exam given by the Department of Health twice a year in Harrisburg.
 - And, in the event you do not pass all eight parts the first time, you will have the opportunity to renew your registration certification and register for the next scheduled exam.
 - You will be permitted two renewals of your apprentice registration. If you exceed two renewals, or if you choose not to renew at all, you will be placed on the INACTIVE list, however, you may still register to take the next scheduled exam.
 - Inactive apprentices should notify the Department at least 8 weeks prior to the next scheduled exam of their desire to sit for the exam.
 - After you have passed all eight parts of the exam, a Pennsylvania Fitter's Registration Certificate will be issued to you.
 - **According to the PA Hearing Aid Sales law, you are not permitted to fit and sell hearing aids without a valid registration certificate.**
 -

3. ***Does Pennsylvania have a practical test?***
 - At this time, Pennsylvania does not require the completion of a practical exam only to obtain a Fitters registration.

I. APPRENTICE REGISTRATION & EXAM INFO

4. ***What do the eight parts of the PA Hearing Aid Fitters Exam consist of?***

TOTAL 160 multiple & true/false questions

- Part I – Anatomy & Physiology
- Part II – Functions of Hearing Aids
- Part III – Grounds for Revocation/Suspension/Probation
- Part IV – Violations and Penalties
- Part V – Procedures and Equipment
- Part VI – Taking Earmold Impressions
- Part VII – Medical and Rehab Facilities
- Part VIII – Medical Referral

Please refer to **Study Material** list to assist you in the preparation of the exam.

5. ***When do I become a Fitter/Dispenser?***

- You become a fitter/dispenser after successful completion of all eight parts of the PA Hearing Aid Fitters Exam. A certificate of registration will be mailed to you. Upon receipt of this certificate, you are permitted to independently fit and sell hearing aids in Pennsylvania

6. ***I just passed all 8 parts of the fitters' exam; do I have to have 20 continuing education credits to renew my certification for the April 15th renewal?***

- Fitter/Dispensers who have recently passed all eight parts of the fitters' exam will be required to report a prorated amount of continuing education hours based on the number of full months they have been registered prior to the April 15 renewal. The general calculation is $24 \text{ months} \div 20 \text{ contact hours} = .84 \text{ contact hours per month}$. Therefore, $.84 \text{ contact hours per month} \times \text{the number of full months registered prior to April 15 renewal} = \text{number of contact hours required}$.