

## BUREAU OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSING

# Bureau of Professional Licensing Audiologist FAQs

### 1. How long are Audiologist licenses valid? Can I renew my license early? How will I know when I need to renew?

Your initial Audiologist license is good for 2 years. All subsequent renewals will also be valid for 2 years.

You will be mailed and emailed a renewal notification postcard to your mailing and email addresses on record approximately 90 days prior to the expiration date of your license. Remember to notify the Department of any address change by submitting a MiPLUS modification. It is your responsibility as a licensed health professional to renew your license on time. Failure to receive the renewal postcard or email notification, or to notify to Department of an address change does <u>not</u> exempt you from renewing your license on time.

You can renew online by logging into your MiPLUS account at <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/MiPLUS">http://www.michigan.gov/MiPLUS</a>. You may pay your renewal fee by <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/MiPLUS">using a debit or credit card containing a Discover</a>, MasterCard, American Express, or Visa logo.

### 2. Is there anyone who does audiology activities who are exempt from

**licensure?** The following people are exempt from licensure:

- a) Individuals involved in research or the teaching of communication disorders in a regionally accredited college or university, as long as the individual does not practice audiology, or represent himself/herself as a licensed audiologist.
- b) Individuals employed by the Department of Community Health in one of its approved hearing screening training programs are exempt from conducting screenings of hearing sensitivity.
- c) Individuals certified by an agency acceptable to the Occupational Health Standards Commission, are exempt from engaging in hearing screening as part of a hearing conservation program, in compliance with standards adopted under MIOSHA.
- d) Individuals certified, registered, or otherwise regulated members of another profession, including a person licensed in the practice of medicine or osteopathic medicine and surgery, and an unlicensed or licensed person to whom tasks have been delegated under his or her supervision, and including a person licensed as a Hearing Aid Dealer or Salesperson, as long as the individual does not hold himself/herself out to the public as a licensed audiologist.

#### 3. Do I need to complete continuing education?

The law for Audiology requires continuing education for renewal. The Administrative Rules require 20 hours in the two years prior to an application for renewal or relicensure.

### 4. When do I have to meet the requirements for the completion of training in identifying victims of human trafficking?

Beginning with the 2018 renewal cycle, and all renewal cycles thereafter, licensees much have completed training in identifying victims of human trafficking that meet the standards established in Administrative Rule 338.1a in order to renew their license.

Beginning in 2021, individuals seeking initial licensure must have completed human trafficking training prior to obtaining a license as an Audiologist.

<u>Licensees</u>, or individuals seeking licensure, must complete the training in identifying <u>victims</u> of human trafficking only one time. The Department may select an audit sample and request documentation of proof of completion of the training.

# 5. There have been changes to the Public Health Code and Administrative Rules that require licensees and individuals seeking licensure to complete implicit bias training. When does this take effect?

Beginning June 1, 2022, completion of 2 hours of implicit bias training within the 5 years immediately preceding issuance of the license or registration is required.

For initial renewals completed after June 1, 2022, completion of one hour of implicit bias training is required for each year of licensure since June 1, 2021. Once the initial renewal is completed, then 1 hour of implicit bias training will be required for each year of the current license cycle going forward. Please note, this training must be completed for each renewal cycle prior to the renewal being completed.

The Board conducts a random audit after each renewal period. At that time, a percentage of all licensees renewing will be randomly selected and notified by mail that they must submit evidence of having obtained their implicit bias training. If you are selected in an audit, then you will be required to submit a copy of your implicit bias training documentation. (Please retain your original.)

#### 6. Does my Implicit Bias Training count towards my CE hours?

If otherwise permitted by the code and rules, this training may be used to satisfy other training or continuing education requirements.

### 7. How do I file a complaint against a health care professional?

Information on how to <u>File an Allegation Against a Health Care Licensee</u> can be located on the Bureau of Professional Licensing's website at <u>www.michigan.gov/bpl</u>

### 8. Where can I find a copy of the administrative rules pertaining to Audiologists?

You may view the <u>Administrative Rules</u> and other resources on the Bureau of Professional Licensing's website at <u>www.michigan.gov/bpl.</u>