

Graduate Frequently Asked Questions About the Doctor of Audiology Program

What materials does the application process require?

- (1) GRE scores
- (2) Official transcripts from all colleges/universities attended should be mailed directly to the department.
- (3) Three letters of recommendation from people who can comment on your academic skills and your clinical and research potential. We recommend that at least two letters be from faculty members. The letters of recommendation need to be submitted electronically.
- (4) A personal statement (1 single-spaced page) that addresses the following:
 - Discuss the factors that led you to pursue advanced studies in audiology
 - You may comment on aspects of the discipline that interest you, insights gained from coursework, clinical experience or observations, or other personal experiences.
 - Describe your career goals.
- (5) Resume that includes the following:
 - Any academic, scholarly, and professional awards that you have received.
 - Leadership experience, extracurricular activities and volunteer or paid work experience.
 - Any supervised clinical practicum experience (indicate number of hours and nature of the disorders).
- (6) For non-native English speakers: TOEFL or IELTS scores

What grade point average (GPA) and Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores do I need to be accepted into the AuD program at University of Arizona?

We usually receive over 70 applications per year for the Au.D. program, and we accept approximately 12 of those. The typical successful applicant to our program has a GPA of 3.55 overall (3.8 for the last 60 units) and GRE scores of 62 %tile verbal and 50 %tile quantitative Writing GRE scores average 4.0 (48 %tile). The successful applicant also demonstrates participation in a research laboratory, strong volunteerism or a solid work history.

Is there funding available for graduate students?

We typically have several teaching or research assistantships available each year for incoming students. We also may offer some out-of-state tuition waivers. We encourage prospective domestic students to fill out a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA; see <https://financialaid.arizona.edu/faq/fafsa>). In addition, some prospective domestic students, who have shown academic achievement despite facing challenging social, economic, or educational obstacles, may qualify for funding (see <https://grad.arizona.edu/gaf/>).

Is there an application fee?

There is a \$75 application fee.

Does UA accept students with undergraduate degrees in other disciplines?

Yes. Students with degrees in other disciplines are encouraged to apply.

Are my GRE scores too old?

If you have taken the GRE within the past 5 years, they are still considered current. If they are older than 5 years, you need to take the GRE again.

Whom should I ask for letters of recommendation?

We require three letters of recommendation. At least two of those (and preferably all three) should come from academic faculty members.

Are there special requirements for second-language English speakers?

English proficiency is one of the conditions for admission to the UA Graduate Collage for all applicants whose native language is not English. Applicants must submit a minimum TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) score of 550 paper based (PB), 79 internet based (iBT), or IELTS (International English Language Testing System) composite score of 7 (no subject area below a 6). Individual departments may require a higher score and may have minimum score requirements by test module that must be met to qualify for admission.

To be enrolled into our AuD program, a student needs to meet our technical standards, one of which includes the following:

Students must be able to communicate effectively and sensitively with patients and colleagues; comprehend technical, procedural and professional materials; and follow instruction. Students' speech and English language skill should be such that colleagues and clients readily understand them. Finally, students must be able to prepare clinical reports and notes in a clear, logical and professional manner.

A minimum or even high score on the TOEFL or IELTS does not in and of itself guarantee meeting this standard. Non-native English speakers are strongly encouraged to request an interview in person or by phone to help make this determination prior to accepting an offer of admission to be sure they will be able to participate in the clinical program.

Do you accept applicants with disabilities?

We do not ask about disability prior to admission, nor is information about disability considered in the admission process. Once admitted to the our AuD program, a student needs to meet our technical standards. These standards relate to observation, communication, motor, and intellectual skills. See Technical Standards for the Clinical Audiology Program If accommodation is needed to meet these standards, students are directed to the University's Disability Resource Center for determination and

coordination of appropriate accommodations. (To view our technical standards for speech-language pathology, see Technical Standards for the Clinical Doctor of Audiology Program (see Appendix A of the Program Requirements: Cactus Book).

Do you accept late application materials?

No. ALL materials must be received by February 1st for your application to be considered. This includes your online application forms, resume, unofficial transcripts, GRE scores, and letters of recommendation.

Do you allow students to begin the program in January?

No. All students begin their AuD program in August (fall semester).

Do you allow part-time students in the AuD program?

No. Our AuD program is a full-time program.

May I visit the University of Arizona?

Yes. The best dates to visit are March 23, March 30, and April 2 because these dates have been designated specifically to host visiting students. On these days you will meet academic faculty, clinical faculty, and current students and you will get tours of the clinics and research laboratories. You may also visit on other dates; however, be sure to contact the graduate admissions advisor several weeks before your trip so that some arrangements can be made for you to meet some of the faculty and students.

What types of clinical opportunities do you offer?

All AuD students are required to complete a wide variety of clinical placements ultimately at least equivalent to one-year full time employment and demonstrating proficiency in a number of specific skill areas. During the first three years, students spend anywhere from 4 to 16 hours per week in clinical rotations. All students spend time in our very busy on-campus clinic and with our clinical faculty at Tucson Medical Center, which is primarily a pediatric audiology clinic. In addition, students will do semester-long rotations at various hospital, clinic and private practice sites in Tucson with University Associated clinical faculty. By the end of the third year, all students will have had practicum in most if not all clinical skill areas. Fourth-year externships are then identified in collaboration with our externship coordinator either locally or around the country. We have eight-years worth of experience in externship placement. In the past eight years, all students have been placed in excellent clinical settings with a diversity of clinical experiences. Most, but not all, have had paid stipends. Au.D. students at the U of A have graduated with substantially more than the required number of hours clinical experience.

Is the program a 4-year program?

Yes, for most students, the first three years are spent in residence completing required coursework and clinical rotations and research. When these requirements are met, students plan an externship for the fourth year in consultation with the Externship Coordinator.

Is a research project required?

Yes, all students are required participate in a research project in an area of interest under the guidance of faculty that they chose during their program of study. These projects are often done collaboratively with other AuD students and the time and work-effort commitment is typically significantly less than that of a traditional master's thesis.

Are there multicultural clinical opportunities available in the program?

Definitely. Southern Arizona is rich in its diversity there are many opportunities to become involved in experiences with individuals of all ages who represent a wide range of ethnic and racial groups. Additionally, the audiology clinic is involved in various outreach projects that provide student opportunities to participate in clinics serving low income families from Mexico on both sides of the boarder. Similarly, the clinic runs the Pima County Hearing Aid Bank which provides hearing aids for low income adults in our community, many of whom are from diverse backgrounds.

Do I have to stay in Tucson for the 4th-year Externship?

There are many possibilities for externships and these do not have to be restricted to Tucson. We have placed students in externships all across the USA.

Do students typically begin clinic right away?

Clinical involvement begins in the first semester of enrollment but formal supervised clinical rotations for graduate credit begin in the 2nd semester.