



HIP Intern Examination Requirements

PURPOSE

To establish Hearing Instrument Practitioner (HIP) registration requirements for written and practical examinations.

SCOPE

All applicants applying for registration as a HIP who are newly entering the profession or who are not currently registered to dispense hearing aids in another regulated jurisdiction within Canada.

POLICY

Both written and practical examinations are administered in English.

1. HIP Intern Written Examination (IHS)

The written examination is computer-based and administered by the International Hearing Society (IHS). Upon acceptance as a Hearing Instrument Practitioner Intern (formerly, "Student-HIP"), the College will notify IHS that an applicant is eligible to take the written examination. IHS will then contact the Hearing Instrument Practitioner Intern (HIP Intern) directly to arrange a date, time, and location to take the written examination. Payment is made directly to IHS in US dollars by the HIP Intern. The College will notify the HIP Intern regarding the results of the written examination. A HIP Intern may not bring any written material or electronic devices into the examination room.

2. HIP Intern Practical Examination (CSHHPBC)

A HIP Intern who has passed the written examination and submitted the Work Plan-Declaration will be notified by the College that s/he is eligible to take the practical examination, administered by the College. The practical examination is held twice annually (Spring and Fall); additional dates may be scheduled, as deemed necessary by the Registration Committee.

Practical examination dates are set by the College's HIP Examination Advisory Committee and published on the College's website. Examiners for the practical examination are designated by the Registration Committee in accordance with the HIP Examination Advisory Committee's Terms of Reference. The practical examination fee is due at least 2 weeks prior to the date of the examination.

HIP Interns taking the practical examination will be required to demonstrate entry-level, practice-specific knowledge and skills, including the core competency areas of assessment, hearing aid fitting and verification, Red Flags, and safe earmold impression-taking techniques in

HIP Intern Examination Requirements

accordance with the Practice Standards and Practice Guidelines established by the Quality Assurance & Professional Practice (QAPP) Committee.

The practical examination is held in a non-affiliated hearing aid dispensing clinic, approved by the HIP Examination Advisory Committee.

Members of the HIP Examination Advisory Committee administer the practical examination. For each examination session, there will be a team of three (or more as needed) examiners who are RHIP- or RAUD, RHIP-designated registrants of the College. Every effort will be made to ensure no prior relationship exists between the examiner and the HIP Intern to avoid apparent or actual bias; both the examiner and the HIP Intern are required to advise the College of any previous relationship *prior* to the examination.

The examination is approximately 3 hours in length. HIP Interns are provided with a list of materials and supplies they must bring to the examination, including BC or Canadian government-issued photo identification. No materials, supplies, or volunteers will be provided at the examination, and failure to bring required materials, will likely result in a failure of that section.

HIP Interns are required to bring a volunteer who will act as their test subject for demonstration of core competencies. The volunteer must be aged 16 or older, agree to sign a waiver, and be able to understand instructions in English. The volunteer may *not* be the HIP Intern's employer or supervisor, a current registrant of the College, or someone planning to become a registrant of the College. It is the HIP Intern's responsibility to ensure the volunteer's ear canals are free of cerumen and/or pathology *prior* to the date of the practical exam.

To pass the examination, HIP Interns must achieve an overall score of 80% in each of the core competency sections AND must achieve a minimum score of 80% on key content questions within each section of the examination.

Upon successful completion of the practical examination, all other registration requirements (e.g., proof of entitlement to work in Canada, professional liability insurance, fees, satisfactory criminal record check) must be met with proof of completion received by the Registrar.



HIP Intern Examination Requirements

3. Examination Re-takes

A HIP Intern who fails the written examination, may reschedule a retake examination with IHS, paying the fee directly to IHS.

A HIP Intern who fails the practical examination will be informed of the examiners comments in areas that require further study and training. The HIP Intern's training supervisor(s) will also be notified. HIP Interns will continue to work under general supervision until the practical examination is successfully completed.

HIP Interns and their supervisor(s) will be notified of the results of the examinations by telephone and/or in writing in a timely manner.

A HIP Intern who fails an initial examination may retake the examination two more times (i.e., maximum of three attempts). All examination attempts must be completed within two years from the date of the HIP Intern's initial application filing, unless granted an extension for extenuating circumstances by the Registration Committee for a period of time set by that committee.

A HIP Intern who fails an examination three times may apply for licensure again, but no sooner than two years from the date of the last examination.

In the event of a failure, the HIP Intern will be required to retake only the *failed* section(s) at the next scheduled examination session. The examination fee will be prorated based on the number of sections for retake.

RELATED CSHHPBC DOCUMENTS

Approved Academic Programs (POL R-01)

Consent to a Criminal Record Check (FORM 5)

CSHHPBC Practice Standards and Practice Guidelines

HIP Intern Application (FORM 8)

HIP Intern Practicum Training (Guideline)

HIP Intern Practicum Requirements (POL R-02)