

## CHAPTER 153A

## HEARING INSTRUMENT DISPENSING

153A.14 Regulation.  
153A.17 Expenses; fees.

153A.20 Hearing Instrument Dispenser Advisory  
Council.

**153A.14 REGULATION.**

*[For text of subs 1 and 2, see M.S.2002]*

Subd. 2a. **Exemption from written examination requirement.** Persons completing the audiology registration requirements of section 148.515 after January 1, 1996, are exempt from the written examination requirements of subdivision 2h, paragraph (a), clause (1). Minnesota licensure, a current certification of clinical competence issued by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, board certification in audiology by the American Board of Audiology, or an equivalent, as an audiologist is not required but may be submitted as evidence qualifying for exemption from the written examination if the requirements are completed after January 1, 1996. Persons qualifying for written examination exemption must fulfill the other credentialing requirements under subdivisions 1 and 2 before a certificate may be issued by the commissioner.

*[For text of subs 2b to 2h, see M.S.2002]*

Subd. 2i. **Continuing education requirement.** On forms provided by the commissioner, each certified dispenser must submit with the application for renewal of certification evidence of completion of ten course hours of continuing education earned within the 12-month period of July 1 to June 30 immediately preceding renewal. Continuing education courses must be directly related to hearing instrument dispensing and approved by the International Hearing Society or qualify for continuing education approved for Minnesota licensed audiologists. Evidence of completion of the ten course hours of continuing education must be submitted with renewal applications by October 1 of each year. This requirement does not apply to dispensers certified for less than one year. The first report of evidence of completion of the continuing education credits shall be due October 1, 1997.

*[For text of subs 2j to 11, see M.S.2002]*

**History:** 2003 c 87 s 47,48

**153A.17 EXPENSES; FEES.**

The expenses for administering the certification requirements including the complaint handling system for hearing aid dispensers in sections 153A.14 and 153A.15 and the Consumer Information Center under section 153A.18 must be paid from initial application and examination fees, renewal fees, penalties, and fines. All fees are nonrefundable. The certificate application fee is \$350, the examination fee is \$250 for the written portion and \$250 for the practical portion each time one or the other is taken, and the trainee application fee is \$200. The penalty fee for late submission of a renewal application is \$200. The fee for verification of certification to other jurisdictions or entities is \$25. All fees, penalties, and fines received must be deposited in the state government special revenue fund. The commissioner may prorate the certification fee for new applicants based on the number of quarters remaining in the annual certification period.

**History:** 2003 c 87 s 49; 1Sp2003 c 14 art 7 s 54

**153A.20 HEARING INSTRUMENT DISPENSER ADVISORY COUNCIL.**

Subdivision 1. **Membership.** The commissioner shall appoint nine persons to a Hearing Instrument Dispenser Advisory Council.

(a) The nine persons must include:

(1) three public members, as defined in section 214.02. At least one of the public members shall be a hearing instrument user and one of the public members shall be either a hearing instrument user or an advocate of one; and

(2) three hearing instrument dispensers certified under sections 153A.14 to 153A.20, each of whom is currently, and has been for the five years immediately preceding their appointment, engaged in hearing instrument dispensing in Minnesota and who represent the occupation of hearing instrument dispensing and who are not audiologists; and

(3) three audiologists who are certified hearing instrument dispensers or are licensed as audiologists under chapter 148.

(b) The factors the commissioner may consider when appointing advisory council members include, but are not limited to, professional affiliation, geographical location, and type of practice.

(c) No two members of the advisory council shall be employees of, or have binding contracts requiring sales exclusively for, the same hearing instrument manufacturer or the same employer.

*[For text of subs 2 and 3, see M.S.2002]*

**History:** 2003 c 87 s 50