

For Immediate Release – July 15, 2026

American Board of Audiology Opens Application for New General Audiology Board Certification Beta Test

Reston, VA – The American Board of Audiology (ABA) is now accepting applications for the beta test of the General Audiology Board Certification (GABC) exam.

A new offering to the ABA slate of offerings, the GABC testifies to an audiologist's expertise in audiology and demonstrates to colleagues, other healthcare providers, patients, and employers that they have acquired a high level of knowledge in the field of audiology. GABC was developed to recognize experienced audiologists who demonstrate advanced clinical knowledge, commitment to evidence-based care, and dedication to continued professional development.

Board certification is voluntary, not tied to any other certification, offered by the ABA without requirement for membership in any professional organization, and may be obtained independent of any other certification. Being a *Board Certified Audiologist* also requires recertification every five years, allowing audiologists to demonstrate their current expertise on an ongoing basis.

Being a *Board Certified Audiologist*:

- grants you more credibility as an audiologist and sets you apart from other audiologists
- serves as an impartial third-party endorsement of your knowledge and experience
- can improve career opportunities and advancement
- prepares you for greater on-the-job responsibilities
- is a clear indicator of your willingness to invest in your own professional development
- offers greater recognition from peers
- demonstrates a commitment to professional ethics and education

Licensed audiologists in clinical practice with either a doctorate and 5 years of experience (3 with ABAC), or a master's degree and 7 years of experience are eligible to apply for the exam. The application is open through September 15, 2026 with exam registration open from August 4 – October 13. The online beta exam will take place from November 6-16.

Special fees for the GABC beta exam include a \$125 application fee and \$300 exam fee for AAA members, and a \$160 application fee and \$350 exam fee for non-members.

Additional details, including a candidate handbook and FAQs, are available at www.audiology.org/american-board-of-audiology/board-certification/general-audiology-board-certification/.

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The American Academy of Audiology is world's largest professional organization of, by, and for audiologists. The Academy is dedicated to achieving recognition of audiologists as the experts in hearing and balance care and the field of audiology as an independent clinical specialty that is integral to the health care team.