

Sample Letter

Dear _____,

The state Academy of Audiology, in support of the Accreditation Commission for Audiology Education (ACAE) and the American Academy of Audiology (Academy), is writing to call your attention to the eligibility criteria to sit for the examination qualifying individuals to obtain audiology licensure in state that requires the individual to have graduated from an accredited program.

The state Academy of Audiology is (describe)...

The American Academy of Audiology is the world's largest professional organization of audiologists. The active membership of more than 10,000 audiologists join together to provide the highest quality of hearing healthcare services to children and adults. The Academy promotes quality hearing and balance care by advancing the profession of audiology through its leadership, advocacy, public awareness, support of research, and education.

The ACAE was formed to develop rigorous educational standards and a high quality web-based accreditation process exclusively for emerging Doctor of Audiology degree programs. The ACAE Board of Directors adopted a set of educational accreditation standards in March 2005. The innovative web-based computerized program (CAP) will improve the efficiency of academic programs conducting the Self-Study, including minimizing the impact of program resources and provide helpful feedback for how programs might meet standards rather than monitoring their status only. More recently, the ACAE has begun the process of the development of a competency assessment tool that will be offered to Au.D. programs for their use with student and program evaluation. The metrics will be used to assess student learning outcomes at several stages throughout their education, defined in terms of particular levels of knowledge, skills, abilities and competencies that a graduate has attained during the Au.D. program.

Currently, there is one accrediting agency, the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CAA), recognized by state that accredits both audiology and speech pathology programs. While the CAA accreditation program is deemed appropriate under state statute/regulations, it should not be exclusively recognized to accredit audiology programs.

ACAE has begun the process of accrediting programs for doctoral level programs in the field of audiology. Therefore, the state Academy of Audiology would like to ensure that state recognizes ACAE in addition to the CAA, as a formal accrediting agency in your statute and/or regulations. This action will assure academic programs that the requisite recognition is established before they seek accreditation from the ACAE.

Moreover, by undertaking this action, you will recognize additional accredited programs and subsequently make it possible for eligible graduates seeking licensure to be in compliance with state rules and regulations.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. Please contact _____ at the state Academy of Audiology, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

