

Hearing Aids

Some sound advice



In Minnesota, both audiologists and hearing instrument dispensers sell hearing aids. By law, an audiologist must evaluate people under age 18 before they can get a hearing aids.

Hearing instrument dispensers test hearing to assist clients in selecting hearing aids. They also recommend, fit, and dispense hearing aids.

Audiologists evaluate hearing, balance, and tinnitus and recommend, fit, and dispense hearing aids and other assistive devices, including implantable devices. A master's degree is the minimum education level for licensure. They complete a supervised internship and pass an examination.

Before you buy

- **Shop and compare.** Quality, prices, models, guarantees, warranties, and service agreements vary.
- **Choose your practitioner.** You don't have to buy from the person who tested your hearing.
- **Check your insurance.** Find out if you have coverage.

- **Ask about follow-up visits for fitting and adjustments.**
- **Ask if the practitioner does “real-ear measurement.”** This is how well the hearing aid works when it is in your ear.
- **Ask about telecoils and hearing loops.** Telecoils improve sound from telephone receivers and sound in some public places.

Can I cancel my purchase of hearing aids?

- Yes, if you cancel in writing by midnight of the third business day after the sale, your money must be refunded. If you purchase hearing aids from an audiologist or dispenser who came to your home, they must give you a written “notice of cancellation.”
- Yes, hearing aids purchased during an office visit with a dispenser or audiologist can be cancelled for any reason within the 45-day trial period. Put your cancellation in writing and return the hearing aids. The practitioner can keep up to \$250 of the purchase price of the hearing aids.

For more information

Call 1-800-657-3837.



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