

International Hearing Society's



Certificate Program

Overview



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Overview

The Tinnitus Care Provider Certificate Program is a two-day workshop and assessment to help you care for your patients with tinnitus. This comprehensive curriculum focuses on tinnitus patient care involving physiology, psychology, measurement, management and practice organization. A Tinnitus Care Provider certificate will be awarded only to those participants who attend the workshop and meet the passing score of the assessment.

About the International Hearing Society (IHS)

The International Hearing Society (IHS) is a membership association that represents hearing healthcare professionals worldwide. IHS members are engaged in the practice of testing human hearing and selecting, fitting and dispensing hearing instruments and counseling patients. Founded in 1951, the Society continues to recognize the need for promoting and maintaining the highest possible standards for its members in the best interests of the hearing impaired it serves. IHS conducts programs in competency, accreditation, education and training and encourages specialty-level certification for its members.

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Introduction to the Tinnitus Care Provider Certificate Program

Tinnitus affects approximately 15% of the overall population, and roughly 80% to 90% of tinnitus sufferers also have some treatable hearing loss. As hearing loss is increasingly identified and diagnosed, the number of identified tinnitus sufferers will most likely continue to grow, making tinnitus management a standard part of any hearing healthcare practice. Achieving the Tinnitus Care Provider certificate demonstrates comprehensive knowledge in the physiology, psychology, measurement, and management of tinnitus, and practice organization.

Mission Statement

The Tinnitus Care Provider Certificate Program provides an educational opportunity to advance hearing healthcare professionals' knowledge and skills through a comprehensive curriculum and assessment to best serve patients in effectively managing tinnitus.

Instructors

The International Hearing Society, along with Dr. Richard Tyler, PhD, MSc, have collaborated to develop this educational program. The core curriculum presented is based upon Dr. Tyler's 30 years of tinnitus research and tested protocols and expanded by a development committee of subject matter experts.

- Richard Tyler, PhD, MSc, Professor, University of Iowa
Dr. Tyler is a clinical audiologist and a psychoacoustician. He teaches at the University of Iowa and has been directing research projects on tinnitus and cochlear implants for over 25 years. His scientific work includes the quantification of tinnitus and the investigation of different treatments. Dr. Tyler sees tinnitus patients weekly and hosts an annual Tinnitus Treatment Conference at the University of Iowa. He has edited *The Tinnitus Handbook* (2000), *Tinnitus Treatments: Clinical Protocols* (2006), and *The Consumer Handbook on Tinnitus* (2008).

- Douglas Lewis, JD, PhD, AuD, MBA, President and CEO, Excalibur Business Consultants
Dr. Doug Lewis is President and Owner of Excalibur Business Consultants, LLC consulting in a wide range of areas involving healthcare, business, microenterprise development, and law while also maintaining a small law practice on the side. He is also a Principle for the newly formed Private Practice Healthcare Solutions group brokering hearing healthcare managed care benefits.

Defining Features of a Certificate Program

The Tinnitus Care Provider Certificate Program is an assessment-based certificate program. The primary focus of an assessment-based certificate program is on facilitating the accomplishment of intended learning outcomes. Although assessment is an integral part of the certificate program, the primary purpose of the program is to provide education and training which supports the accomplishment of the intended learning outcomes. The certificate awarded designates that participants have completed the required education/training and demonstrated accomplishment of the intended learning outcomes.

Assessment-based certificate programs are distinct from certificates of attendance/participation in that they require successful completion of an end-of-program assessment to confirm participants' accomplishment of the intended learning outcomes. To gain a better understanding of the distinctions between assessment-based certificate programs, certificates of attendance, and certification programs, visit the Institute for Credentialing Excellence's website at www.credentialingexcellence.org.

This program is not a certification.

Governance

The IHS Tinnitus Care Provider Oversight Committee is a vital part of the certificate program. They serve as the connection between IHS staff and the certificate holder by providing expertise in the hearing health sciences and tinnitus. The committee meets regularly. The committee follows a formal charter and includes delivery and evaluation responsibilities including:

- Monitor, revise as needed, and approve the governing documents.
- Approve the eligibility criteria, assessment, assessment cut score, assessment and item performance standards, and other essential certificate decisions based upon its own determination or upon recommendations from IHS' education committee, the International Institute for Hearing Instruments Studies.

Accreditation



On July 3, 2018, the Institute for Credentialing Excellence (ICE) granted accreditation to the International Hearing Society and the Tinnitus Care Provider Certificate Program for demonstrating compliance with *ICE 1100 – Standard for Assessment-Based Certificate Programs*. ICE 1100 was first published in January 2009 to ensure that assessment-based certificate programs adhere to modern standards of practice for the credentialing industry. More information about ICE is available online at www.credentialingexcellence.org

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Eligibility

Candidates seeking the certificate are licensed, registered or certified hearing healthcare professionals with a minimum of two (2) years of clinical experience post-licensure.

Licensed, registered or certified hearing healthcare professionals with less than two (2) years of experience and students in the hearing healthcare profession may attend the program and sit for the assessment. Upon completing a minimum of two (2) years of clinical experience, obtaining a license, and passing the assessment they will be awarded the Tinnitus Care Provider certificate.

Candidates are seeking to further develop their tinnitus knowledge and clinical skill to best serve their patients/clients.

Continuing Education Credit

This program is approved for 16 hours of continuing education credit by the International Hearing Society. You do not need to pass the assessment to receive the CE credit. After completing the two-day workshop, a continuing education certificate of completion will be sent to each participant via email.

The International Hearing Society is approved by the American Academy of Audiology to offer Tier 1 Academy CEUs for this activity. The program is worth a maximum of 1.6 CEUs. Academy approval of this continuing education activity is based on course content only and does not imply endorsement of course content, specific products, or clinical procedure, or adherence of the event to the Academy's Code of Ethics. Any views that are presented are those of the presenter/CE provider and not necessarily of the American Academy of Audiology.

Learning Objectives

- Identify the common causes and mechanisms of tinnitus
- Explain the relationships between hearing loss and tinnitus
- Describe the impacts tinnitus can have on patients' lives
- Explain the measurement and evaluation of tinnitus
- Explain the counseling techniques and approaches used to manage tinnitus
- Give examples of how hearing instruments may help mitigate some of the adverse impacts of tinnitus
- Explain how an intervention with background noise and/or sound therapy devices can help a patient with tinnitus
- Describe how to implement tinnitus treatment as part of a practice

Special Accommodations

If you require special accommodations to fully participate, please contact IHS at 734.522.7200.

Statement of Non-Discrimination

No candidate shall be denied the ability to sit for the program or assessment because of age, sex/gender, gender identification, sexual preferences, marital status, religious preference, national origin, race, creed, color, or physical disability.

How the Program Works

1. Candidate (or their employer) enrolls on the IHS website by completing the online registration form and paying the Tinnitus Care Provider Certificate Program fee.
2. IHS ships the following to the candidate via UPS:
 - *Tinnitus Treatment: Clinical Protocols* Tyler, R. S. (Ed.). (2006).
 - *The Consumer Handbook on Tinnitus (2nd Edition)* Tyler, R. S. (Ed). (2016).
 - A welcome letter containing the website and password to access the pre-workshop assignments.
3. Candidate visits the IHS website to review pre-workshop assignments and additional resources prior to scheduled workshop.
4. Candidate attends scheduled workshop. Each candidate receives a participant guide to reference and use throughout the program and then take back to their practice. Also included is a study guide for the assessment. Post-workshop recommended study time is between 7 and 30 days.
5. Candidate schedules the computer-based assessment at a testing center near their home or business.
6. Candidate takes the assessment on the day and time of their choosing.
7. Upon passing, a candidate will receive a congratulations letter and a completion certificate to display on the wall in their office.
8. If a candidate fails the final assessment, they will receive a score report for continued study efforts and may retake the assessment within 30 days.

Workshop Registration Fees

Fees	On or before August 31	After August 31
IHS Member Price	\$1,695 USD	\$1,795 USD
IHS Non-Member Price	\$2,225 USD	\$2,325 USD
Join IHS & Register – Save \$ now!	\$2,020 USD	\$2,120 USD

The registration fee includes the two-day workshop, the participant guide, pre-work assignments, Dr. Tyler's books, *Tinnitus Treatment: Clinical Protocols* and *The Consumer Handbook on Tinnitus*, two meals, one reception, a certificate for continuing education credit, and a wall certificate. The assessment fee is paid separately when making the appointment to take the assessment. The assessment must be taken within 30 days after the workshop.

Workshop Registration Options

On-line: www.IHSinfo.org/Tinnitus

Phone: 734.522.7200

Fax: 734.522.0200

Mail:

International Hearing Society

16880 Middlebelt Road #4

Livonia, MI 48154

Email: education@ihsinfo.org

Workshop Cancellation and Refund Policy

Cancellation and Refund Policy: To be valid, IHS must receive notification of your cancellation in writing. A refund minus a \$50 processing fee will be granted for cancellation requests received on or before October 1. A refund minus a \$100 processing fee will be granted for cancellation requests received between October 2 and October 27. Beginning October 28 no refunds will be given. However, a substitute may attend.

Preparing for the Workshop

Pre-reading assignments should be completed prior to attending the scheduled program workshop. After registration, IHS will ship the necessary materials to you.

Pre-Workshop Reading Assignments

1. From Tinnitus Treatment: Clinical Protocols:
 - a. Chapter 1: Neurophysiological Models, Psychological Models, and Treatments for Tinnitus.
 - b. Chapter 8: Tinnitus Activities Treatment.
2. The Consumer Handbook on Tinnitus (2nd Ed.):
 - a. Leaders from around the world on the cutting edge of tinnitus research present their knowledge on tinnitus, within their specialty area. Reading this book is like sitting down with experts and gaining their wisdom from decades of practice and research.
3. Establishing a Tinnitus Clinic in Your Practice: Tyler, Haskell, Gogel, Gehringer (12 pages)

About the Assessment

The Tinnitus Care Provider assessment is a proprietary examination which is owned and copyrighted by the International Hearing Society. The examination was developed by professionals in the field of hearing instrument sciences. These individuals volunteered their time and expertise to this project under the guidance of a test development and psychometric services company. The 105-question assessment is intended to measure the learner's attainment of the course learning objectives. The computer-based assessment is offered at testing centers throughout the United States and Canada. The \$300.00 USD assessment fee is paid separately when making the assessment appointment. The assessment must be taken within 30 days after the workshop. More information about the structure and content of the assessment may be found in the Assessment Guide.

Wall Certificate

A wall certificate printed on high-quality heavy linen stock with gold foil will be provided to those candidates who earn the certificate. Framing is not included. Additional copies of the wall certificate are available for \$35.00 each plus shipping.

Appropriate Use of the Certificate

Candidates must check with their own state/provincial licensing bodies for rules, regulations and scope of practice regarding providing tinnitus care. Please refer to the **Certificate and Logo Use Policy** for specific use and guidelines.

Following the Institute for Credentialing Excellence (ICE) standards, certificate holders may **not use acronyms or letters** after their name to reference the Tinnitus Care Provider certificate. Certificate holders shall not make claims or imply that the certificate is a professional certification. Certificate holders shall not make any other statement regarding the certificate which is misleading or

unauthorized. It is unethical to use terms or abbreviations such as "Tinnitus Specialist", "TCP", or any other title/abbreviation when such is not the fact. **This program is not a certification.**

Trademark

The title "Tinnitus Care Provider holding a Certificate from the International Hearing Society" and its logo are a registered trademarks in the United States of America and subject to protections as such. Unauthorized use is prohibited.



Confidentiality of Candidate Information

The International Hearing Society (IHS) requires that its procedures be sensitive to the need to maintain candidate information confidentiality in the certificate process while also disclosing certain information to serve and protect the public interest. Program candidates and certificate holders should be aware that IHS may release certificate status to agencies such as a candidate/certificate holder's current/potential employer. IHS certificate holders may also have their names listed in various IHS publications or on the IHS webpage.

At this time IHS does not use an online credential verification system. IHS does not provide social security numbers or other personally identifiable information to third parties. Exceptions to the IHS Candidate Confidentiality & Disclosure Policy may be made and the aforementioned requirements may be waived for any information or documentation the IHS is required to disclose relative to a bona fide judicial or governmental process.

Appeals

Individuals have the right to appeal decisions made by IHS regarding their certificate and/or eligibility for the certificate. An individual must submit a written appeal by mail to IHS with current correspondence associated with the appeal (i.e. program denial notification) and supporting documentation (i.e. proof of licensure and 2 years clinical experience) with a \$100.00 non-refundable fee. Appeals will be reviewed by IHS following the program charter and governance structure. Candidates will be notified by IHS of the final decision.

Complaints

All complaints must be written and presented to the IHS Director of Professional Development, who will review and respond within 30 business days.

Conclusion

Participants will receive a Participant Guide when they arrive to the workshop. Within the guide will be additional policy details, forms and a study guide to prepare for the assessment.

For more information, please contact



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