

# 265 CMR 2.00: Definitions

By the [Division of Professional Licensure](#)

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## 2.01 Definitions

As used in 265 CMR 1.00 through 10.00, the following definitions shall apply:

**Apprentice:** A person registered as an apprentice hearing instrument specialist engaged in dispensing hearing aids under the supervision of a Massachusetts registered hearing instrument specialist or audiologist and studying to become a hearing instrument specialist.

**Assistive listening device and system:** an amplification system specifically designed to improve the signal-to-noise ratio for the user that is used to reduce interference from the background noise and enhance hearing level at a distance by picking up sound from as close to the source as possible and sending it directly to the ear of the user.

**Audiologist:** A person licensed as an audiologist in the Commonwealth.

**Board:** The Board of Registration of Hearing Instrument Specialists.

**Contact Hour:** The unit of measurement for an organized learning experience lasting 60 consecutive minutes.

**Continuing education activities:** Any activity or program that falls within the criteria of 265 CMR 5.03.

**Continuing education period:** The 24-month period immediately preceding the scheduled date of renewal of the registrant's license.

**Continuing education program:** Formal presentation such as a lecture or interactive session with specified learning objectives at which registrants can earn contact hours approved by the Board based on criteria set forth in 265 CMR 5.03.

**Dispensing hearing instruments:** the selection and adaptation of suitable hearing aids, the making of ear molds or ear impressions, or both, and providing appropriate initial and follow-up counseling and training in hearing aid use through utilization of results of audiological or hearing tests and hearing aid evaluations, or both; and all acts pertaining to the selling, renting, leasing, pricing, delivery, servicing, repairing and warranty of hearing aids.

**Hearing aid:** A wearable aid or device, not including surgical implants, which is inserted directly into the ear or worn with an ear mold and ear conduction receiver or bone oscillator attachment and any part, attachment or accessory but excluding batteries, cords and accessories thereto, designed for or offered for the purpose of aiding or compensating for hearing loss.

**Hearing instrument specialist:** A person licensed by the Board of Registration of Hearing Instrument Specialists as a hearing instrument specialist in the Commonwealth.

**Provider:** Individuals, organizations, institutions of higher education, health care facilities and other entities offering continuing education programs and/or activities.

**Registrant:** "Register", "registrant" and "registration" shall be used interchangeably with the words "license", "licensee" and "licensure".

**Sale or sell:** To transfer title to a hearing aid or the right of possession of a hearing aid by sales contract, lease, bailment, loan or other means, excluding wholesale transactions of dealers and distributors and excluding transfer of a title to a used hearing aid for purposes of donation to a hearing aid bank for distribution.

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REGULATORY AUTHORITY

M.G.L. c. 13, § 94, c. 112, § 196.