

Unfinished Business: Lessons from the 2026 Legislative Session and Our Path Forward

Kentucky Academy of Audiology: October 16, 2026

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A PREFERRED FUTURE

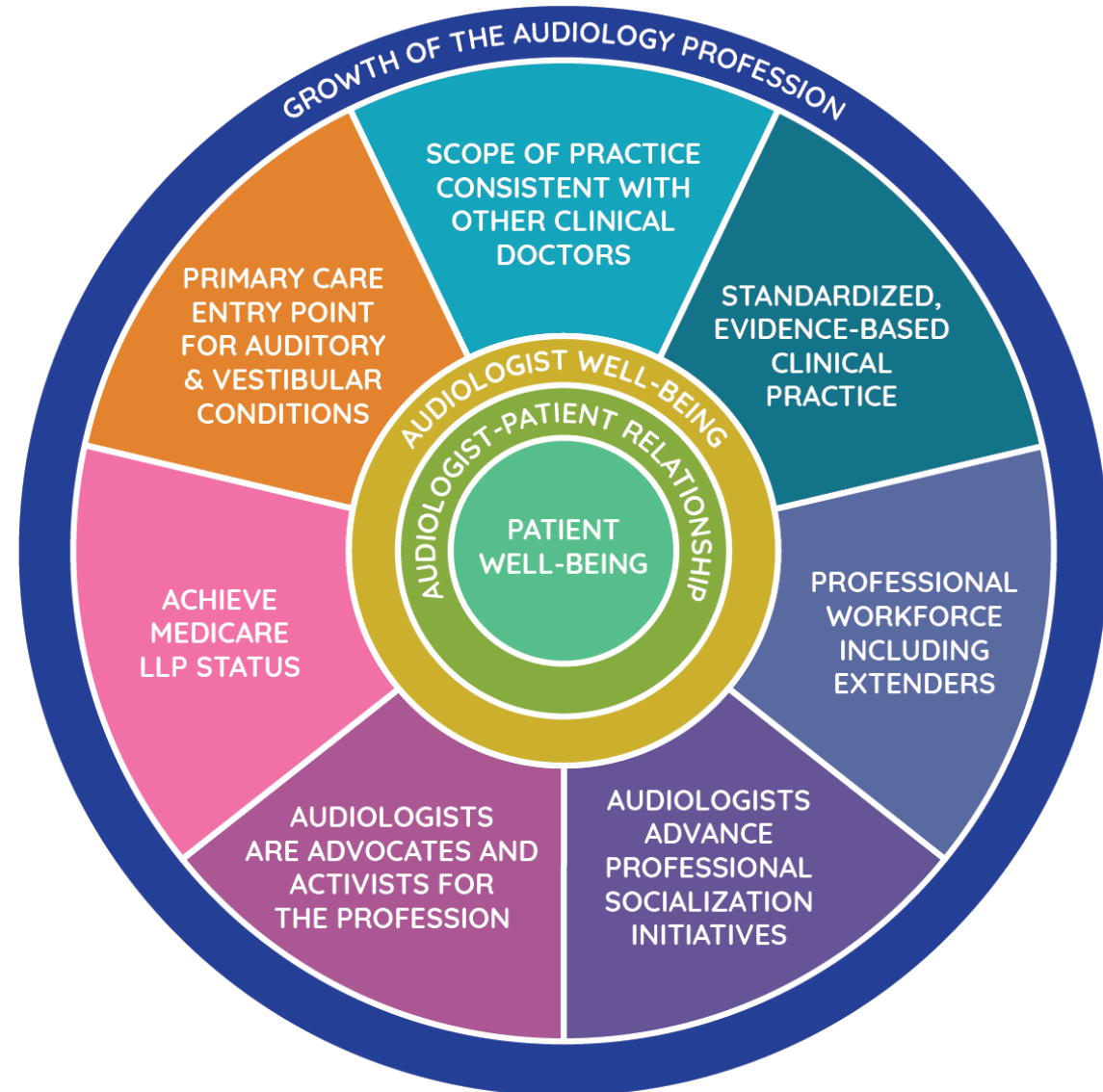
AuDiology 2050

- A preferred future for audiology as a clinical doctoring profession
- Implementation has already begun



Scan to explore
the roadmap

The roadmap and the destination



Academy of Doctors of Audiology

*Focused on ownership of the
audiology profession through
autonomous practice.*



Your practice. Your profession.
Your voice.



What does ADA do?



Advocacy

Fighting for Medicare reforms, patient choice, managed care reforms, scope modernization, and better reimbursement for audiology services.



Community

- AuDacity
- AuDtonomy
- Advice
- Access
- Autonomy in every practice setting



Evidence-based Practices



ACCREDITED

EXCELLENCE in PRACTICE



SPECIAL ISSUE

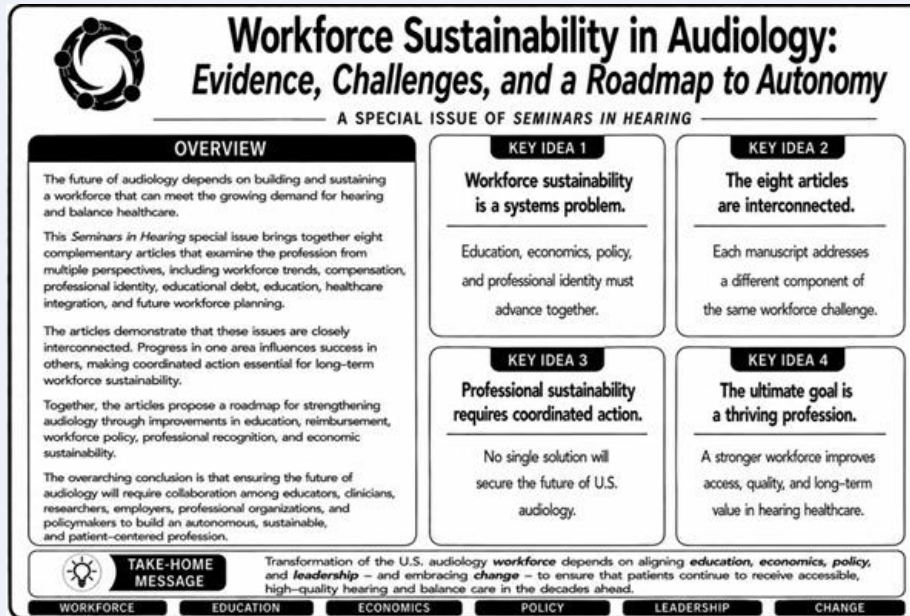
Seminars in Hearing

GUEST EDITORS

Victor Bray, Ph.D

Amy M. Amlani, Ph.D

Workforce Sustainability in Audiology: Evidence, Challenges, and a Roadmap to Autonomy



The image shows the front cover of a special issue. At the top left is a circular logo with a stylized 'S' and 'H'. The title 'Workforce Sustainability in Audiology: Evidence, Challenges, and a Roadmap to Autonomy' is centered at the top in a large, bold, serif font. Below the title is the subtitle 'A SPECIAL ISSUE OF SEMINARS IN HEARING' in a smaller, all-caps, sans-serif font. The cover is divided into several sections. On the left is a large 'OVERVIEW' section with three paragraphs of text. To the right of the overview are four 'KEY IDEA' boxes arranged in a 2x2 grid. Each box has a title and a short paragraph. At the bottom left is a 'TAKE-HOME MESSAGE' box with a lightbulb icon and a paragraph. At the bottom right is a long box with a paragraph. At the very bottom is a horizontal bar with six labels: WORKFORCE, EDUCATION, ECONOMICS, POLICY, LEADERSHIP, and CHANGE.

**Workforce Sustainability in Audiology:
Evidence, Challenges, and a Roadmap to Autonomy**
A SPECIAL ISSUE OF SEMINARS IN HEARING

OVERVIEW

The future of audiology depends on building and sustaining a workforce that can meet the growing demand for hearing and balance healthcare.

This *Seminars in Hearing* special issue brings together eight complementary articles that examine the profession from multiple perspectives, including workforce trends, compensation, professional identity, educational debt, education, healthcare integration, and future workforce planning.

The articles demonstrate that these issues are closely interconnected. Progress in one area influences success in others, making coordinated action essential for long-term workforce sustainability.

Together, the articles propose a roadmap for strengthening audiology through improvements in education, reimbursement, workforce policy, professional recognition, and economic sustainability.

The overarching conclusion is that ensuring the future of audiology will require collaboration among educators, clinicians, researchers, employers, professional organizations, and policymakers to build an autonomous, sustainable, and patient-centered profession.

KEY IDEA 1
Workforce sustainability is a systems problem.
Education, economics, policy, and professional identity must advance together.

KEY IDEA 2
The eight articles are interconnected.
Each manuscript addresses a different component of the same workforce challenge.

KEY IDEA 3
Professional sustainability requires coordinated action.
No single solution will secure the future of U.S. audiology.

KEY IDEA 4
The ultimate goal is a thriving profession.
A stronger workforce improves access, quality, and long-term value in hearing healthcare.

TAKE-HOME MESSAGE
Transformation of the U.S. audiology workforce depends on aligning *education, economics, policy, and leadership* – and embracing *change* – to ensure that patients continue to receive accessible, high-quality hearing and balance care in the decades ahead.

WORKFORCE EDUCATION ECONOMICS POLICY LEADERSHIP CHANGE



Scan to read
the special issue

Update to the Kentucky Audiology Practice Act



What the legislation would include

- ✓ Evaluate, diagnose, manage and treat auditory and vestibular conditions
- ✓ Cerumen removal
- ✓ Foreign body removal
- ✓ In-office non-radiographic imaging
- ✓ Ordering bloodwork, cultures, and/or genetic testing

Update to the Kentucky Audiology Practice Act



What the legislation would include (cont.)

- ✓ Explicit inclusion of APD services
- ✓ Prescribing, ordering, selling, dispensing, evaluating, or externally fitting a sound processor to a cochlear implant or osseointegrated device
- ✓ Conducting health screenings
- ✓ Ordering radiographic imaging for auditory or vestibular conditions

2027 CONTEMPLATED
LEGISLATIVE ASK

Update to the Kentucky Audiology Practice Act



What the legislation would not include



Prescribing, dispensing, application
of topical pharmaceutical agents

AuDvantage

State Association Partner Program



Offsets the cost

- Offsets the cost of state association membership for ADA members.
- Offers a free one-year ADA membership to those who join/renew who are not yet members of ADA.



Stronger together

Partners ADA with state associations to grow both memberships.



Your recruiting tool

Use it to bring colleagues into KAA. Every new member strengthens our voice.

**Ask one colleague
to join ADA this
week.**



#AuDvantage

SUPPORT YOUR STATE
ASSOCIATION



*Advancing evidence-based
hearing and balance care for
every Kentuckian.*

Why your gift matters



Advocacy

Audiologists' voice in
Frankfort



Shaping Public Policy

Advancing access to quality
hearing and balance care



Shaping Public Awareness

Outreach efforts that
promote audiology services

Scan to give



Every gift, of any
size, strengthens
audiology in
Kentucky.

Help KAA advance the profession and patient care.

Your gift keeps KAA
in the fight.

STATE ADVOCACY PANEL

Meet the Panelists



Shaping Public Policy in the Commonwealth

- ✓ Tiffany Brewer, Au.D.
- ✓ Jana Brown, Au.D.
- ✓ Shae Morgan, Au.D., Ph.D.
- ✓ Liz Rogers, Au.D.
- ✓ Ethan Witt

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