

## The Path to Better Listening

About 43% of children with learning difficulties have an Auditory Processing Disorder (APD). Since many people have never heard of APD it can easily be overlooked. APD may also coexist with or be mistaken for other conditions with similar symptoms such as ADD/ADHD. Research estimates that 70% of children with dyslexia also have an underlying auditory processing disorder. Symptoms of APD can overlap with conditions such as autism spectrum disorder, language processing disorders, and developmental delay. However, the treatment for APD is different from these conditions. Without identification and the correct intervention, it can affect an individual's self-esteem, lead to frustration and anxiety, and make it much harder to communicate effectively and succeed in school. If you suspect your child may have an auditory processing disorder, take action. [Auditory Processing Center](#) has the expertise to evaluate and diagnose APD and prescribe an appropriate individualized course of treatment. We can help children improve their listening skills, regain confidence, and succeed in school.

Call (601) 488-4189 to find out if your child could benefit from an APD consultation or evaluation.

## Auditory Processing Center Offers

- Auditory Processing Evaluations
- Deficit-specific auditory processing therapy
- Tele-practice services for virtual APD evaluations and therapy
- Online therapy programs
- Customized therapy materials / programs for home use
- Auditory attention / vigilance testing
- Auditory training for children and adults with hearing aids or cochlear implants
- Remote microphone / FM listening systems
- Hearing aids
- Consultations



**AUDITORY  
PROCESSING  
CENTER**

AUDITORY PROCESSING EVALUATIONS  
AUDITORY THERAPY  
INTERVENTION SERVICES

**LISTEN  
UNDERSTAND  
LEARN**



**AUDITORY  
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CENTER**

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## Help for Listening and Learning Challenges

**Auditory Processing Center** specializes in the assessment and treatment of Auditory Processing Disorder (APD) in children and adults. Our comprehensive auditory processing evaluations yield a unique profile that outlines each individual's auditory strengths and weaknesses. We then customize treatment/therapy programs aimed at remediating the identified auditory processing deficit(s). In addition to therapy to improve auditory processing accuracy and efficiency, we offer hearing assistive technology for APD (remote microphone systems and/or hearing aids) and aural (re)habilitation for hearing aid and cochlear implant users.

*Alicia Swann, M.C.D., CCC-A is an educational audiologist with specialized training in the evaluation of central auditory function and over 25 years of experience in assessment and treatment of auditory processing disorder. She also has expertise in listening skill development in hearing impaired children and adults. Her passion for helping individuals with listening comprehension problems reach their full potential led to the establishment of Auditory Processing Center.*



## What is Auditory Processing Disorder?

Auditory Processing Disorder (APD) is an abnormality in the brain's ability to turn sound into usable information. Individuals with APD will pass a hearing test but their ears and brain do not fully coordinate. This causes distortion and/or delay in auditory signal transmission and affects the way neural representations of sound are processed by the brain. Since individuals with APD struggle to process (or interpret) what they hear, it often causes listening problems that mimic a hearing loss. There are different types of APD and no two individuals are exactly alike in their symptoms. Auditory processing evaluations are most often performed on children ages 5 and up although adults with APD symptoms may also be tested.

## Symptoms of APD

- Often responds to questions or comments with “huh?” or “what?”
- Needs people to repeat what they said, even when paying attention
- Easily distracted by background noise, often sounds most people do not notice
- Sensitive to loud noises, may get overwhelmed in noisy environments
- Slow/delayed responses to verbal instructions
- May mishear spoken questions or struggle to respond
- Difficulty distinguishing subtle differences in sounds (short -i- and short -e-)
- Mishears similar sounding words for the actual word spoken (fifty/fifteen)
- May struggle with phonemic awareness, sound/symbol association, reading fluency, and reading comprehension
- Spelling errors tend to be omissions or the wrong sound (i.e. October spelled “Ogober”)
- Fatigues easily when listening
- Difficulty keeping up with conversations and discussions
- Struggles with listening comprehension
- Trouble following oral directions
- Struggles with auditory memory, forgets what was heard
- Often speech delayed with persistent pronunciation errors
- May misinterpret tone of voice, sarcasm, and interpret things literally
- May have difficulty singing in tune and poor musical ability
- May say “I heard you, but I don’t understand what you mean.”