

**REGULATIONS OF THE  
VIRGINIA BOARD OF  
AUDIOLOGY AND SPEECH-LANGUAGE**

**Regulations Governing the Practice of Audiology and  
Speech-Language Pathology**

**18 VAC 30-20-10 et seq.**

**EFFECTIVE DATE:**

Board of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology  
Virginia Department of Health Professions  
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## PART I. GENERAL PROVISIONS.

### 18 VAC 30-20-10. Definitions.

The words and terms “*audiologist*,” “*board*,” “*practice of audiology*,” “*practice of speech-language pathology*,” “*speech-language disorders*,” and “*speech-language pathologist*,” when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in § 54.1-2600 of the Code of Virginia.

The following words when used in this chapter shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

“*Contact hour*” means 60 minutes of time spent in continuing learning activity.

“*School speech-language pathologist*” means a person licensed pursuant to § 54.1-2603 of the Code of Virginia to provide speech-language pathology services solely in public school divisions.

“*Supervision*” means that the audiologist or speech-language pathologist is responsible for the entire service being rendered or activity being performed, is available for consultation, and is providing regular monitoring and documentation of clinical activities and competencies of the person being supervised.

“*Type 1*” means continuing learning activities which must be offered by an accredited sponsor or organization as specified in 18 VAC 30-20-300.

“*Type 2*” means continuing learning activities which may or may not be approved by an accredited sponsor or organization but shall be activities considered by the learner to be beneficial to practice or to continuing learning. In Type 2 activities, licensees document their own participation on the Continued Competency Activity and Assessment Form and are considered self-learning activities.

### 18 VAC 30-20-150. Renewal.

A. A person who desires to renew his license shall, not later than December 31 of each ~~odd~~ even-numbered year, return the renewal notice and applicable renewal fee.

B. A licensee who fails to renew his license by the expiration date shall have an invalid license.

### 18 VAC 30-20-170. Requirements for licensure.

A. The board may grant a license to an applicant who:

1. Holds a current and unrestricted Certificate of Clinical Competence in the area in which he seeks licensure issued by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, the American Board of Audiology or any other accrediting body recognized by the board. Verification of currency shall be in the form of a certified letter from a recognized accrediting body ~~the~~

~~American Speech-Language-Hearing Association~~ issued within six months prior to licensure; and

2. Has passed the qualifying examination ~~for the Certificate of Clinical Competence~~ from an accrediting body recognized by the board within three years preceding the date of applying for licensure; or has ~~held employment in the area~~ been actively engaged in the respective profession for which he seeks licensure for one of the past three consecutive years ~~or two of the past five consecutive years~~; or

B. The board may grant a license to an applicant who:

1. Holds a master's or its equivalent as determined by the board or a doctoral degree from a college or university whose audiology and speech-language program is regionally accredited by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association or an equivalent accrediting body; and

2. Has passed a qualifying examination as recognized ~~approved~~ by the board. The applicant shall have passed the examination within three years preceding the date of applying for licensure in Virginia or have been actively engaged in the respective profession ~~during the 24 months immediately~~ for one of the past three consecutive years preceding the date of application.

C. The board may grant a license to an applicant as school speech-language pathologist who:

1. Holds a master's degree in speech-language-pathology; and

2. Holds an endorsement in speech-language pathology from the Virginia Department of Education.

### **18 VAC 30-20-240. Supervisory responsibilities; supervision of unlicensed assistants.**

A. A licensed audiologist and speech-language pathologist shall provide documented supervision to unlicensed assistants, shall be held fully responsible for their performance and activities, and shall ensure that they perform only those activities which do not constitute the practice of audiology or speech-language pathology and which are commensurate with their level of training.

B. The identity of the unlicensed assistant shall be disclosed to the client prior to treatment and shall be made a part of the client's file.

### **18 VAC 30-20-280. Unprofessional conduct.**

The board may refuse to issue a license to any applicant, suspend a license for a stated period of time or indefinitely, reprimand a licensee or place his license on probation with such terms and conditions and for such time as it may designate, impose a monetary penalty, or revoke a license for any of the following causes:

1. Guarantee of the results of any speech, voice, language, or hearing consultative or therapeutic procedure;
2. Diagnosis or treatment of speech, voice, language, and hearing disorders solely by written correspondence, provided this shall not preclude;

- a. Follow-up by written correspondence or electronic communication concerning individuals previously seen, or
- b. Providing patients with general information of an educational nature.
3. Disclosure to unauthorized persons confidential patient information without the permission of the patient, unless otherwise authorized by law;
4. Exploitation of patients by accepting them for treatment when benefit cannot reasonably be expected to occur, or by continuing treatment unnecessarily;
5. Incompetence or negligence in the practice of the profession ;
6. Failure to comply with applicable state and federal statutes or regulations specifying the consultations and examinations required prior to the fitting of a new or replacement prosthetic aid for any communicatively impaired person;
7. Failure to refer a client to an appropriate health care practitioner when there is evidence of an impairment for which assessment, evaluation, care or treatment might be necessary;
8. Failure to supervise persons who assist them in the practice of speech-language pathology and audiology as well as failure to disclose the use and identity of unlicensed;
9. Conviction of a felony or a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude;
10. Failure to comply with federal, state, or local laws and regulations governing the practice of audiology and speech-language pathology;
11. Failure to comply with any regulations of the board;
12. Inability to practice with skill and safety;
13. Making material misrepresentation in the course of practice;
14. Misrepresentation of one's professional credentials;
15. Aiding and abetting unlicensed activity; or
16. Revocation, suspension, restriction or any other discipline of a license or certificate to practice or surrender of license or certificate while investigation or administrative proceedings are pending in another state, the District of Columbia, a United States possession or territory, or a foreign jurisdiction.