

# Board of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology

Spring 2008

Volume 1, Issue 1

Dept. of Health Professions

## Audiology Provisional Licensure

The Board has new regulations for provisional licensure in audiology.

The board may grant a provisional license in audiology to an applicant who submits a completed application and fee with documentation that the applicant is currently enrolled in a doctoral program in audiology at a college or university whose audiology program is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association or an equivalent accrediting body; and has successfully completed all didactic coursework required for the doctoral degree, as documented by the audiology program; and has passed the qualifying examination recognized by the board within three years preceding the date of applying for provisional licensure in Virginia.

Simply put, the requirements for a provisional license are the same as the requirements for a full license minus the clinical practicum that the student will complete under

supervision. If a student holding a provisional license later applies for full licensure, he will only need to submit evidence of his credential issued by ASHA, or ABA.

A provisional license expires 18 months from the date of issuance and may be renewed for an additional 6 months by payment of a renewal fee.

Renewal of a provisional audiology license beyond 24 months must be for good cause shown as determined by a committee of the board.

The holder of a provisional license in audiology must only practice under the supervision of a Virginia license audiologist in order to obtain clinical experience as required for licensure in the regulations. The provisional licensee is responsible and accountable for the safe performance of those direct patient care tasks to which he has been assigned.

Licensed audiologists providing supervision must: (1) Document the frequency and nature of the supervision of provisional



Take some time out to catch up on your Board's activities

licensees; (2) Be responsible and accountable for the assignment of patients and tasks based on their assessment and evaluation of the provisional licensee's knowledge and skills; and (3) Monitor clinical performance and intervene if necessary for the safety and protection of the patients.

The identity of a provisional licensee must be disclosed to the client prior to treatment and must be made a part of the client's file.

The regulations, application and instruction are available online at [www.dhp.virginia.gov](http://www.dhp.virginia.gov)

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The staff is also responsible for three additional health regulatory boards at the Department of Health Professions.



## Continued Competency Requirements

In order for a licensee to renew an active license **each year by December 31**, the licensee must show continued competency of 30 contact hours every two years immediately preceding renewal. In short, if you were issued a license in an odd numbered year you are responsible for 30 contact hours every odd numbered year and likewise for licensees issued a license in an even numbered year.

The regulations do exempt licensees from the continuing competency requirements for their first biennial renewal following the date of initial licensure.

Example, if a licensee is issued a license October 1, 2007 the licensee would receive a renewal notice with instructions to renew and simply pay the renewal fee by December 31, 2008. Since the licensee was issued a license in an odd numbered year the licensee is responsible for the continuing competency hours every odd year, but for the first biennial the licensee is exempt. In compliance with renewal requirements the licensee will pay the renewal fee by December 31, 2009, but is not responsible for the continuing competency requirements because this is the licensee's first CE renewal year. The next year licensee would again pay his fees by December 31, 2010; however, when the licensee renews by December 31, 2011, he is not only responsible for the renewal fee he is also responsible for evidence of compliance of 30 contact hours for the preceding two years.

Many licensees divide the required hours by completing 15 contact hours

each year.

A minimum of 15 of the 30 hours must be in Type 1 programs or courses related to speech-language pathology or audiology, depending on the license held, and offered by one of the following accredited sponsors organizations sanctioned by the profession:

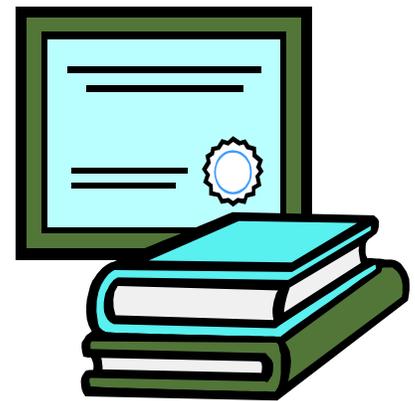
- A. The Speech-Language Hearing Association of Virginia or similar state speech-language hearing association of another state;
- B. The American Academy of Audiology (AAA);
- C. The American Speech-Language Hearing Association (ASHA);
- D. The Accreditation Council on Continuing Medical Education of the American Medical Association offering Category I continuing medical education;
- E. Local, state or federal government agencies;
- F. Colleges and universities;
- G. International Association of Continuing Education and Training;
- H. Healthcare organizations accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO);
- I. A sponsor approved by the board provided the sponsor has submitted satisfactory documentation on forms provided by the board.

No more than 15 of the contact hours may be Type 2 activities or course, which may or may not be approved by an accredited sponsor or organization but must be chosen by the licensee related to the licensed profession.

Type 2 activities may include but not limited to self-study, consultation with colleagues, independent study, participation on inter-disciplinary teams, and research or writing on subjects related to practice.

The licensee shall retain his records and all supporting documentation for a period of four years following the renewal of an active license.

Licensees selected in a random audit shall provide the completed Continued Competency Activity and Assessment Form, available online at [www.dhp.virginia.gov](http://www.dhp.virginia.gov) under applications and forms, and all supporting documentation within 30 days of receipt of audit notification.



## Reinstatement of Licensure

When a licensee has not renewed his license within one year of the expiration date, he may apply to reinstate his license by submission of a reinstatement application, payment of the reinstatement fee, and submission of documentation of continuing competency hours equal to the requirement for the number of years, not to exceed 60 contact hours, in which the license has been lapsed. When a licensee has not reinstated his license within four years he shall reapply for licensure as

a new applicant and meet the qualifications for licensure in effect at the time of the new application; see regulation 18 VAC 30-20-160. Reinstatement of lapsed license and regulation 18 VAC 30-20-170. Requirements for licensure. Information about maintaining licensure and reinstatement procedures such as fees are found in the Virginia Board of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology regulations which are available online at [www.dhp.virginia.gov](http://www.dhp.virginia.gov). The

most current regulations are posted to the website.

Mark Your Calendar for your December Renewal



## National Standards for Certification

You may be aware that effective January 1, 2012, the Association of Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) will require audiologists applying for certification to have earned a doctoral degree, but this new requirement will not exclude any specific designator such as a PhD, EdD, or ScD to meet the new standard. In short, the AuD is not the only doctoral degree that will be accepted. You may find out more information about ASHA's requirements on their website at [www.asha.org](http://www.asha.org)

The American Academy of Audiology (AAA) effective January 1, 2007 requires applicants for fellow membership to hold a doctoral degree with a major in audiology from a regionally accredited institute of higher learning. More information about AAA's requirements are available on their website [www.audiology.org](http://www.audiology.org)

Beginning in 2007, the American Board of Audiology (ABA) requires all applicants for certification to hold a doctoral degree in audiology from a

regionally accredited college or university. Additional information regarding ABA's certification may be found on their website [www.americanboardofaudiology.org](http://www.americanboardofaudiology.org)

The Audiology professional associations/organizations that have mentioned have moved or are moving toward requiring a doctoral degree for certification; you may wonder how this will effect licensure requirements in Virginia. Currently, Virginia requires an applicant to hold a master's degree or its equivalent as determined by the board or a doctoral degree from a college or university whose program is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation, in addition, the applicant must hold a current and unrestricted Certificate of Clinical Competence issued by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, or certification issued by the American Board of Audiology or any other accrediting body recognized by the board such as the American Academy of Audiology;

and the applicant must have passed the qualifying examination from an accrediting body recognized by the board within three years preceding the date of applying for licensure, or has been actively engaged in the practice of audiology for one of the past three consecutive years preceding the date of the application.



## Taking A Break

It is very important to know your options regarding licensure before you allow your license to lapse. Important information is contained in your regulations. There may be several reasons for a licensee to consider placing his license on inactive status such as raising a family, military assignment, family illness, etc. Whatever your situation please ensure you are knowledgeable of the requirements; each state has its own requirements for maintaining and reinstating a license. A speech-language pathologist or audiologist who holds a current, unrestricted license in Virginia may, upon a request on the renewal application and submission of the required fee, be issued an **inactive license**. The holder of an inactive license is not required to maintain continuing competency requirements and shall not be entitled to perform any act requiring a license to practice speech-language pathology or audiology in Virginia. By placing the license on inactive status you avoid any surprises when you wish to resume your practice. Reinstatement of an inactive license requires the licensee to file a reinstatement application, pay the difference between the inactive and active renewal fees for the current year and provide documentation of having completed continued competency hours equal to the requirement for the number of years, not to exceed 60 hours, in which the license has been inactive. Evidence of continued competency may be documented with copies of certificates of completion. Currently a licensee, who has not placed his/her license on inactive

status, and the license has lapsed for four years or more must apply as new applicant and meet the qualifications for licensure. That means the former licensee will either have to hold a current and unrestricted Certificate of Clinical Competence in the area which he seeks licensure issued by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), certification issued by the American Board of Audiology (ABA) or any other accrediting body recognized by the board. Verification of currency must be in the form of a certified letter from the recognized accrediting body issued within six months prior to licensure; **and** has passed the qualifying examination within three years preceding the date of applying licensure, **or** has been actively engaged in the respective profession for which he seeks licensure for, in another state or jurisdiction, in the past three consecutive years preceding the date of the application—this pathway is considered applying by ASHA or ABA certification. Another option for speech-language pathologist (only) is to apply for licensure by Education which means the speech-language pathologist applicant must hold a master’s degree or its equivalent as determined by the board or a doctoral degree from a college or university whose speech-language program is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association or an equivalent accrediting body; **and** passed the qualifying examination (PRAXIS II) within three years preceding the date of applying for licensure in Virginia **or**

has been actively engaged in speech-language pathology for one of the past three consecutive years preceding the date of application. (This pathway is no longer available for Audiologists). If a former licensee has not placed his license on inactive status and has allowed the license to lapse and has not practiced in another jurisdiction for at least one year within three years preceding application the options currently available for re-licensure are to either re-sit for the exam or obtain at least one year work experience in the public school system.

It is important to keep current with the regulations. The most current regulations are posted to the board’s webpage.



Spouse or you on active military duty.



Taking time to start and/or raise a family.

# Licensure Renewal

Board of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology  
Perimeter Center  
9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300  
Richmond, Virginia 23233-1463

Phone: 804-367-4630  
Fax: 804-527-4413  
E-mail: [AudBd@dhp.virginia.gov](mailto:AudBd@dhp.virginia.gov)



Licensees have the option of renewing online at [www.dhp.virginia.gov](http://www.dhp.virginia.gov). To access this feature you must have a PIN number, which is provided in the renewal notice; for security reasons PIN numbers are not issued over the phone. If you have lost your PIN number you may request a new temporary PIN at <http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/mylicense/requestpass.htm>

You will need to complete all of the sections on the webpage and hit Submit Request. A new temporary PIN number will be sent to the address of record by U.S. postal mail. You should allow 7 to 10 business days for receipt of the new temporary PIN number. If you believe that your address of record is incorrect please contact the board office to update our records. All address changes must be in writing, and you have the option of e-mailing address changes

to [AudBd@dhp.virginia.gov](mailto:AudBd@dhp.virginia.gov), or fax to 804-527-4413, or you may mail the change to the board's address. The Department of Health Professions will mail a renewal notice to the licensee, the procedures for renewal will be included.

Failure to receive the renewal notice, however, shall not relieve the licensee of the obligation to renew the license and maintain the required continuing education hours.

If a license holder fails to receive the renewal notice, a copy of the old license may be submitted to the board office as evidence of intent to renew, along with a statement indicating compliance with the required continuing education hours in addition to the required renewal fee.

## Board Meetings

The Board of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology convenes to discuss general business matters including consideration of regulatory issues as may be presented on the agenda.

All meetings, including committee meetings are open to the public; however, a portion of the Board's business could be discussed in Closed Session if necessary and allowable by law. Public comment is usually heard at the beginning of the each meeting.

Persons desiring to participate in the meeting and requiring special accommodations or interpretive services should contact the

Department 804-367-4674 at least 10 days prior to this meeting so that suitable arrangements can be made for an appropriate accommodation. The Department fully complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

If you are considering attending any of the Board's meeting please call the board office at 804-367-4630 at least 1 to 2 business days prior to the meeting to ensure there have not been any changes to the date, time, or location of the meeting.

Meetings are also posted on the Town Hall's website at [www.townhall.virginia.gov](http://www.townhall.virginia.gov)

### 2008 Board Meeting Dates

Thursday, July 10, at 9:30 am

Thursday, October 9, at 9:30 am

All meetings are held at the Department of Health Professions unless otherwise specified.



**Mark your calendars!**