

**TITLE 690. BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY AND
AUDIOLOGY
CHAPTER 10. LICENSURE AND FEES**

**SUBCHAPTER 3. LICENSURE OF SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS AND
AUDIOLOGISTS**

690:10-3-9. Telepractice

- (a) Licensees may provide speech-language pathology and audiology services to clients in Oklahoma by utilizing telepractice. Telepractice means the use of audio, video, or data communication to provide speech-language pathology and audiology services to clients who are not present at the same site as the licensee when the service is provided.
- (b) Except as provided in 59 O.S. § 1604, no Practitioner licensed in another state may deliver speech-language pathology and audiology services via telepractice to clients located in Oklahoma, unless licensed in Oklahoma.
- (c) Telepractice must conform to the same standards of practice required when the client is present at the same site as the licensee when the service is provided.
- (d) ~~Speech language pathologists and audiologists~~ Licensees providing services via telepractice must be trained in the use of telepractice equipment, and are responsible for ensuring that support persons who assist with service delivery at the site where the client is located are properly trained. The telecommunications technology used for service delivery must meet standards established by professional organizations recognized by the Board, and comply with applicable state and federal laws and regulations
- (e) Telepractice must be an appropriate method of service delivery for the service delivery for the service provided and for the unique needs and abilities of each client.

**SUBCHAPTER 7. LICENSURE OF SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY
ASSISTANTS AND AUDIOLOGY ASSISTANTS**

690:10-7-3. Supervision required

- (a) The speech-language pathology assistant must be supervised by a speech- language pathologist who has been licensed for two years. Licensure as a clinical fellow does not count toward the two-year license requirement. Each supervisor shall accept no more than the equivalent of two FTE (full-time employee) assistants. ~~Licensure as a clinical fellow does not count toward the two-year license requirement.~~ Each practitioner licensed in both speech-language pathology and audiology is likewise restricted to two FTE assistants in aggregate. Further, the total number of licensees supervised by a single supervisor shall not exceed ~~two~~ two FTE.
- (b) The supervising speech-language pathologist must have successfully completed at least six hours of Board approved training in clinical supervision within ten years prior to requesting approval to supervise. Three hours must include instruction in the knowledge and skills areas necessary for speech language pathology assistant's supervisors as identified by the American Speech- Language Hearing Association (ASHA), other organization or entity the Board deems acceptable. The remaining three hours may

consist of other topics related to clinical supervision, including instruction specific to the supervision of clinical fellows. A speech-language pathologist who has completed six hours of training is eligible to supervise both clinical fellows and speech-language pathology assistants, provided that the six-hour training includes three hours, specific to supervision of clinical fellows and three hours specific to supervision of assistants.

- (c) For the first 90 ~~workdays~~ ~~calendar days~~ following ~~the first day of employment~~ ~~licensure~~, a speech-language pathology assistant shall practice under a minimum of 20% direct supervision with a minimum of 8 indirect supervising activities per month. ~~For those speech-language pathology assistants working less than 20 hours per week, a minimum of 4 indirect supervisory activities are required per month.~~ After successful completion of the first 90 ~~workdays~~ ~~the amount of supervision may be adjusted if the supervising speech-language pathologist determines the speech-language pathology assistant has met the necessary competencies and skill levels with a variety of communication and related disorders.~~ All supervision must include documentation of direct and/or indirect supervision provided by the supervising speech-language pathologist to each client/patient at least every 90 calendar days. For full-time speech-language pathology assistants (full-time is defined as 30 hours or more per week) a minimum of four hours of direct supervision per month and as much indirect supervision as needed to facilitate the delivery of quality services must be maintained. For part-time speech-language pathology assistants (part-time is defined as less than 30 hours per week) a minimum of two hours of direct supervision per month and as much indirect supervision as needed to facilitate the delivery of quality services must be maintained. ~~calendar days, a minimum of 10% of direct supervision is required with a minimum of 8 indirect supervisory activities per month. For those speech-language pathology assistants working less than 20 hours per week, a minimum of 4 indirect supervisory activities are required per month. The supervisor for a speech-language pathology assistant who regularly practices twenty hours or less per week may request that the number of hours of supervision be calculated based on the assistant's total number of hours of practice in each month, rather than each week.~~ The supervising speech-language pathologist must be ~~always~~ available in person or by electronic means when the speech-language pathology assistant ~~is implementing a treatment program.~~ ~~is performing clinical activities.~~ The supervision must be documented on a supervision log signed by the supervisor and the assistant. Direct supervision must also be documented on the client/patient session note. Records of supervision are subject to inspection by the Board.

- (1) ~~Direct supervision:~~ Direct supervision includes in-view observation and guidance by a speech-language pathologist while the speech-language pathology assistant is providing an assigned clinical service to a patient. Realtime telesupervision is acceptable as it allows the supervising speech-language pathologist to provide immediate feedback. While directly supervising, the speech-language pathologist may not perform any clinical services unrelated to the client/patient receiving services from the speech-language pathology assistant.
- (2) Indirect supervision ~~means the supervising speech-language pathologist is engaged~~ includes ~~in~~ supervisory activities other than direct supervision, observation, and

guidance of the assistant while the assistant is providing an assigned clinical service to a patient. Indirect supervision activities performed by the supervising speech-language pathologist may include but are not limited to demonstration, record review, review, and evaluation of audio or videotaped sessions, and interactive television and supervising conferences that may be conducted by telephone, email, or live webcam.

- (d) The supervising speech-language pathologist is responsible for exercising his or her professional judgment to determine the appropriate level of supervision at or above the required minimum necessary to ensure that each client/patient receives competent services. The supervising speech-language pathologist should consider:
- (1) the individual speech-language pathology assistant's knowledge, experience, and competence;
 - (2) the treatment setting;
 - (3) the client/patient's diagnosis/prognosis; and
 - (4) the nature of the assigned clinical service.
- (e) For audiology assistants, direct supervision is required when the assistant is performing activities involving direct patient care. Direct supervision requires the supervising audiologist to be present on-site for supervision and guidance of the assistant. Indirect supervision of the audiology assistant is permissible when the audiology assistant is performing duties or activities that do not involve direct patient care. Indirect supervision requires the supervising audiologist to be available for instruction or guidance but does not require the supervising audiologist to be present on-site. The audiology assistant must be supervised by an audiologist who has been licensed for two years. Each supervisor shall accept no more than two assistants.

690:10- 7-9. Academic Requirements for assistants

- (a) **Academic requirements for speech-language pathology assistants.**
- (1) Each speech-language pathology assistant applicant shall hold not less than an associate degree, or its equivalent, with a major emphasis in speech-language pathology from an accredited academic institution.
 - (2) Each speech-language pathology assistant applicant shall submit an bona fide official transcript(s) and verification of academic preparation and clinical experience reflecting a minimum of eighteen (18) semester credit hours in general education, a minimum of twenty semester credit hours in technical content, a minimum of twenty-five (25) hours of observation which precede a minimum of 100 clock hours of supervised clinical experience. The official transcript must come directly from the accredited academic institution, either by electronic means or by mail.
 - (A) **General education.** The general education component typically includes, but is not limited to, course work in oral and written communication, mathematics, computer applications, social sciences, and natural sciences.
 - (B) **Technical content.** The technical content component must include, but is not limited to the following areas:
 - (i) Normal processes of communication: Foundations of communication and overview of communication disorders

- ~~(ii) Overview of communication disorders. Professional standards for the SLPA (includes objectives for scope of practice, ethics, supervision, and professional practices)~~
- ~~(iii) Instruction in assistant level service delivery practices. Anatomy and physiology of speech and hearing mechanisms~~
- ~~(iv) Instruction in work place behaviors. Phonetics~~
- ~~(v) Cultural and linguistic factors in communication Speech sound development and disorders~~
- ~~(vi) Observation experiences include direct on-site observation of a licensed speech language pathologist. Additional observation experiences may include on-site, video or digital observation of a licensed speech language pathologist. Language development and disorders. Language development and disorders~~
- ~~(vii) Assistant-level service delivery practices or instructional methods for the SLPA~~
- ~~(viii) Cultural and linguistic factors in communication~~
- ~~(ix) Observation experiences include direct onsite, video, or digital observation of a licensed speech-language pathologist~~

(C) **Clinical experience.** Applicants must complete 100 clock hours of clinical experience supervised by a licensed speech-language pathologist. The clinical experience requirement must be completed through an accredited academic institution with a Board approved degree program.

(b) Reciprocity.

The Board may issue a license for a speech-language pathology assistant to a person who holds a current speech-language pathology assistant license in another state or country according to the following conditions:

1. Payment of the Board's current fee for licensure; AND one of the following:
2. The applicant submits evidence of licensure in good standing from another other state or country which maintains a system and standard of qualifications and examinations for speech-language pathology assistants which meets or exceeds the current requirements for licensure in Oklahoma; OR
3. The applicant is currently certified as an American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) speech-language pathology assistant.

~~(b)~~ **(c) Academic requirements for audiology assistants.**

Each audiology assistant applicant shall hold not less than a high school diploma or its equivalent.

SUBCHAPTER 9. FEES

690:10-9-2. License renewal fee

- (a) The license renewal fee shall be eighty-five dollars (\$85.00) each calendar year. The renewal fee is due on or before December 31st of each year. Failure of any licensed person to pay the renewal fee before the first day of January does not deprive the licensee of the right to renew the license, but the fee paid for renewal postmarked after December

31st shall be increased by 50% for each month or fraction thereof that the payment is delayed, up to a maximum of three times the renewal fee (\$255.00). Failure to pay the renewal fee by January 1st, however, shall render the license ~~invalid-expired~~ until renewed. Renewal of an ~~invalid expired~~ license within the first year will result in an automatic audit of that licensee's continuing education activities for the preceding continuing education two-year reporting period. Failure to renew a license within the twelve month period following expiration, without otherwise placing the license(s) in question on inactive status (see 690:10-9-6), will render the license permanently invalid, requiring reapplication for licensure based on meeting all current requirements for licensure in the applicant's area of specialization. ~~The applicant whose license has been expired for less than five years may petition the Board to waive the clinical fellowship requirement and/or the examination requirement. If the license has been expired for a period of five (5) years or more, the licensee shall be required to demonstrate competence to practice by completion of one of the following requirements within the last two (2) years prior to submission of the application for relicensing:~~

- ~~(1) retake and pass the exam required for licensure;~~
- ~~(2) show proof of licensure and at least 520 hours of practice in another state;~~
- ~~(3) show proof of at least 520 hours or practice in a setting exempt from licensure pursuant to 59 O.S. § 1604;~~
- ~~(4) show proof of completion of an additional twenty hours of Continuing Education~~

- (b) Any licensee whose license is active and in good standing; is a member of the Armed Forces of the United States; and is on active duty at the time of renewal is exempt from payment of the renewal fee. Upon receipt of notice of assignment to active duty from the licensee, the Board shall automatically renew the license without a fee each year thereafter of active duty military service, and for up to one year after the date of discharge from active duty.

690:10-9-4. Certification License verification fee

A fee of five dollars (\$5.00) shall be charged ~~to the licensee the speech language pathologist or audiologist~~ who requests the Board to certify his licensure to another organization or persons.