

TITLE 690. BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY

EDITOR'S NOTE: Effective 7-1-98, the name of the Board of Examiners for Speech Pathology and Audiology was changed to the Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology. [Laws 1998, c. 202]

Chapter	Section
1. Administrative Operations	690:1-1-5
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CHAPTER 1. ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS

Subchapter	Section
1. General Provisions	690:1-1-5

[Authority: 59 O.S., §§ 1610, 1613, 1619, and 1620; 75 O.S., §§ 302, 305, and 307]
 [Source: Codified 12-31-91]

SUBCHAPTER 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section
 690:1-1-5. Application of the Act and Rules of the Board

690:1-1-5. Application of the Act and Rules of the Board

The provisions of the Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Licensing Act (59 O.S. 1601. et. seq., as amended) and the rules of this Title apply:

(1) to all individuals representing themselves as speech-language pathologists or audiologists or using related titles as set forth in Section 1603 of the Act or who provide speech-language pathology or audiology services and who are not specifically exempted under Section 1604 of the Act;

(2) to persons exempted from licensure under Section 1604 when those persons provide speech-language pathology or audiology services in circumstances other than those listed in Section 1604;

(3) to OBESPA licensees regardless of whether they practice under circumstances exempt from licensure under Section 1604;

(4) to all speech-language pathology applicants who are in the process of fulfilling the post-graduate supervised clinical work experience requirement and

(5) to all individuals representing themselves as speech-language pathology or audiology assistants or who assist with the provision of speech-language pathology and audiology services and are not exempt from licensure pursuant to Section 1604.

[Source: Amended at 16 Ok Reg 1244, eff 5-13-99; Amended at 18 Ok Reg 1783, eff 5-25-01; Amended at 28 Ok Reg 2109, eff 7-11-11; Amended at 31 Ok Reg 2416, eff 9-12-14]

CHAPTER 5. RULES OF PRACTICE

Subchapter	Section
7. Procedures in Individual Proceedings	690:5-7-5
9. Proceedings for Adoption, Amendment, and Repeal of Rules	690:5-9-6

[Authority: 59 O.S., § 1613; 75 O.S., § 302]

[Source: Codified 12-31-91]

SUBCHAPTER 7. PROCEDURES IN INDIVIDUAL PROCEEDINGS

Section	
690:5-7-5.	Setting of hearing and hearing continuance

690:5-7-5. Setting of hearing and hearing continuance

The time set for a hearing as specified in the notice shall ordinarily not be less than thirty (30) calendar days after service of notice. A motion for an extension of time or for a continuance of the hearing to another date or time shall be in writing and shall be filed with the Board or its designated hearing officer. Any such motion for an extension or continuance shall state the reason(s) for the request and specify the additional time requested. The Board or its designated hearing officer shall act promptly upon such motion and shall grant or deny such request in the exercise of sound discretion. If the motion is denied, a party may renew his request orally or at a hearing.

[Source: Amended at 28 Ok Reg 2111, eff 7-11-11; Amended at 31 Ok Reg 2417, eff 9-12-14]

SUBCHAPTER 9. PROCEEDINGS FOR ADOPTION, AMENDMENT, AND REPEAL OF RULES

Section	
690:5-9-6.	Submission of evidence and argument on proposed rules

690:5-9-6. Submission of evidence and argument on proposed rules

Prior to the adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule the Board shall afford an interested person a reasonable opportunity to submit data, views, and arguments, either oral or written, concerning such proposed action. If the rule under consideration is one which affects the substantive right of any person, the Board upon written request shall grant any person or association a reasonable opportunity to submit data, views, and arguments, either oral or written, concerning such proposed action. Oral argument on such rule shall also be granted when requested by a subdivision or an agency of government. If no substantive rights of the person, association, or governmental entity are affected by or involved in the rule to be considered, the Board may, at its discretion, refuse to hear oral argument and require such matters to be submitted in writing. The Board, in the exercise of its sound discretion shall determine whether the proposed action affects any such substantive rights.

[Source: Amended at 31 Ok Reg 2417, eff 9-12-14]

CHAPTER 10. LICENSURE AND FEES

Subchapter	Section
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[Authority: 59 O.S., §§ 1610, 1613, 1615.1, and 1616]

[Source: Codified 12-31-91]

SUBCHAPTER 3. LICENSURE OF SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS AND AUDIOLOGISTS

Section

690:10-3-3.	Criteria considered for licensure
690:10-3-6.	Clinical experience requirement
690:10-3-7.	Examination requirement and exceptions
690:10-3-8.	Continuing education (CE) for speech-language pathologists, audiologists, and speech - language pathology assistants

690:10-3-3. Criteria considered for licensure

(a) The Board shall consider on an individual basis the request of each applicant for licensure under Section 1605 of the Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Licensing Act, 59 O.S. 1605, as amended, using the criteria contained in the following Sections of these rules. Written notification from the chair or program director of an academic institution accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation, or equivalent accrediting agency as determined by the Board, verifying that applicant attended the academic institution and completed the academic course work requirement and clinical practicum requirement, shall serve as presumptive proof of completion of the requirements. The Board retains the power to determine whether applicant has completed all requirements.

(b) Licensing of Military Service Members and Spouses

(1) The Board shall consider the equivalent education, training and experience completed by an applicant while the applicant was a member of the United States Armed Forces or Reserves, National Guard of any state, the Military Reserves of any state, or the Naval militias of any state, and apply it in the manner most favorable toward satisfying the qualifications for licensure.

(2) To determine whether education, training and experience completed by an applicant while the applicant was a member of the military as described in the preceding paragraph, the Board may consider, but is not limited to, determinations made by institutions of higher education based on the Guide to the Evaluation of Educational Experiences in the Armed Services, published by the American Council on Education.

[Source: Amended at 16 Ok Reg 1247, eff 5-13-99; Amended at 18 Ok Reg 1786, eff 5-25-01; Amended at 21 Ok Reg 1119, eff 5-13-04; Amended at 27 Ok Reg 1961, eff 6-25-10; Amended at 31 Ok Reg 2418, eff 9-12-14]

690:10-3-6. Clinical experience requirement

(a) Clinical experience form.

(1) Each speech-language pathology applicant shall submit evidence (Clinical Experience Form) of no less than nine (9) months of successful, full time, paid, clinical experience in the area for which a license is required, obtained under the supervision of one or more practitioners who meet the requirements for supervision of clinical experience interns set forth in subchapter five of this chapter. This supervision must entail the personal and direct involvement of the supervisor in any and all ways that will permit the supervisor to evaluate the applicant's performance in professional clinical employment and must include direct observation. The applicant and the supervisor must list and describe the methods of supervision employed. Specific information should be given regarding the professional activity supervised, the number of supervisory contacts per month, and the length of each supervisory contact. The supervisor shall base the total evaluation on no less than thirty-six (36) supervisory visits. This experience must follow completion of the requirements of 690:10-3-3 and 690:10-3-6. "Full-time" is defined as at least thirty (30) hours per week; the nine (9) months of full time paid experience must be obtained within a period of twenty-four consecutive months. This requirement may also be fulfilled by eighteen (18) months of half time paid experience of at least fifteen (15) hours per week, which must be completed within a period of thirty-six (36) consecutive months.

(2) With the exception of audiology applicants with a post-masters distance education professional degree (Au.D.) or applicants with a Ph.D. with a major emphasis in audiology, each audiology applicant will be required to present to the Board a copy of an Au.D. degree diploma, or its equivalent, from an accredited academic institution in order to demonstrate completion of the clinical rotation or externship requirement.

(b) **Waiver of clinical experience requirement.** The Board shall waive the clinical experience requirement and grant a license to any applicant who holds the Certificate of Clinical Competence of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association or its current equivalent in the area for which he is applying for licensure, provided that the current requirements for such certification are equivalent to or greater than those for

licensure under the Speech-Language-Pathology and Audiology Licensing Act, 59 O.S. 1601 et. Seq., as amended. The current requirements for the Certificate of Clinical Competence of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association are deemed the equivalent of those for licensure under the Act. Evidence of such certification shall be received by the Board directly from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. All fees associated with obtaining such evidence shall be borne by the applicant.

[Source: Amended at 15 Ok Reg 4234, eff 7-31-98 (emergency); Amended at 16 Ok Reg 1247, eff 5-13-99; Amended at 18 Ok Reg 1786, eff 5-25-01; Amended at 21 Ok Reg 3116, eff 7-6-04 (emergency); Amended at 22 Ok Reg 1508, eff 6-11-05; Amended at 27 Ok Reg 1961, eff 6-25-10; Amended at 28 Ok Reg 2112, eff 7-11-11; Amended at 32 Ok Reg 1326, eff 8-27-15]

690:10-3-7. Examination requirement and exceptions

(a) **Examination.** All applicants for licensure as a speech-language pathologist and/or audiologist must present evidence of successful completion of the examination approved by the Board. The examination must be passed within two (2) years after board approval of the applicant's first application for a clinical experience intern license. Failure to pass the examination within this time period shall result in revocation of authorization to practice as a clinical experience intern under supervision as defined in Subchapter 5 of this Chapter.

(1) The Board designates as its approved examinations the most current versions of the Educational Testing Service (ETS) Praxis II Audiology Exam and the Praxis II Speech-Language Pathology Exam, or any other national examination recognized by the Board to have similar standards equal to or higher than the ETS Praxis II exams. It shall be the responsibility of the applicant to assure that the testing vendor forwards the examination score to the Board.

(2) An applicant who fails an examination may retake it upon payment of another examination fee to the testing vendor and at any time the testing vendor regularly administers the ETS Praxis II Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology exams. Arrangements and fees are the responsibility of the applicant.

(3) Exceptions to the two year requirement may be granted by the Board under extenuating circumstances.

(b) **Waiver of examination.** The Board shall waive the examination and grant a license to any applicant who holds the Certificate of Competence of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association or its current equivalent in the area for which he is applying for licensure, provided that the current requirements for such certification are equivalent to or greater than those for licensure under the Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Licensing Act, 59 O.S. 1601, et. seq., as amended. The current requirements for the Certificate of Clinical Competence of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association are deemed the equivalent of those for licensure under the Act. Evidence of such certification shall be received by the Board directly from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. All fees associated with obtaining such evidence shall be borne by the applicant.

(c) **Reciprocity.** The Board may issue a license without examination to a person who holds a current license in another state or country in speech-language pathology or audiology according to the following conditions:

(1) the other state or country maintains a system and standard of qualifications and examinations for speech-language pathologists and audiologists which meet or exceed the current requirements for licensure in Oklahoma;

(2) payment of the Board's current fee for licensure; and

(3) submission of evidence satisfactory to the Board of proof of licensure in good-standing in another state or country.

(d) The Board shall expedite the process of licensure by reciprocity for applicants whose spouse is an active duty member of the armed forces of the United States if:

(1) the military service member is on active duty within Oklahoma or claims permanent residency within Oklahoma for the six (6) months prior to assignment to active duty or during the period of the active duty and

(2) the applicant left employment in another state to accompany the military service member spouse to Oklahoma.

[Source: Amended at 16 Ok Reg 1247, eff 5-13-99; Amended at 18 Ok Reg 1786, eff 5-25-01; Amended at 21 Ok Reg 3116, eff 7-6-04 (emergency); Amended at 22 Ok Reg 1508, eff 6-11-05; Amended at 31 Ok Reg 2418, eff 9-12-14; Amended at 32 Ok Reg 1326, eff 8-27-15]

690:10-3-8. Continuing education (CE) for speech-language pathologists, audiologists, and speech - language pathology assistants

(a) **Purpose.** The purpose of continuing education requirements for speech-language pathologists and audiologists is to assure that licensees update and advance their skills such that the public shall benefit from the most current and effective standards of professional practice. To further the goal of public benefit, all speech-language pathologists and audiologists are encouraged to fulfill a portion of their Continuing Education requirements in the area of ethics, professional conduct, and related legal issues.

(b) **Clock hours required for license renewal.** A licensee must obtain a minimum of twenty (20) clock hours of acceptable continuing education, including at least three clock hours of professional ethics in a two year period. The continuing education period begins in January of every odd-numbered year. A speech-language pathologist or audiologist obtaining initial licensure during a two year period shall have his or her continuing education requirement prorated to 2.5 clock hours per full quarter remaining in that period. If pro-rated hours are less than five clock hours, the requirement for at least three clock hours of ethics does not apply.

(c) **Approval of continuing education activities required.** Continuing education hours may be granted for acceptable educational activities which are approved by the Board, or by a committee appointed by the Board. No hours will be granted for any activities or categories of activities that have not been

approved. A provider of educational activities may apply to the Board for pre-approval of an activity. The provider shall be responsible for compliance with the standards for approval of the activity, verification of participation, and for the provision of the necessary verification of attendance forms to all participants. This verification of attendance form shall include: The participant's name, the presenter's name and credentials, the presentation topic, the program sponsor or agency, the location of the presentation, the dates of presentation, and the total number of clock hours attended. A list of preapproved activities is available on the website or by contacting the board office. Any activity not included on this list will require approval by the Board for credit.

(d) **Exceptions to the requirements.** Exceptions to the pre-approval requirement may be granted at the discretion of the Board for programs presented by recognized sponsors whose programs have been pre-approved by the Board. The university academic semester hour is equivalent to fifteen (15) clock hours, and shall be verified by the presentation of an official academic transcript showing course or audit credits. The licensee is ultimately responsible for providing all information necessary for the Board to make a final determination concerning the acceptability of any requested continuing education hours.

(e) **Fee for approval.** Providers of continuing education programs may be charged a fee for approval of their program. This fee shall be set by the Board.

(f) **Kinds of educational activities for which credit may be received.** Continuing education hours may be earned through formal organized learning experiences, scientific publications, attendance at regularly scheduled meetings of international, national, regional, or state professional associations, or through presentations to appropriate groups not related to the speech-language pathologist's or audiologist's regular employment.

(g) **Hours allowed.** Continuing education activities, whether received or presented by the speech-language pathologist or audiologist, must be targeted toward a professional audience. In those instances when the speech-language pathologist or audiologist is teaching in programs such as institutes, university or college courses, seminars, workshops, and conferences which have been granted approval by the Board, three (3) clock hours will be given for each one (1) hour that is taught, provided that such teaching is not part of the speech-language pathologists or audiologists regular employment. Publication in a professionally-related format approved by the Board shall be equal to up to twenty (20) clock hours. Completion of select job-required activities such as CPR training, etc. can be counted once in the two-year period for a maximum of 20% of the total required hours. Other activities may be credited as authorized and disseminated separately by the Board.

(h) **Petition for extension.** A speech-language pathologist or audiologist who fails to comply with the required twenty (20) hours of continuing education in the two year continuing education period ending December 31 may, by submitting an individual review fee of fifty (\$50.00), petition the Board for a ninety (90) day extension. Failure to meet this deadline may

result in disciplinary action. The petition for extension shall be filed prior to the expiration of the continuing education period.

(i) **Petition for hardship relief.** A speech-language pathologist or audiologist may petition the Board for partial or complete relief of the continuing education requirements upon the showing of incapacitation or serious illness of licensee or licensee's immediate family member, or licensee's absence from the United States for a period of at least eighteen (18) months during the continuing education period. The petition for hardship relief should be filed prior to the expiration of the continuing education period, and will be accepted no later than February 1st of the year following the audit period.

(1) Individuals with medical disabilities must provide evidence that documents the inability to work in the professions, such as a letter from a doctor or a Social Security Administration determination letter. Individuals with medical disabilities will be required to sign an affidavit confirming that they are not providing or supervising the provision of clinical services. In addition, individuals with temporary medical disabilities will be required to affirm every two years that they continue to be classified as medically disabled.

(2) Members of the armed forces on full-time active duty will be required to provide a copy of their deployment orders and a signed affidavit stating they will not practice during their deployment. They will be assigned a new 2-year maintenance interval that will start on January 1 of the year following their return. If licensees are deployed for the purpose of providing clinical services or supervising the provision of clinical services, an exemption will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

(j) **Audits of continuing education.** The Board will conduct audits every two years (every even year) of licensee compliance with continuing education requirements.

(1) A minimum of 3% of licensees will be audited.

(2) Those audited will be required to submit a listing of all continuing education activities completed within the audited period, including the title of the activity, the course description, the number of contact hours and a contact for verification of participation.

(3) Licensees will maintain all original documentation of attendance, course agendas and/or other supporting documentation. The Board may request copies of such documentation as is necessary to determine if an activity will be accepted for continuing education credit. The Board will destroy all such copies following the audit.

(4) Licensees found to be non-compliant with the continuing education requirement shall have ninety (90) calendar days from receipt of notification of continuing education deficiency to provide evidence of continuing education hours sufficient to meet this requirement AND must pay a penalty fee equal to half of the licensure renewal fee. This fee is in addition to any fees for late license renewal. Such hours may not be counted toward fulfillment of future continuing education requirements. Failure to provide evidence of continuing education hours within the ninety (90) calendar day period may result in disciplinary action.

- (A) obtain Continuing Education hours sufficient to meet this requirement;
- (B) submit verifications of completion to the Board;
- (C) pay a penalty fee equal to half of the licensure renewal fee. This fee is in addition to any fees for late license renewal. Such hours may not be counted toward fulfillment of future Continuing Education requirements. Failure to comply with the provisions of the paragraph within the ninety (90) calendar day period may result in disciplinary action.

[Source: Added at 15 Ok Reg 4234, eff 7-31-98 (emergency); Added at 16 Ok Reg 1247, eff 5-13-99; Amended at 18 Ok Reg 1786, eff 5-25-01; Amended at 21 Ok Reg 1119, eff 5-13-04; Amended at 27 Ok Reg 1961, eff 6-25-10; Amended at 28 Ok Reg 2112, eff 7-11-11; Amended at 31 Ok Reg 2418, eff 9-12-14; Amended at 32 Ok Reg 1326, eff 8-27-15]

SUBCHAPTER 5. LICENSURE OF SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY CLINICAL EXPERIENCE INTERNS COMPLETING POST-GRADUATE CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Section

- 690:10-5-3. Representation of clinical experience intern as independent practitioner
- 690:10-5-6. Requirements for supervision of clinical experience interns

690:10-5-3. Representation of clinical experience intern as independent practitioner

A licensed clinical experience intern shall not state, imply or otherwise represent that he or she is authorized to practice independently without the supervision of a licensed speech-language pathologist. Preparation or distribution of announcements of practice, independent telephone listings, internet or social media advertisements or other such notices or representations which indicate or imply that the clinical experience intern is an independently licensed speech-language pathologist shall be considered unprofessional conduct, and will result in discipline as authorized by the Speech-Pathology and Audiology Licensing Act.

[Source: Amended at 16 Ok Reg 1247, eff 5-13-99; Amended at 32 Ok Reg 1326, eff 8-27-15]

690:10-5-6. Requirements for supervision of clinical experience interns

- (a) Clinical experience interns must be supervised by a speech-language pathologist who has been licensed for a minimum of two years. Licensure as a clinical experience intern does not count toward the two-year license requirement.
- (b) Each supervising speech-language pathologist shall accept no more than two clinical experience interns. Each supervisor holding licenses in both speech-language pathology and audiology is restricted to no more than two persons to supervise, in aggregate.

- (c) Beginning January 2017, the supervising speech-language pathologist must have successfully completed at least six hours of Board approved training in clinical supervision. Three hours must include instruction in the knowledge and skills areas necessary for clinical experience supervisors as identified by the American Speech-Language Hearing Association (ASHA), other organizations, or entities the Board deems acceptable.

[Source: Amended at 16 Ok Reg 1247, eff 5-13-99; Amended at 18 Ok Reg 1786, eff 5-25-01; Amended at 27 Ok Reg 1961, eff 6-25-10; Amended at 28 Ok Reg 2112, eff 7-11-11; Amended at 32 Ok Reg 1326, eff 8-27-15]

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

Section

- 690:10-7-1. Practice as an assistant
- 690:10-7-3. Supervision required
- 690:10-7-4. Representation of Assistant as Independent Practitioner
- 690:10-7-5. Application for speech-language pathology assistant license or Audiology assistant authorization
- 690:10-7-6. Period of Licensure and authorization
- 690:10-7-8. Recusal of Board members
- 690:10-7-9. Academic Requirements
- 690:10-7-10. Roles and responsibilities of Speech-Language Pathology Assistants and Audiology Assistants
- 690:10-7-11. Continuing education for assistants

690:10-7-1. Practice as an assistant

- (a) Any person not eligible for licensure as a speech-language pathologist or clinical experience intern, who assists in the practice of speech-language pathology, unless exempt pursuant to Section 1604 of this Act, must be licensed by the Board as a speech-language pathology assistant. Licensure to practice as a speech-language pathology assistant may be granted to applicants who meet the qualifications set forth in the law and rules of the Board. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent a practitioner from employing any individual in non-clinical capacities.
- (b) The Board shall consider on an individual basis the request of each applicant for a speech-language pathology assistant license. Before granting a license the Board will consider the applicant's academic training and clinical experience, specific duties and responsibilities, and amount and nature of the applicant's supervision. The Board retains the power to determine whether or not an applicant meets the requirements.
- (c) Beginning January 1, 2015, any person not eligible for licensure as an audiologist, who assists a licensed audiologist in the practice of audiology, unless exempt pursuant to Section 1604 of this Act, must be authorized by the Board as an audiology assistant. To be eligible for authorization, applicants must meet the qualifications set forth in the law and rules of the Board. Before granting an authorization, the Board will consider the applicant's specific duties and responsibilities, and

amount and nature of the applicant's supervision. The Board retains the power to determine whether or not an applicant meets the qualifications for authorization.

[Source: Amended at 16 Ok Reg 1247, eff 5-13-99; Amended at 18 Ok Reg 1786, eff 5-25-01; Amended at 21 Ok Reg 1119, eff 5-13-04; Amended at 27 Ok Reg 1961, eff 6-25-10; Amended at 28 Ok Reg 2112, eff 7-11-11; Amended at 31 Ok Reg 2418, eff 9-12-14]

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. Each supervisor shall accept no more than two assistants. Licensure as a clinical experience intern does not count toward the two-year license requirement. Each practitioner licensed in both speech-language pathology and audiology is likewise restricted to two assistants in aggregate. Further, the total number of assistants and interns (licensed under Subchapter 3 of these rules) supervised by a single supervisor shall not exceed two.

(b) Beginning January 2017, the supervising speech-language pathologist must have successfully completed at least six hours of Board approved training in clinical supervision. 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.

(c) A speech-language pathology assistant shall practice under a minimum of 30% supervision weekly, of which 20% is direct and 10% is indirect for the first 90 workdays. After successful completion of the first 90 workdays, a minimum of 10% of direct supervision is required with 20% indirect supervision. The supervising speech-language pathologist must be available by electronic means at all times when the speech-language pathology assistant is performing clinical activities. The supervision must be documented in the client/patient record and on a supervision log. Records of supervision are subject to inspection by the Board.

(1) Direct supervision: 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. 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 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 fully licensed for two years. Each supervisor shall accept no more than two assistants.

[Source: Amended at 27 Ok Reg 1961, eff 6-25-10; Amended at 28 Ok Reg 2112, eff 7-11-11; Amended at 31 Ok Reg 2418, eff 9-12-14; Amended at 32 Ok Reg 1326, eff 8-27-15]

690:10-7-4. Representation of Assistant as Independent Practitioner

The assistant is not authorized to represent himself or herself as an independent practitioner of speech-language pathology or audiology. Preparation or distribution of announcements of practice, independent telephone listings, or other such notices shall be in violation of the speech-language pathology assistant license and the audiology assistant authorization and will lead to automatic revocation of the license or authorization.

[Source: Amended at 16 Ok Reg 1247, eff 5-13-99; Amended at 27 Ok Reg 1961, eff 6-25-10; Amended at 28 Ok Reg 2112, eff 7-11-11; Amended at 31 Ok Reg 2418, eff 9-12-14]

690:10-7-5. Application for speech-language pathology assistant license or Audiology assistant authorization

Application for licensure as a speech-language pathology assistant or authorization as an audiology assistant shall be made by submitting to the Board an application approved by the Board, signed by both the applicant and proposed supervisor, and notarized. The application must indicate that the supervisor agrees to supervise the assistant's practice and that the supervisor accepts full and complete responsibility for that practice.

[Source: Amended at 27 Ok Reg 1961, eff 6-25-10; Amended at 28 Ok Reg 2112, eff 7-11-11; Amended at 31 Ok Reg 2418, eff 9-12-14]

690:10-7-6. Period of Licensure and authorization

The Speech-Language Pathology Assistant license and the Audiology Assistant authorization shall expire on December 31st of each year, and must be renewed annually in accordance with the rules and statutes of the Board.

[Source: Amended at 16 Ok Reg 1247, eff 5-13-99; Amended at 18 Ok Reg 1786, eff 5-25-01; Amended at 27 Ok Reg 1961, eff 6-25-10; Amended at 28 Ok Reg 2112, eff 7-11-11; Amended at 31 Ok Reg 2418, eff 9-12-14]

690:10-7-8. Recusal of Board members

A Board member shall recuse himself or herself from evaluating and voting on the licensure of speech-language pathology assistants and the authorization of audiology assistants who will assist in the board member's practice.

[Source: Amended at 28 Ok Reg 2112, eff 7-11-11; Amended at 31 Ok Reg 2418, eff 9-12-14]

690:10-7-9. Academic Requirements

(a) Academic requirements for speech-language pathology assistants

(1) Each speech-language pathology assistant applicant shall hold not less than an associate's 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 a 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 (20) 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.

(A) **General education.** Applicants must earn at least eighteen (18) semester credit hours in oral and written communication, mathematics, computer applications, social sciences and natural sciences.

(B) **Technical content.** Applicants must earn a minimum of twenty (20) semester credit hours in the following areas:

- (i) Normal processes of communication.
- (ii) Overview of communication disorders.
- (iii) Instruction in assistant-level service delivery practices.
- (iv) Instruction in work-place behaviors.
- (v) Cultural and linguistic factors in communication.
- (vi) Observation experiences include direct on-site observation of a fully licensed speech-language pathologist. Additional observation experiences may include on-site, video or digital observation of a fully licensed speech-language pathologist.

(C) **Clinical experience.** Applicants must complete 100 clock hours of clinical experience supervised by a speech-language pathologist. The clinical

experience requirement must be completed through an accredited academic institution with a Board approved degree program.

(b) Academic requirements for audiology assistants. Each audiology assistant applicant shall hold not less than a high school diploma or its equivalent.

[Source: Added at 27 Ok Reg 1961, eff 6-25-10; Amended at 28 Ok Reg 2112, eff 7-11-11; Amended at 31 Ok Reg 2418, eff 9-12-14; Amended at 32 Ok Reg 1326, eff 8-27-15]

690:10-7-10. Roles and responsibilities of Speech-Language Pathology Assistants and Audiology Assistants

(a) Allowed activities as delegated by the supervising speech-language pathologist:

- (1) Assist the speech-language pathologist with speech-language and hearing screenings.
- (2) Assist with informal documentation as directed by the speech-language pathologist.
- (3) Follow documented treatment plans or protocols developed by the supervising speech-language pathologist.
- (4) Document patient/client performance.
- (5) Assist the speech-language pathologist with assessment of patient/clients.
- (6) Assist with clerical duties.
- (7) Perform checks and maintenance of equipment.
- (8) Support the speech-language pathologist in research projects, in service training, and public relations programs.
- (9) Collect data for monitoring quality improvement.
- (10) Comply with regulations, reimbursement requirements and speech language pathology assistant's job responsibilities.

(b) Non-allowed activities of the speech-language pathology assistant

- (1) May not perform diagnostic tests, formal or informal evaluations or interpret test results.
- (2) May not evaluate or diagnose patients/clients for feeding/swallowing disorders.
- (3) May not participate in parent conferences, case conferences, or any interdisciplinary team without the presence or prior approval of the supervising Speech-Language Pathologist.
- (4) May not write, develop, or modify a patients/client's individualized treatment plan in any way without the prior approval of the licensed speech-language pathologist.
- (5) May not assist with patients/clients without following the individualized treatment plan approved by the speech-language pathologist or without access to supervision.
- (6) May not sign any formal documents not drafted and/or approved by the speech-language pathologist prior to dissemination of the document.

(c) Allowed activities of the audiology assistant as delegated by the supervising audiologist.

- (1) Assist the audiologist with screenings of auditory function.
 - (2) Assist with informal documentation as directed by the audiologist.
 - (3) Follow documented treatment plans or protocols developed by the supervising audiologist.
 - (4) Document patient/client performance.
 - (5) Assist the audiologist with assessment of patient/clients.
 - (6) Assist with clerical duties.
 - (7) Perform checks and maintenance of diagnostic equipment as well as hearing aids, amplification systems, and other assistive devices.
 - (8) Support the audiologist in research projects, in service training, and public relations programs.
 - (9) Collect data for monitoring quality improvement.
 - (10) Exhibit compliance with regulations, reimbursement requirements and audiology assistant's job responsibilities.
 - (11) Provide explanations of the proper care of amplification and assistive listening devices.
- (d) Non-allowed activities of the audiology assistant.
- (1) May not perform diagnostic tests, formal or informal evaluations or interpret diagnostic test results.
 - (2) May not evaluate or diagnose patients/clients for auditory or auditory related disorders.
 - (3) May not participate in patient counseling without the presence or prior approval of the supervising audiologist.
 - (4) May not write, develop, or modify a patients/client's treatment plan in any way.
 - (5) May not assist with patients/clients without following the treatment plan prepared by the audiologist or without access to supervision.
 - (6) May not sign any formal documents not drafted and/or specifically approved by the audiologist prior to dissemination of the document.
- (e) Speech-language pathology assistants and audiology assistants must comply with the ethical Rules of Practice in Chapter 15 of Title 690.

[Source: Added at 27 Ok Reg 1961, eff 6-25-10; Amended at 28 Ok Reg 2112, eff 7-11-11; Amended at 31 Ok Reg 2418, eff 9-12-14]

690:10-7-11. Continuing education for assistants

The rules regarding continuing education requirements in section 10-3-8 of Title 690 shall also apply to speech-language pathology assistants. Audiology assistants are exempt from the continuing education hours requirements.

[Source: Added at 27 Ok Reg 1961, eff 6-25-10; Amended at 28 Ok Reg 2112, eff 7-11-11; Amended at 31 Ok Reg 2418, eff 9-12-14]

SUBCHAPTER 9. FEES

Section

- 690:10-9-2. License renewal fee
690:10-9-7. Inactive status fee

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 until renewed. Renewal of an invalid 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, including completion of another clinical experience year and retaking the exam. The applicant may petition the Board to waive the clinical experience 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 of 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 fee each year thereafter of active duty military service, and for up to one year after the date of discharge from active duty.

[Source: Amended at 15 Ok Reg 4234, eff 7-31-98 (emergency); Amended at 16 Ok Reg 1247, eff 5-13-99; Amended at 18 Ok Reg 1786, eff 5-25-01; Amended at 21 Ok Reg 3116, eff 7-6-04 (emergency); Amended at 22 Ok Reg 1508, eff 6-11-05; Amended at 27 Ok Reg 1961, eff 6-25-10; Amended at 28 Ok Reg 2112, eff 7-11-11; Amended at 31 Ok Reg 2418, eff 9-12-14]

690:10-9-7. Inactive status fee

(a) A one-time fee of twenty five dollars (\$25.00) shall be charged a licensed speech-language pathologist, audiologist or speech-language pathology assistant to place the license on inactive status, provided that, prior to expiration of the license, the licensee makes written application to the Board for such status. Thereafter, the licensee may reactivate the license upon payment of a reactivation fee equal to one and one-half (1 1/2) times the current license renewal fee. A licensee must

be in compliance with Continuing Education requirements to be placed on inactive status, and must maintain compliance while inactive. During the period of time the license is on inactive status, the licensee shall not engage in the practice of speech-language pathology or audiology in the State of Oklahoma, unless the licensee is exempt from licensure pursuant to 59 O.S. § 1604. A license may be maintained in inactive status for no longer than ten years.

(b) To reactivate a license on inactive status, the licensee must make written application to the Board, pay a reactivation fee equal to one and one-half (1 1/2) times the current license renewal fee, and provide proof of compliance with Continuing Education requirements during the time the license was inactive.

(c) In addition to the requirements in subsection (b) of this rule, if the license has been on inactive status 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 reactivation:

- (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 of 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

[Source: Amended at 16 Ok Reg 1247, eff 5-13-99; Amended at 18 Ok Reg 1786, eff 5-25-01; Amended at 21 Ok Reg 1119, eff 5-13-04; Amended at 28 Ok Reg 2112, eff 7-11-11; Amended at 31 Ok Reg 2418, eff 9-12-14]