



State of Nevada

Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology & Hearing Aid Dispensing Board

6170 Mae Anne Avenue, Suite 1, Reno, NV 89523

(775) 787-3421 / Fax (775) 746-4105

www.nvspeechhearing.org Email board@nvspeechhearing.org

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ACT UPON A REGULATION

Notice of Hearing for the Adoption of LCB File No. R064-21 of the Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Board

The Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Board will hold a Public Hearing as follows:

Thursday, April 21, 2022 ~ 4:30pm

Location: Board Office ~ 6170 Mae Anne Avenue, Suite 1, Reno, Nevada 89523

The purpose of the hearing is to receive comments from all interested parties regarding the adoption of regulations that pertain to LCB File No. R064-21, Chapter 637B of the Nevada Administrative Code.

Supporting materials relating to this meeting will be physically available but in an effort to reduce costs and preserve resources, attendees are encouraged to access electronic copies on the Board's website at <https://www.nvspeechhearing.org/about/Minutes.asp>

Teleconference Access

ZOOM VIDEO & AUDIO:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85938659794?pwd=dGJ5WGZibFdyNUdabHNGMFVtQWhPZz09>

AUDIO ONLY BY TELEPHONE: (253) 215-8782

Meeting ID: 859 3865 9794 Passcode: 969742

If you are outside the United States or need **toll-free audio access**, please contact the Board office at board@nvspeechhearing.org to request a toll-free number no later than 3:00pm Pacific on the day of the meeting.

1. Need for and Purpose of the Proposed Regulations or Amendments

The need for the proposed regulations is to protect the public health, safety, and welfare by ensuring that only qualified and competent speech-language pathologists, audiologists, and hearing aid specialists are licensed in the state.

2. Terms of the Regulations to Be Adopted

The purpose of the adopted regulation is to provide clarity for the public, individuals, and licensees through regulations.

Existing law requires the Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Board to adopt regulations prescribing requirements for the renewal of a license or endorsement issued by the Board. (NRS 637B.191) With certain exceptions, existing regulations require a licensee to complete 15 hours of continuing education as a prerequisite for the renewal of a standard license or provisional license. (NAC 637B.400)

This regulation does the following:

- (1) Reduces, from 15 hours to 10 hours, the total number of hours of continuing education required for the renewal of a license; and
- (2) Requires at least 1 of these hours to relate to ethics, cultural competence, cultural humility, culturally responsive practices or diversity, equity and inclusion.

If a licensee is a dispensing audiologist, existing regulations require at least 5 hours of continuing education to relate directly to the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids. (NAC 637B.400) This regulation reduces the requirement from 5 hours to 3 hours.

3. Estimated Economic Effects

1) On the Business Which It Is to Regulate

(a) Adverse and Beneficial Effects

The Board used informed, reasonable judgment in determining that there will not be an adverse impact on small businesses due to the nature of the regulation changes. In making this determination, the Board considered whether or not the speech-language pathology, audiology, and hearing aid dispensing practitioners regulated by the Board will have their practice impacted. Conversely, small businesses will benefit from the reduction in hours required for continuing education which will reduce costs for licensees, allow for more time spent on clinical care, and align professional development with national standards.

(b) Immediate and Long-Term Effects

The immediate effect will be to improve and clarify existing law and regulatory requirements. Long-term, small businesses may experience the effect of having more knowledgeable practitioners with reduced monetary and time costs for continuing education.

2) On the Public

(a) Adverse and Beneficial Effects

The Board used informed, reasonable judgment in determining that there will not be an adverse impact on the public due to the nature of the regulation changes. In making this determination, the Board considered whether or not the continuing education requirements for speech-language pathology, audiology, and hearing aid dispensing practitioners regulated by the Board will create a risk to the public. Conversely, the public

will benefit from the reduction in hours required for licensees to engage in continuing education which will allow for more time spent on patient care and align professional development with national standards.

(b) Immediate and Long-Term Effects

The immediate effect will be to improve and clarify existing law and regulatory requirements. Long-term, the public may experience the effect of having more knowledgeable practitioners who engage in professional development that aligns with national standards, allows for more time spent on patient care, and reduces costs for practitioners that might otherwise be passed on to patients.

4. Estimated Cost to the Agency for Enforcement of the Proposed Regulation

There are no additional costs involved in the enforcement of these proposed regulations.

5. Overlap or Duplication of Other State or Local Governmental Agencies

The proposed regulations do not overlap or duplicate any regulation of other state or local governmental entities.

6. Regulation Required by Federal Law

Not applicable.

7. More Stringent Than Federal Regulations

The Board is not aware of any similar federal regulations of the same activity in which the state regulations are more stringent.

8. New Or Increases in Existing Fees

The proposed regulations do not contain any new fees or increases in existing fees.

PERSONS WISHING TO COMMENT

Persons wishing to comment upon the proposed action of the Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Board may:

- Appear at the scheduled Public Hearing in person or via ZOOM teleconference/telephone to address their comments, data, views, or arguments; or
- Address their comments, data, views, or arguments, in written form, to the Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Board via email at board@nvspeechhearing.org or postal mail at 6170 Mae Anne Avenue, Suite 1, Reno, Nevada 89523. Written submissions must be received by the Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Board on or before 3:00pm Pacific, Thursday, April 21, 2022

If no person who is directly affected by the proposed action appears to request time to make an oral presentation, the Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Board may proceed immediately to act upon any written submissions.

POSTING/DISSEMINATION OF THE PROPOSED REGULATIONS

This Notice of Intent to Act Upon a Regulation has been posted and disseminated as follows:

- **EMAILED TO:**
 - All licensed Speech-Language Pathologists, Audiologists, Hearing Aid Specialists
 - All persons on the Board's mailing list for administrative regulations
- **DEPOSITED WITH** the State Library, Archives and Public Records Administrator
- **POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING PHYSICAL LOCATIONS:**
 - State of Nevada, Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology & Hearing Aid Specialists Board Office, 6170 Mae Anne Avenue, Suite 1, Reno, Nevada 89523
- **POSTED ONLINE AT THE FOLLOWING WEBSITES:**
 - Nevada Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Board
<https://www.nvspeechhearing.org/about/Minutes.asp>
 - State of Nevada Public Notices
www.notice.nv.gov
 - Nevada Legislature Administrative Regulation Notices, Meetings and Workshops
<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/app/notice/a/>

HOW TO OBTAIN A COPY OF THE PROPOSED REGULATIONS

A copy of the proposed regulations may be obtained by any of the following means:

- Available in the State of Nevada Register of Administrative Regulations, which is prepared and published monthly by the Legislative Counsel Bureau pursuant to NRS 233B.0653, and on the Internet at <http://www.leg.state.nv.us>.
- Available to access and download from the Board's website at <https://www.nvspeechhearing.org/about/Minutes.asp>
- By email or mail through a written request to the Board office via email at board@nvspeechhearing.org or postal mail at 6170 Mae Anne Avenue, Suite 1, Reno, NV 89523, or verbal request to the Board office by telephone at (775) 787-3421

All licensees and interested parties are encouraged to participate in the regulatory review process.

We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public who are disabled and wish to attend the meeting. If special arrangements are necessary, please notify Jennifer R. Pierce, Executive Director at (775) 787-3421 within 72 hours of the meeting date and time.

Dated: March 17, 2022