

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Tuesday, July 19, 2022 ~ 4:30pm

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

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 <u>https://www.nvspeechhearing.org/about/Minutes.asp</u>

Teleconference Access

ZOOM VIDEO & AUDIO:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81809070604?pwd=4 TxtelBJLQJnIqYhoVLAQicPJuzby.1

AUDIO ONLY BY TELEPHONE: (253) 215-8782

Meeting ID: 818 0907 0604 Passcode: 587373

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AGENDA

The **STATE OF NEVADA SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY, AUDIOLOGY AND HEARING AID DISPENSING BOARD** may: (a) address agenda items out of sequence (b) combine agenda items or (c) pull or remove items from the agenda at any time. The Board may convene in closed session to consider the character, alleged misconduct, professional competence or physical or mental health of a person. (NRS 241.020, NRS 241.030). Action by the Board on any item may be to approve, deny, amend, or table.

- 1. Call to Order, Confirmation of Quorum
- 2. Public Comment

No vote may be taken upon a matter raised during a period devoted to public comment until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. (NRS 241.020)

3. Approval of the Minutes: Board Meeting and Public Hearing of April 21, 2022 and Board Meeting of April 28, 2022

(for possible action)

4. Welcome & Introduction of New Board Member: Adrienne Williams, MS, CCC-SLP, Appointed 7/2/2022 to 7/1/2025

(informational only)

5. Public Workshop on Proposed Regulations NAC 637B.036 to Require ASHA CCC-SLP for SLP License Renewal (informational only)

6. Public Comment on Proposed Regulations NAC 637B.036 to Require ASHA CCC-SLP for SLP License Renewal

No vote may be taken upon a matter raised during a period devoted to public comment until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. (NRS 241.020)

7. Consideration of Proposed Regulations NAC 637B.036 to Require ASHA CCC-SLP for SLP License Renewal Based on Comments Received at Public Workshop

(for possible action)

The Board will consider additions, amendments, and/or repeal of regulations taking into consideration comments from the public.

- 8. Appointments/Reappointments to the Advisory Committee on Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids (for possible action)
 - a. Nanci Campbell, AuD
 - b. Jennifer Joy-Cornejo, MA, CCC-A/FAAA
 - c. Melissa D. Maestas, BC-HIS
- 9. Report Out and Recommendations for Action from Advisory Committee on Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids Meeting of June 21, 2022
 - a. Draft Revisions to NRS 637B Related to NBC-HIS Certification for HAS License (for possible action)
 - b. Consideration for Revisions to NAC 637B.0391(2) Regarding In-Service Training for Hearing Aid Specialist Apprentices
 - (for possible action)
 - c. Consideration for Licensing Audiology Assistants or Revision to NAC 637B.0442 *(for possible action)*
 - d. Consideration of Examinations Required for Dispensing Audiologists and Hearing Aid Specialists *(for possible action)*
 - e. Consideration of Cerumen (Earwax) Management by Hearing Aid Specialists (for possible action)

10. Work Session on Future Legislative Efforts (Standing Agenda Item):

- a. Consideration to Revise NRS 637B to Add Licensing of Speech-Language Pathology Assistants (for possible action)
- b. Consideration to Revise NRS 637B to Add Licensing of Audiology Assistants *(for possible action)*
- c. Consideration to Revise NRS 637B to Address Telehealth and Telesupervision *(for possible action)*
- d. Consideration to Revise NBC-HIS Certification for HAS License *(for possible action)*

11. Consideration to Issue Public Comment in Support of Proposed Amendments to NAC Chapter 391.370 – Qualifications for teaching pupils who have speech and language impairments (for possible action)

12. Executive Director's Report

- a. Licensure Statistics (for possible action)
- b. FY22 Q4/End of Fiscal Year Financial Report (for possible action)
- c. Update on Proposed Regulations LCB File No. R064-21 (for possible action)

- d. Update on Implementation of License by Endorsement Application Process *(for possible action)*
- e. Legislative Update (for possible action)
- f. Introduction of the Nevada Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing *(for possible action)*
- g. Update on FDA Rulemaking for Over-the-Counter Hearing Aids (for possible action)
- h. Board Member Appointments/Reappointments (for possible action)
- i. Complaints (for possible action)

13. Report from Legal Counsel

(informational only)

14. Reports from Board Chair and Members

- a. Report from Board Chair and Board Members *(for possible action)*
- b. 2022 Proposed Meeting Schedule: Next Meeting Proposed: <u>Wednesday, October 19, 2022 at 4:30pm</u>. Teleconference hosted in-person at the Board Office and virtually via ZOOM. (for possible action)
- c. Future Agenda Items:

(for possible action)

- 1) Work Session: Continued work on Future Legislative Efforts (Standing Agenda Item):
 - (a) Licensing Speech-Language Pathology Assistants
 - (b) Licensing Audiology Assistants
 - (c) Telehealth and Telesupervision
 - (d) NBC-HIS Certification for HAS License
 - (e) Other Items Added During this Meeting
- 2) Work Session on Jurisprudence Exam Requirements

15. Public Comment

No vote may be taken upon a matter raised during a period devoted to public comment until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. (NRS 241.020)

16. Adjournment

(for possible action)

Public comment is welcomed by the Board. Public comment will be limited to five minutes per person and comments based on viewpoint will not be restricted. A public comment time will be available prior to action items on the agenda and on any matter not specifically included on the agenda as the last item on the agenda. At the discretion of the President, additional public comment may be heard when that item is reached. The Board Chair may allow additional time to be given a speaker as time allows and in his/her sole discretion. (NRS 241.020, NRS 241.030)

Prior to the commencement and conclusion of a contested case or a quasi-judicial proceeding that may affect the due process rights of an individual, the Board may refuse to consider public comment. (NRS 233B.126)

Persons with disabilities who require special accommodations or assistance at the meeting should contact the Board office at (775) 787-3421 or email at <u>board@nvspeechhearing.ora</u> no later than 48 hours prior to the meeting. Requests for special accommodations made after this time frame cannot be guaranteed.

THIS MEETING HAS BEEN PROPERLY NOTICED AND POSTED IN THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

Nevada Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Board 6170 Mae Anne Avenue, Suite 1 Reno, Nevada 89523 Nevada Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Board Website <u>www.nvspeechhearing.org</u>

State of Nevada Public Notice Website www.notice.nv.gov

www.notice.nv.gov

This agenda has been sent to all members of the Board and other interested persons who have requested an agenda from the Board. Persons who wish to continue to receive an agenda and notice must request so in writing on an annual basis.

Supporting material relating to public meetings of the Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Board is available at the Board's administrative offices located at 6170 Mae Anne Avenue, Suite 1, Reno, Nevada 89523 on the Board's website at <u>https://www.nvspeechhearing.org/about/Minutes.asp</u> or by contacting Jennifer R. Pierce, Executive Director by phone at (775) 787-3421 or email <u>board@nvspeechhearing.org</u>.

Anyone desiring additional information regarding the meeting is invited to call the Board office at (775) 787-3421.



AGENDA ITEM 1 Call to Order, Confirmation of Quorum

Call to Order, Confirmation of Quorum.

ACTION: Meeting called to order. ATTACHMENT(S): None.



AGENDA ITEM 2 Public Comment

No vote may be taken upon a matter raised during a period devoted to public comment until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. (NRS 241.020).

ACTION: None – INFORMATIONAL ONLY ATTACHMENT(S): None.



AGENDA ITEM 3

Approval of the Minutes: Board Meeting and Public Hearing of April 21, 2022 and Board Meeting of April 28, 2022

The minutes of the Board Meeting and Public Hearing of April 21, 2022, and Board Meeting of April 28, 2022 are presented for approval.

ACTION: Approve, table, or take no action on the matter.

ATTACHMENT(S):

- 1. 2022 4 21 Minutes Not Yet Approved
- 2. 2022 4 28 Minutes Not Yet Approved



MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology & Hearing Aid Dispensing Board

April 21, 2022

Members Present:	Tami Brancamp, Andrea Menicucci, Bonnie Lamping, Timothy Hunsaker, Lynee Anderson
Members Absent:	Michael Hodes, Minnie Foxx
Staff Present:	Jennifer Pierce, Executive Director Stacey Whittaker, Licensing Coordinator Henna Rasul, Sr. Deputy Attorney General, Board Counsel
Public Present:	Verona Sutton-Dunn; Melissa Fleischman; Hasmig Karkouzian; Karen Klopfer (CCSD/ASHA); Nancy Kuhles (NSHA/NV Coalition); Leala Lierman; Alice Lilly; Kirsten Razzone; Kim Reddig (NSHA); Laura Thompson

Call to Order, Confirmation of Quorum

Tami Brancamp called the meeting to order at 4:38pm. A roll call confirmed a quorum was present.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Approval of the Minutes: Board Meeting and Public Workshop of January 19, 2022

Tami Brancamp asked if there were any corrections or revisions to the minutes of the meeting and Public Workshop of January 19, 2022 and none were noted. Dr. Brancamp asked for a motion. Bonnie Lamping made a motion to approve the minutes of January 19, 2022 as written, and Andrea Menicucci seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Disciplinary Matters

Dr. Brancamp asked Ms. Pierce to introduce and summarize each item for separate consideration and action.

a. Recommendation for Approval of Consent Decree: Case No. H21-05 Alice Lilly, License #HAS-2703

Ms. Pierce summarized that the complaint alleged unprofessional conduct and making or providing false statements or omitting relevant information in connection with an application for a license or the renewal of a license. An investigation determined that there was sufficient evidence to file a formal complaint for hearing before the Board and the practitioner opted to settle the matter by entering into a Consent Decree which was presented to the Board in this meeting for review and approval. Board Counsel Henna Rasul directed the members to the separate email sent by Ms. Pierce and instructed the members to review the attached Consent Decree and ask questions as needed. Ms. Lilly was present on the call and invited to speak as desired, and members were invited to ask questions of her as well. There were no questions and Ms. Lilly stated that she was happy to resolve the matter.

Dr. Brancamp asked for a motion. Timothy Hunsaker made a motion to accept the Consent Decree as proposed, and Andrea Menicucci seconded the motion. The motion passed.

b. License Reinstatement Application: Kirsten Razzone, License # SP-2082 (Expired January 19, 2022) Ms. Pierce summarized the reinstatement application as a result of Ms. Razzone's practice without a license between January 19, 2022, when the license expired, and March 25, 2022 when she was notified by her employer of the expired license and immediately ceased practice. Ms. Razzone apologized for the oversight and explained the circumstances that led to the lapse and unlicensed practice.

Dr. Brancamp asked for a motion. Timothy Hunsaker made a motion to reinstate the license without conditions and impose an administrative fine of \$200, and Bonnie Lamping seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Public Hearing: Proposed Regulations LCB File No. R064-21

Dr. Brancamp opened the Public Hearing on proposed regulations LCB File No. R064-21 and asked Ms. Pierce to summarize, who explained that the proposed regulations were revised on January 31, 2022 based on public comment received at the Public Workshop of January 19, 2022. The proposed regulations do the following: *Revise NAC 637B.400 to reduce, from 15 hours to 10 hours, the total number of hours of continuing education required for the renewal of a license. Of those 10 hours, the revision adds a requirement that at least 1 of the 10 hours relate to ethics, cultural competence, cultural humility, culturally responsive practices or diversity, equity, and inclusion. If a licensee is a dispensing audiologist, at least 3 of the ten hours must relate directly to the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids.*

Ms. Pierce reported that the regulation was before the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Health and Human Services this morning, with one question posed regarding the availability of ethics training content.

Public Comment: Proposed Regulations LCB File No. R064-21

Dr. Brancamp opened the meeting for public comment. Ms. Pierce reported that three written comments were received via email and read each into the record:

Letter (via email from Eileen Crowe, ASHA) from Judy Rich, ASHA President; Received February 15, 2022: Dear Ms. Pierce, On behalf of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, I write to support the proposed continuing education regulations with amendments. The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) is the national professional, scientific, and credentialing association for 218,000 members and affiliates who are audiologists; speech-language pathologists; speech, language, and hearing scientists; audiology and speech-language pathology support personnel; and students. Audiologists specialize in preventing and assessing hearing and balance disorders as well as providing audiologic treatment, including hearing aids. Speech-language pathologists (SLPs) identify, assess, and treat speech, language, and swallowing disorders. Over 900 ASHA members reside in Nevada. ASHA supports the language in Section 1. NAC 637B.400 with the following amendments in red: Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2 of NAC 637B.403 and NAC 637B.430, as a prerequisite for each renewal of a standard license or provisional license, a licensee must complete, during the annual period immediately preceding the renewal, at least 10 hours of continuing education approved by the Board that directly pertains to the profession in which he or she holds a license issued by the Board, including at least 1 hour of continuing education relating to ethics, and at least 2 hours relating to cultural competence, cultural humility, culturally responsive practices or diversity, equity and inclusion. If the licensee is a dispensing audiologist, at least 3 of the 10 hours of continuing education must directly relate to the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids. Beginning with ASHA certificate holders in the January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2022

Minutes have not yet been approved and are subject to revision at the next meeting.

maintenance interval, practitioners will be required to complete the following: Out of 30 required professional development hours for certification maintenance, at least 1 hour must be in the area of ethics. Beginning with certificate holders in the January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2025 maintenance interval, practitioners will be required to complete the following: Out of 30 required professional development hours for certification maintenance, at least 2 hours must be in cultural competency, cultural humility, culturally responsive practice, or diversity, equity, and inclusion. Making these changes will further align Nevada's standards with ASHA's standards. Thank you for your consideration of ASHA's position to support the proposed regulations with amendments. If you or your staff have any questions, please contact Eileen Crowe, ASHA's director of state association relations, at ecrowe@asha.org. Sincerely, Judy Rich, EdD, CCC-SLP, BCS-CL, 2022 ASHA President

- Email from Linda Ganz; Received March 21, 2022: Jennifer, So sorry that I see I made a typo and just reread this. Pls accept the following and disregard the previous email. 03.21.2022 Dear State of Nevada Speech-Language Pathology Board, I am NOT in support requiring that 1 of these hours to be on ethics, cultural competence, cultural humility etc... This will force each licensee to find a course of a small nature on for only 1 hour each year. This really does improve the reduction of hours bc then we will have to always find a course that relates to this topic. I don't agree at all. Most of us take courses where ethics and cultural are addressed but may not be listed in the title. I think this will limit us when renewing our license and force us to take courses only in this topic area which I think limits each one of us in our CEUS interest. Has the board looked into if 1 hr courses are even AVAILABLE? If that is the case then I don't agree with the reduction of hours and would then like to remain at the 1.5 CEUs required each year. Sincerely, Linda L. Ganz M.S. CCC-SLP, Speech-Language Pathologist & Owner, Vegas Voice Institute.
- <u>Email from Steve Romeo; Received March 18, 2022:</u> No disrespect intended, but how, exactly, does REDUCING the continuing education requirement ADVANCE patient care and well-being? I strongly oppose any reduction because the field is constantly changing and I have no problem setting aside time and money for about 20 hours of CEU.

Dr. Brancamp next invited public comment from those in attendance and the following was received:

- <u>Kim Reddig (NSHA)</u> commented that she believed ASHA's written comment regarding the number of hours required was intended to align the Board's regulations with the Audiology and Speech Pathology Interstate Compact in the event the Board pursues compact participation in the future.
- <u>Melissa Fleischman</u> commented that she is in support of the change to the continuing education hours and the requirement to include content on ethics.

Dr. Brancamp thanked the commenters and closed the Public Hearing.

Consideration to Adopt Proposed Regulations LCB File No. R064-21 Based on Comments Received at Public Hearing

Dr. Brancamp opened the discussion for any additions, amendments, and consideration for adoption of the proposed regulations taking into consideration the comments from the public. Andrea Menicucci commented that often when content requirements are added, such as by ASHA, new training options become available. Timothy Hunsaker concurred that in his review of available CE content, ethics and cultural diversity options are fairly easy to find. Dr. Brancamp noted that the written comment from ASHA appeared to include an error in that it read as a recommendation for three hours annually on these topics, versus three in three years.

Tami Brancamp called for a motion. Andrea Menicucci made a motion to adopt the proposed regulations of January 31, 2022 as written, and Timothy Hunsaker seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Work Session on Future Legislative Efforts (Standing Agenda Item):

a. Consideration to Revise NRS 637B to Add Licensing of Speech-Language Pathology Assistants (SLPA)

Dr. Brancamp asked Ms. Pierce to summarize, who explained that as the matter had been inactive for a significant amount of time, and she updated the Board on current matters involving SLPAs, including national trends, potential need/support for this role in Nevada, reimbursement issues, and the ASHA Certification Program and 2014 Model Bill language. Ms. Pierce also summarized a number of NRS and NAC section revisions that the Board would need to consider and approve and detailed potential fiscal impacts.

Andrea Menicucci asked Tami Brancamp about the use of SLPAs in non-educational settings. Dr. Brancamp cited a recent conversation with an executive at Renown who confirmed that SLPA services are still not reimbursable by most insurances, so from a state licensing board perspective, Dr. Brancamp does not see a need for this as a licensed role at this time for the population of licensees this Board governs. Dr. Brancamp also stated that she is concerned about the cost of pursuing legislative action not knowing how many SLPAs would become licensed, as well as the capacity for Nevada's universities to support this educational path.

Andrea Menicucci asked Kim Reddig to provide an update on NDE sunsetting of bachelor's level staff. Ms. Reddig reported that she joined the NDE Commission on Professional Standards (COPS) meeting earlier this year and there was discussion on sunsetting bachelor's level practitioners by July 1, 2025. Ms. Reddig stated that she does not believe this Board needs to add SLP Assistants immediately but encouraged it as a "bridge" for those in the field who cannot pursuer graduate school in the near future. Ms. Reddig also confirmed that current employees will be grandfathered into this plan, as long as they keep their endorsement current. Ms. Pierce reiterated, and Board Counsel confirmed that this Board's statutes excludes school settings. Ms. Pierce suggested that NAC 391 is the more appropriate place for these revisions.

There was discussion and Board members cited concerns about the timeline and cost of pursuing legislative action to create a new license type, and consensus was to keep this as a standing agenda item. Ms. Pierce was asked to contact NDE to gather additional information for future meetings. No action was taken.

b. Work Session on Future Legislative Efforts to Consider Licensing Audiology Assistants (AuDA)

Dr. Brancamp asked Ms. Pierce to summarize, who explained that the matter had been inactive for a significant amount of time, and she updated the Board on current matters involving AuDAs, including national trends, potential need/support for this role in Nevada, reimbursement issues, and the ASHA Certification Program and 2014 Model Bill language. Ms. Pierce also summarized a number of NRS and NAC section revisions that the Board would need to consider and approve and detailed potential fiscal impacts.

Ms. Pierce suggested that as an alternative to AuDA licensing, the Board may consider revisions to NAC 637B.0442 which delineates duties that may be delegated to an unlicensed individual and recommended that the matter be referred to the Advisory Committee on Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids for recommendation to the Board on further action/revisions.

There was consensus that more work should be done on this matter and Ms. Pierce agreed to add it to a future Advisory Committee meeting agenda. It was also suggested that this matter should not be pursued on its own and should be coupled with any legislative action taken on SLPAs.

Minutes have not yet been approved and are subject to revision at the next meeting.

c. Consideration to Revise NRS 637B to Address Telehealth and Telesupervision

Ms. Pierce explained that as previously discussed, this Board's laws and regulations do not apply to an SLP employed by a public educational institution and working within the scope of that credential, therefore, this request is not within this Board's authority. Ms. Pierce suggested that these requests would be more appropriately directed to the Nevada Department of Education to consider revisions to NRS 391 as it relates to school-based SLPs. Additionally, this Board's laws and regulations do not provide authority or require this Board to oversee the supervision of Clinical Fellows and student interns. This Board also does not regulate billing, claims, or reimbursement, which aligns with the NRS/NAC of other Nevada Boards whose licensees may bill Medicaid. Ms. Pierce also cited ASHA data showing that most states do not have regulations allowing telesupervision, and in fact, some specifically prohibit the practice.

Ms. Pierce recommended that the Board take no action at this time and encourage those who continue to make these requests to contact the Nevada Department of Education instead. Should the Board consider licensing of SLP Assistants in the future, it may consider telesupervision of non-school-based SLP Assistants at that time.

Karen Klopfer, CCSD/ASHA commented that the matter continues to be an issue for "recruitment of staff" in Clark County School District and asked that the Board consider this as an urgent matter. She further stated that ASHA's allowance for students and clinical fellows to receive telesupervision would end in December 2022. This was corrected by Ms. Pierce who cited a March 2022 ASHA email clarifying that students and Clinical Fellows who began their programs prior to December 31, 2022 could utilize the 2022 COVID-19 accommodations. Ms. Pierce again reiterated that this Board's statutes exclude both students and public educational employees working within the scope of the NDE credential.

Bonnie Lamping stated that she feels this is a critical issue and if the Association thinks it's important, than the Board should consider addressing it. Nancy Kuhles commented that a lack of guidance on the matter may affect rural clinicians. There was discussion on the matter and whether a subcommittee would be useful, but consensus was to keep this matter as a standing agenda item before the full Board and revisit in future meetings. No action was taken.

d. Consideration to Revise NRS 637B to Remove NBC-HIS Certification Requirement for HAS License Ms. Pierce directed the members to drafted revisions to the two sections of NRS 637B referencing NBC-HIS certification and explained the NAC revisions that would also be required if changes were made in NRS.

Lynee Anderson shared that there is quite a bit of overlap between the ILE Written and NBC-HIS exams, so requiring both extends the time it takes to become licensed. Timothy Hunsaker suggested that removing this would also align with audiologists, who have no requirement to hold professional certification. Lynee Anderson pointed that once certified and licensed, the HAS could drop the certification as it is not required for renewal. Stacey Whittaker explained that the Board's current requirement for two years of on-site training aligns with NBC-HIS requirements to sit for their exam, which is more than required in other states. Andrea Menicucci asked how many individuals may be impacted and Ms. Pierce confirmed that it only applies to the 20 currently licensed apprentices, new apprentices, and new HAS applicants, as current HAS licensees have already met this requirement. Ms. Pierce and Ms. Whittaker reported no evidence of this impacting the workforce or limiting access to services. Ms. Whittaker clarified that apprentices are given three years to complete all training and exams, which is ample time for most individuals.

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There was consensus that this change could remove a barrier for HAS applicants and reduce the cost of their pursuit of licensure but that more information would be helpful. Ms. Pierce also suggested that she would bring the matter back to the Advisory Committee on Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids for further discussion. Tami Brancamp called for a motion. Bonnie Lamping made a motion to keep this matter as a standing agenda item with continued work, and Andrea Menicucci seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Work Session to Consider New/Potential Future Legislative Efforts

a. NRS/NAC Requirements for an SLP to Hold ASHA Certificate of Clinical Competence (CCC) at Both Initial Licensure and Renewal

Ms. Pierce explained that license renewal language is included in NAC 637B which does not require a legislative change, so if approved, the Board may pursue a revision to NAC 637B through the Administrative Rulemaking process. There is still enough time to propose and adopt changes in the current interim, or the Board could wait and pursue revisions in 2024. Both Timothy Hunsaker and Bonnie Lamping commented that it is unclear how continuing to hold the CCC enhances SLP practice, especially if continued certification only involves completing continuing education, which our Board already requires, and paying a fee. There was a suggestion to hold a public workshop to get feedback from licensees and the public, and Ms. Pierce confirmed that the Board could do so without drafted language and no requirement to proceed with revisions if so desired.

Andrea Menicucci made a motion to schedule a Public Workshop in July 2022 to gather feedback on this as a proposed regulation change, and Tami Brancamp seconded the motion. The motion passed.

b. Licensing Reciprocity Options: Current NRS Authority for License by Endorsement and Reciprocity by Interstate Compact or Alternatives

Ms. Pierce explained that this is a new matter raised for the Board's consideration to streamline reciprocal licensing for practitioners already licensed in another state, and who may or may not be military-affiliated. Ms. Pierce explained that the Board has several options to consider, including, but not limited to license by endorsement, the ASLP-Interstate Compact, and universal license recognition (ULR). Ms. Pierce recommended that the Board exercise the authority already granted in NRS 637B to issue expedited licenses by endorsement by delegating authority to the Executive Director to develop an application/approval process. Ms. Pierce also recommended that the Board refer this matter to the Advisory Committee on Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids to consider current dispensing exam requirements for both dispensing audiologists and hearing aid specialists, as Nevada is just 1 of 4 states requiring the practical exam for a dispensing audiologist, and 1 of 16 for a hearing aid specialist.

There was consensus that the Board should improve reciprocity options. Tami Brancamp called for a motion. Andrea Menicucci made a motion to 1) delegate authority to the Executive Director to develop an application/approval process which would include approval of applications by the Board Chair in between meetings of the Board, as allowed in NRS; and 2) refer this matter to the Advisory Committee on Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids to consider current dispensing exam requirements for both dispensing audiologists and hearing aid specialists. Tami Brancamp seconded the motion. The motion passed.

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Executive Director's Report

Ms. Pierce directed the Board to the written Executive Director's Report and summarized as follows:

a. Licensure Statistics

Ms. Pierce reported that FY22 Q3 resulted in a net increase of nine licenses, a 1% increase from the prior quarter. Ms. Pierce stated that this a notable change, as it is the first Q3 since FY16 where there was an increase in licenses from Q2 to Q3 rather than a decrease.

b. FY22 Q2 Financial Report

Ms. Pierce directed the Board to the FY22 Q3 Financial Summary, reporting that income is slightly lower and expenses slightly higher than budgeted. This is not surprising, as a large legal bill was paid in Q3, historically revenue is lowest in Q2 and Q3, and Q4 typically adds the most licenses as the academic year concludes. Net income through Q3 is \$23,036.43 and reserves now total \$94,173.11, an approximate \$30,000 increase since this quarter last year. There were no major budget deviations during this quarter.

c. Legislative Update

Ms. Pierce directed the members to the summary of relevant interim committees in the Executive Director's report, explaining that the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Commerce and Labor is reviewing occupational licensing boards this interim. Ms. Pierce also noted Governor Sisolak's plan to assemble a Bipartisan Task Force on Occupational Licensing, though there have been no further updates.

d. Update on FDA Rulemaking for Over-the-Counter Hearing Aids

Ms. Pierce reported that public comments on the FDA's Proposed Rules for Over the Counter Hearing Aids were due by January 18, 2022 and there have been no updates since then.

e. Update on Implementation of Optional Licensee Jurisprudence Exam

Ms. Pierce reported that the optional jurisprudence exam links are posted on the license renewal webpage and included in renewal reminder emails. The exam has been listed as a future agenda item for a work session and the 2023 Draft Budget includes a cost to integrate the exam with the licensing database.

f. Board Member Appointments/Reappointments

Ms. Pierce reported that as of July 2022, Bonnie Lamping's second term will expire, and she is not eligible for reappointment. Timothy Hunsaker's first term also expires in July, and he has already submitted his reappointment application. Anyone interested in the SLP seat may apply on the Governor's Office website.

g. Complaints

Ms. Pierce reported that there were six open complaint cases at the January 2022 meeting, during which three cases were dismissed, leaving three remaining. One new complaint was received in March 2022, totaling four cases. One case was closed earlier in this meeting via Consent Decree approval, leaving three open cases.

h. Review of FY23 DRAFT Budget

Ms. Pierce directed the members to a draft FY23 budget presented for approval, with a proposal to convert the Executive Director's employment status from part-time to full-time with a commensurate salary increase for FY23 and the remainder of FY22. This will support increased work on legislative issues that may result in a BDR during the 2023 or 2025 legislative sessions. It was confirmed that the Board could not take action at this time since the matter was not properly listed on this agenda, and it was agreed that a follow-up meeting would be scheduled for next week to hear the matter.

Report from Legal Counsel

Henna Rasul, Board Counsel had no new information to report on legal matters.

Reports from Board Chair and Board Members

a. Recognition of Board Service: Bonnie Lamping, SLP

Tami Brancamp asked the Board to join her in thanking Bonnie Lamping for her 6.5 years of service as an original member of this Board. Ms. Lamping was originally appointed on October 1, 2015 following the merger of the former Audiology/Speech-Pathology and Hearing Aid Specialists Boards. Ms. Lamping was presented with a service award and thanked the Board, expressing her gratitude for the experience.

b. Report from Board Chair and Board Members

There were no reports from the Board Chair or members.

c. 2022 Proposed Meeting Schedule

Conflicts were noted for the proposed July meeting date and Ms. Pierce was asked to poll members for alternative dates.

d. Future Agenda Items

Dr. Brancamp summarized the items already identified for the next Board meeting and recommended that the Jurisprudence Exam not be included in the next meeting due to the number of other matters to be addressed. Dr. Brancamp asked for suggestions on additional matters. The following matters were identified for the July 2022 agenda:

- 1. Public Workshop on Proposed Changes to NAC 637B to Require an SLP to Hold ASHA Certificate of Clinical Competence (CCC) at License Renewal
- 2. Work Session: Continued work on Future Legislative Efforts (Standing Agenda Item):
 - a) Licensing Speech-Language Pathology Assistants
 - b) Licensing Audiology Assistants
 - c) Telehealth and Telesupervision
 - d) NBC-HIS Certification for HAS License

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjournment

Tami Brancamp adjourned the meeting at 7:56pm.



MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology & Hearing Aid Dispensing Board

April 28, 2022

Members Present:	Tami Brancamp, Bonnie Lamping, Minnie Foxx, Lynee Anderson
Members Absent:	Andrea Menicucci, Michael Hodes, Timothy Hunsaker
Staff Present:	Jennifer Pierce, Executive Director Stacey Whittaker, Licensing Coordinator Henna Rasul, Sr. Deputy Attorney General, Board Counsel
Public Present:	None

Call to Order, Confirmation of Quorum

Tami Brancamp called the meeting to order at 5:33pm. A roll call confirmed a quorum was present.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Consideration to Approve Changing the Employment Status of the Executive Director to Full-Time with Applicable Salary Increase

Tami Brancamp summarized the discussion from the April 21, 2022 meeting regarding a proposal to increase the Executive Director's status to full-time due to increased demands on her time due to complex legislative and regulatory projects, complaints, and need for more intensive administrative oversight. The current proposal is to change the ED's status retroactive to Monday, April 25, 2022 to coincide with the new pay period, resulting in approximately \$5,500 in additional personnel costs for the remainder of FY22, and then then new rate for FY23.

The ED was hired in 2019 as a part-time employee working an average of 25 hours per week. Ms. Pierce summarized that several issues have been held as standing items over the last two years, while new matters have arisen, culminating in a busy workload that requires a great deal of research and preparation for the Board and potential legislative work in the near future. Ms. Pierce suggested that an increase in her time for FY23 would allow her more time to gather information and engage in this work on behalf of the Board. Bonnie Lamping asked whether keeping the ED at full-time status was sustainable, and Ms. Pierce explained that the proposed FY23 budget would cover the expense at no deficit, but long-term it may not allow the Board to continue building reserves depending on revenue. Ms. Pierce suggested that the change could be approved for FY23 as proposed, with reconsideration next year based on the workload and the Board's budget position.

Bonnie Lamping made a motion to approve changing the employment status of the Executive Director to full-time with applicable salary increase effective April 25, 2022. Minnie Foxx seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Review/Approval of FY23 Proposed Draft Budget and FY22 Proposed Revised Budget to Include Executive Director Status Change to Full-Time

Tami Brancamp and Jennifer Pierce directed the members to the draft FY23 budget presented for consideration and approval. As per the earlier agenda item, the draft budget includes a change in expenses to reflect the proposed change in employment status of the Executive Director to full-time. The draft also includes two possible options related to the Jurisprudence Exam the Board has previously worked on. At the Board's October 2021 meeting, action was taken to approve implementation of the optional jurisprudence exam for all new applicants and renewals beginning in January 2022. That discussion also included a tentative plan to begin requiring the exam for all new applicants and renewals in January 2023, though no action has been taken on this to date. The optional exam launched through Google Forms at no cost to the Board in January 2022, and the Board's website/database vendor previously quoted a cost of \$6,000 to integrate the exam into the current system. Though there is no established date to begin requiring the exam, this cost has been drafted in to the FY23 budget for the Board's consideration. But the Board may also consider an alternative and reconsider the cost at a later date when/if the Board takes action to begin requiring an exam.

Minnie Foxx made a motion to approve the FY23 budget as drafted with the increase in the ED's salary to reflect her position status change to full-time, and without the additional cost of \$6,000 for integration of the jurisprudence exam to the website/database. Bonnie Lamping seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjournment

Tami Brancamp adjourned the meeting at 5:46pm.



AGENDA ITEM 4

Welcome & Introduction of New Board Member: Adrienne Williams, MS, CCC-SLP, Appointed 7/2/2022 to 7/1/2025

Adrienne Williams, MS, CCC-SLP is welcomed to the Board upon her appointment for a first term effective 7/2/2022. Adrienne is the founder of Let's Talk Therapy in Las Vegas. <u>From their website</u>:

Adrienne earned her Master's of Science degree in Clinical Speech Pathology from Northern Arizona University. Adrienne is licensed to practice in the state of Nevada and holds the Certificate of Clinical Competency from the American Speech and Hearing Association.

Adrienne has a passion for working with clients of all ages. As a leader in the area of pediatric and adult feeding and swallowing, she provides extensive training to therapists, clients, and families. Adrienne has extensive experience in evaluating and treating all areas of speech and language therapy.

Adrienne holds several specialized certifications including Adult and Pediatric Vital-Stim, McNeil Dysphagia Therapy Protocol and the Sequential Oral Sensory Approach to Feeding (SOS).

Welcome Adrienne!

ACTION: None – INFORMATIONAL ONLY ATTACHMENT(S): None.



AGENDA ITEM 5

Public Workshop on Proposed Regulations NAC 637B.036 to Require ASHA CCC-SLP for SLP License Renewal

This matter was initially raised at the January 19, 2022 Board Meeting for discussion and possible action to consider revisions to NRS/NAC that would require a SLP to maintain the CCC for license renewal. The CCC-SLP is currently only required at initial application.

Revisions to NAC 637B have not yet been drafted. The purpose of the Public Workshop is to solicit comments from interested persons on the proposed regulation.

- NRS 637B.196 prescribes educational requirements for SLP and AUD license applicants.
- <u>NRS 637B.197</u> supplements this section to require "a current certificate of clinical competence issued by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association or its successor organization approved by the Board."
- A review of national trends shows that many other states require the CCC-SLP for licensure, while others
 require a combination of education and experience equivalent to the requirements to obtain the CCC-SLP.
 Thus, holding certification at application is an efficient method for determining that an applicant is eligible
 for licensure.
- <u>NAC 637B.036</u> addresses renewal of a standard license but does not contain language related to the CCC or list it as requirement for renewal:

NAC 637B.036 Expiration and renewal of standard or provisional license; combined application for renewal of license as audiologist and speech-language pathologist. (NRS 67B.132, 637B.160, 637B.191, 637B.194)

- 1. Each standard and provisional license issued by the Board, including, without limitation, each standard license that has been converted to inactive status, expires 1 year after the date on which the license was issued.
- 2. An application to renew a license will not be approved unless the application is submitted not later than 30 days after the date on which the license expired.
- 3. An application for renewal of a license as an audiologist and a license as a speech-language pathologist may be submitted on a single application.
- 4. An application for the renewal of a provisional license as a hearing aid specialist for a second time must include proof that the licensee has applied to take the National Competency Examination administered by the National Board for Certification in Hearing Instrument Sciences, or its successor organization, or another comparable examination approved by the Board.

(Added to NAC by Bd. of Exam'rs for Audiology & Speech Path. by R034-13, eff. 3-28-2014; A by Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology & Hearing Aid Dispensing Bd. by R050-15, 4-4-2016)

ACTION: None - INFORMATIONAL ONLY

ATTACHMENT(S):

- 1. 2022 4 21 Minutes Not Yet Approved
- 2. 2022 4 28 Minutes Not Yet Approved



AGENDA ITEM 6

Public Comment: Proposed Regulations NAC 637B.036 to Require ASHA CCC-SLP for SLP License Renewal

No vote may be taken upon a matter raised during a period devoted to public comment until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. (NRS 241.020).

ACTION: None - INFORMATIONAL ONLY

ATTACHMENT(S): Written Public Comments Received as of July 12, 2022:

- 1. Ganz_2022 6 29
- 2. ASHA_2022 7 9
- 3. Stempien_2022 7 9

Jennifer Pierce

From:	Stacey Whittaker
Sent:	Wednesday, June 29, 2022 10:14 AM
То:	Jennifer Pierce
Subject:	FW: SLP comments
Follow Up Flag: Flag Status:	Follow up Flagged

Stacey Whittaker, Licensing Coordinator

Nevada Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology & Hearing Aid Dispensing Board 6170 Mae Anne Avenue, Suite 1, Reno, NV 89523 775.787.3421 P | 775.746.4105 F

From: Linda Ganz <Linda@VEGASVOICEINSTITUTE.COM> Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2022 10:01 AM To: Stacey Whittaker <board@nvspeechhearing.org> Subject: SLP comments

My thoughts on the proposed revision:

The proposal is for consideration of revisions to NAC 637B to require a licensed Speech-Language Pathologist to hold an active Certificate of Clinical Competence (SLP-CCC) issued by the American Speech-Language Association (ASHA) in order to renew a Standard SLP license. Currently, the CCC-SLP is required to obtain the Standard SLP license. NAC 637B.036 addresses renewal of a standard license but does not contain language related to the CCC-SLP or list it as a requirement for renewal.

I agree with this

Linda L. Ganz M.S. CCC-SLP Speech-Language Pathologist & Owner Vegas Voice Institute 1340 E. Pebble Rd. #115 Las Vegas NV 89123 Phone: #(702) 558-9900 Fax: (702) 558-9920 Website: www.vegasvoiceinstitute.com Email: Linda@vegasvoiceinstitute.com Front office email: vegasvoice3@LVcoxmail.com New Patient Appointments & Referrals: vegasvoice7@lvcoxmail.com

Follow us on Facebook: Vegasvoiceinstitute Twitter: @Ganzvoice Instagram: Vegasvoiceinstitute

Jennifer Pierce

From:	Stacey Whittaker
Sent:	Friday, July 8, 2022 9:11 AM
То:	Jennifer Pierce
Subject:	FW: Support for Proposed Changes to NAC 637B
Attachments:	ASHA Support Letter to NV re Changes to SLP License Renewal.pdf

Stacey Whittaker, Licensing Coordinator

Nevada Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology & Hearing Aid Dispensing Board 6170 Mae Anne Avenue, Suite 1, Reno, NV 89523 775.787.3421 P | 775.746.4105 F

From: Michelle Mannebach <MMannebach@asha.org>
Sent: Thursday, July 7, 2022 8:36 PM
To: Stacey Whittaker <board@nvspeechhearing.org>
Cc: Eileen Crowe <ECrowe@asha.org>
Subject: Support for Proposed Changes to NAC 637B

Please see the attached letter from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association voicing support to proposed changes to NAC 637B that would require a licensed speech-language pathologist (SLP) to hold an active Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology (CCC-SLP) issued by the American Speech-Language Association (ASHA) to renew a standard SLP license.

Thank you for considering our position of support.

Michelle A. Mannebach, MBA, CAE Pronouns: she/her/hers Director, Advocacy Communications American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) 2200 Research Blvd. #220 | Rockville, MD 20850 | <u>www.asha.org</u> Direct Line: 301-296-5672



ASHA

Speech-Language-Hearing Association

Empowering audiologists, speech-language pathologists, and speech, language, and hearing scientists

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Submitted via email: board@nvspeechhearing.org

July 7, 2022

The Honorable Tami Brancamp Chair State of Nevada Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology & Hearing Aid Dispensing Board 6170 Mae Anne Avenue, Suite 1 Reno, NV 89523

RE: Proposed Licensure Renewal Standards

Dear Chairwoman Brancamp:

On behalf of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, I write in support of the proposed changes to NAC 637B that would require a licensed speech-language pathologist (SLP) to hold an active Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology (CCC-SLP) issued by the American Speech-Language Association (ASHA) in order to renew a standard SLP license.

ASHA is the national professional, scientific, and credentialing association for 223,000 members and affiliates who are audiologists; speech-language pathologists; speech, language, and hearing scientists; audiology and speech-language pathology support personnel; and students. SLPs identify, assess, and treat speech, language, and swallowing disorders. Over 1,000 ASHA members reside in Nevada.¹

ASHA's CCC-SLP is the fundamental standard among major health professions and the most widely recognized symbol of competency for SLPs. To maintain their CCC, SLPs must accumulate 30 professional development hours every three years. Additionally, individuals holding the CCC are expected to abide by ASHA's Code of Ethics. Requiring the CCC for SLP license renewal will further ensure that Nevadans receive the highest standard of service available.

Thank you for your consideration of ASHA's position to support the changes to the SLP licensure renewal. If you or your staff have any questions, please contact Eileen Crowe, ASHA's director of state association relations, at ecrowe@asha.org.

Sincerely,

Judy Kich

Judy Rich, EdD, CCC-SLP, BCS-CL 2022 ASHA President

¹ American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. (2022). *Nevada* [Quick Facts]. <u>https://www.asha.org/siteassets/uploadedfiles/advocacy/state-fliers/nevada-state-flyer.pdf</u>.

July 7, 2022

Jennifer R. Pierce, Executive Director Nevada Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Board 6170 Mae Anne Avenue, Suite 1 Reno, NV. 89523

Dear Ms. Pierce;

I received your email announcement dated 6/29/22 soliciting comments for a proposed revision to NAC 637B which would require, per your announcement, a Speech Pathologist to hold an "active" CCC (Certificate of Clinical Competence) issued by the American Speech-Language Audiology Association in order to renew a standard SLP license in the State of Nevada.

Possibly an oversight, but your letter did not include Audiologists, who also have the option of obtaining a CCC nor did it include a listing or announcement to all of those medical **providers** who currently employ or seek to employ a medically trained Speech and Language Pathologist. In addition the CCSD (Clark County School District) was not mentioned, and their requirements are different than the medically trained Speech and Language Pathologist. Refer to Attachment III

I do not support this proposal and my letter and attachments will explain why, even though I have held my CCC from ASHA for 42 years.

My BackGround and Rationale For My Comments:

I became a Certified Speech and Language Pathologist in 1977 upon completing my Masters degree in Speech and Language Disorders, took the national practitioner examination by ASHA and was awarded my Certificate of Clinical Competence in 1977.

I also received a Teaching Certificate (k-12) in 1976 which allowed me to work in the public school system if I desired to, which I did not. I focused all of my efforts on becoming a medically trained Speech Pathologist over the years with a specialty in progressive neurological disorders, dysphagia, head and neck cancers, head injuries and stroke rehab, and other complex medical care for communicatively impaired patients. I still see these types of patients in the home health setting where recruitment of Speech Pathologists with medical experience is extremely limited, almost non existent.

My husband and I moved to Nevada in 1992 which makes me a 30 year resident in Las Vegas and Southern Nevada. Prior to moving, I contacted your Board and provided all of the necessary paperwork and credentials required for licensure in Nevada. Your office told me at that time and subsequent years that my CCC was only required to "transfer" to a new state and after that when I repeatedly supplied my ASHA membership card and CCC proof, I was called and said they only needed my payment for licensure and CEUs (which I supplied) not ASHA membership and CCC anymore.

Until the COVID-19 pandemic occurred in 2020, I had always completed the above requirements for Nevada State licensure. However, on March 13, 2020 my private practice ended when my medically complex patients could not or would not leave their homes to be treated in my office. I had operated my practice in Las Vegas for 18 years at that point in time. The pandemic was obviously a severe blow to all that I had developed and to my

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personal income. I struggled throughout 2020 and 2021 to salvage my practice, but to no avail. I closed my practice. Prior to closing my practice, I called your Board office and ASHA and told them about my situation. Your office informed me that given my initial certification and many years of practice in Nevada, I should not be concerned, because ASHA membership and CCC **was not required** for my Nevada license. ASHA told me the same thing. Please see Attachment I for ASHA statement on this matter. So given no income, I ended paying my ASHA membership and CCC fees, because it was **voluntary**, but I did not stop my CEU education endeavors. In Attachment I, ASHA points out that even without a CCC, no bearing on ability to work and be licensed should occur.

So, you can imagine after practicing in Nevada for 30 years, being a certified and licensed Speech Pathologist for over 40 years, my surprise when I received your announcement that the State of Nevada Board was now soliciting comments on making the CCC a requirement for State licensure, after two years prior, your office and ASHA telling me that I did not require ASHA membership and my CCC for continuing licensure in Nevada. Please refer to my Attachments I thru IV for documents and policy statements on "licensure" being the only requirement for Speech Pathologists, not ASHA membership or CCC.

Attachment I ASHA statement dated 6/30/22. Certification is "voluntary".

Attachment II 2022 ASHA Map By State of SLPS

Attachment III ASHA Summary of States Requirements

Attachment IV Insurance Companies for SLP Providers

As a private practicing Speech Pathologist, I became a Medicare, Medicaid provider, and a provider for over 30 Insurance Plans for 18 years. In Attachment IV I provide the Medicare, ASHA and Aetna policies for you to review.

Summary Comments:

- 1. I do not support this proposed revision. As noted above, ASHA membership and CCC is "Voluntary". Refer to Attachment I.
- I do not support this proposed revision because there are 2. inherent inequities and access issues in the rurally designated State of Nevada. This proposed revision would place significant hardship on numerous populations requiring speech and language services. As a licensing Board, you are responsible for the credentials of the people you license, and yet in the school district (CCSD) there is notable confusion by parents and children served as to who is a Speech Pathologist and who is an Assistant. I have explained this difference many times to parents of children coming to my office when they found out the "math or gym teacher took a few speech classes and now sees their child for speech therapy/treatment. How does licensing affect these "assistants" whose primary role is math or gym teacher? As a Board you are essentially endorsing exemption of certain credentials for the lack of staff in this state. Refer to Attachment II and Attachment III. The table outlining Nevada is very informative.

In addition, within the medical community, hospitals, rehab centers, Skilled nursing facilities, and Home Health Agencies, medically trained speech pathologists are almost non existent in this state. The agencies and facilities that I am familiar with, ALL of them have difficulty recruiting a medically trained SLP. Most this is an ongoing problem of greater than 2-3 years before they find a potential recruit. Retaining a new recruit is another matter all together.

I currently work for a staffing agency, "alone", serving over 40-50 Home Health Agencies who have been unable to recruit a Speech Pathologist, let alone a medically trained `clinician. I challenge your Board to call at random, ANY Home Health Agency or Hospital and ask them who is the hardest professional to recruit???? It is the Speech Pathologist.

- 3. I do not support this proposed revision because Medicare and Medicaid and all other Insurance companies do not require a CCC to bill them, just state licensure. Refer to Attachment IV.
- 4. I do not support this proposed revision because it obviously doesn't take into account the "rural" designation of Nevada and the challenges of recruiting that come with this designation. Please refer to Attachment II

In summary, instead of the Board focusing their energies on who and who is not paying their ASHA Dues and CCC fees, they should try and focus on what is really critical to advancing clinical competence, and that is Continuing Education every year, but you just lowered that, which makes no sense at all. The Speech Pathologists that I know who have chosen to not pay for continuing ASHA membership and CCC, make it a practice to keep up their Continuing Education and on average that is between 30-50 hours a year, far more than ASHA requires. So as I have pointed out, in Nevada there are other complex issues that need to be addressed in a rural state where recruitment is difficult, not just focusing on who pays their dues and who doesn't. Equitable solutions and access to our services is critical. I have attached numerous policy statements from ASHA etc for your Board to review.

Thank you for reviewing my comments on this proposed revision. I would like to add if you require any further assistance in laying out the language of this matter, I am happy to help. Please call me if I can help in any way at 702-234-8922. This is so important to the State of Nevada.

Sincerely,

Theresa L. Stempien

Theresa L. Stempien, MA, MHA, SLP 8057 Skye Springs Street Las Vegas, NV 89166 Phone: 702-234-8922 FAX: 702-844-7966 EMAIL: <u>terrystempien@gmail.com</u>

Attachments I-IV

ATTACHMENT I

ASHA Statement dated 6/30/22 on State Licensing and Certification by ASHA The requirements for the CCC are equivalent to or higher than any state requirements for initial licensure. Thus, an individual who attains the CCC can be assured that they will meet the requirements for licensure in every state.

Licensure

The professions of audiology and speech-language pathology are regulated at the state level and each state maintains its own standards for licensure, registration or certification. State regulation is different from certification from a national or professional association, such as the Certificate of Clinical Competence (CCC), which is awarded by ASHA. That being said, many states do model their regulatory requirements after the CCC requirements.

The Role and Advantages of State Licensure

Licensure is mandatory and its requirements must be met by all practitioners in a state. Licensure also provides the state with the necessary authority to intervene in cases of practitioner misconduct and ultimately gives the state the power to revoke an individual's license and prohibit the individual from practicing. For these reasons, state licensure is essential in ensuring that consumers are protected from incompetent and or unethical practitioners.

In contrast, certification is voluntary, and only those individuals who choose to be certified are bound by the ASHA Code of Ethics. In addition, the maximum penalty that ASHA can administer to a certificated member is to revoke his or her CCC. The revocation of a certification by itself has no bearing on the status of the individual's state license or the ability to practice.

Clinical Specialty Certification

Audiologists or speech-language pathologists with advanced knowledge, skills, and experience beyond the Certificate of Clinical Competence (CCC-A or CCC-SLP) can be recognized as specialists in selected areas of clinical practice. Effective January 1, 2014, the Clinical Specialty Certification (CSC) program replaced the previous Clinical Specialty Recognition (CSR) program. Individuals who hold specialty certification identify themselves as a "Board Certified Specialist" in a specific area of practice. To identify specialists in an area of clinical practice or to verify that an individual currently holds specialty certification, contact the Specialty Certification Board in that area of practice.

- American Board of Child Language and Language Disorders
- American Board of Fluency and Fluency Disorders
- American Board of Swallowing and Swallowing Disorders

Only individuals who meet specific requirements may obtain the CCC. Holders of the CCC must abide by the ASHA Code of Ethics, which incorporates the highest standards of integrity and ethical principles.

Every individual who holds the CCC has:

- Earned a graduate degree
- Completed a minimum of 30 semester hours of professional course work,
- Taken at least 27 semester hours in the basic sciences,
- Earned at least 21 graduate credits,
- Completed a minimum of 350 clock-hours of clinical practicum under a certified supervisor,
- · Completed 36 weeks of supervised clinical fellowship, and
- Passed a national examination.

Maintaining the CCC is contingent upon participation in 30 contact hours of professional development activities every three years.

Speech-language pathologists and audiologists are qualified to practice under the Medicare and Medicaid programs, which are administered by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, if they have the equivalent education and experience required for certification by ASHA.

Certain employment settings require certification; in the U.S. Military, the CCC is required for promotion as an audiologist.

The Role and Advantages of Certification

Certification is a fundamental standard among major health professions in this country. Whereas licensure is important to legally perform the work of a profession, certification is important for internal professional recognition and external accountability.

The CCC is the nations most widely recognized symbol of competency for speech-language pathology and audiology professionals. The CCC is recognized in 34 states for the purposes of reciprocity or interim practice and, for that reason, may aid the practitioner who moves or wishes to work in another state. In recognizing the CCC for the purposes of reciprocity or interim practice, states appreciate the scientific validity and high standards of the credential.

Ease the process of applying for state licensure

When you relocate to another state to practice, you may not be required to provide copies of test scores, academic degree, or supervised clinical experience.

- ASHA provides easy, online verification of certification to state regulatory agencies.
- ASHA provides information to assist you with understanding the requirements for licensure in each state.

Professional Credibility

ASHA certification verifies that you have met rigorous standards:

- A master's or doctoral degree from an accredited academic program.
- A clinical experience supervised by an ASHA-certified professional.
- A passing score on the national examination.

ASHA certification is voluntary Employers, regulatory bodies, third party payers, clients and peers know that you have gone beyond the minimum requirement of state licensure. Clients and their families have the assurance that you have the knowledge, skills, and experience to provide high quality clinical services for them and their family members. Employers, clients, and peers know that you actively engage in ongoing professional development.

How to Get Certified

- Audiology applicants
- Speech-Language Pathology applicants

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ATTACHMENT II

2022 ASHA Map of SLPs by State

State Map.for Speech-Language Pathologists at My Next Move





State Map for Speech-Language Pathologists



Looking to move? Some states have more opportunities for this type of work than others. Orange states have an above average share of this career in their workforce. Blue states have a **below average** share of this career in their workforce.

For detailed state-by-state info, see employment and wages & from the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

National Outlook



Nationwide, new job opportunities for speech-language pathologists are **very likely** in the future.

EADERLIVE

The ASHA LeaderLive
January-February 2022

Academics and Research

Speech-Language Pathologist Supply Varies by State, Region

New York has the most SLPs per 100,000 residents, while Nevada has the fewest.

By ASHA Staff

January 7, 2022

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Countrywide, there are 56.4 ASHA-certified SLPs for every



TWITTER FEED Tweets by @ASHAleader

METRICS

Downloaded 1,406 times
100,000 residents—up steadily from 48.0 in 2015. New York, Arkansas, New Jersey, and Vermont have the most ASHA-certified SLPs per 100,000 residents (89.8, 89.6, 80.1, and 79.2, respectively). The western states of Nevada, Hawaii, California, and Arizona have the fewest (28.6, 36.9, 38.0, and 40.8, respectively), each with a ratio well below the 56.4 national figure.

ASHA-certified SLP-to-population ratios



For more information on the SLP workforce, visit on.asha.org/workforce-rpts.

ASHA News & Member Stories

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Rural America in Focus

Delivering on the Promise of Special Education Related Services

Yuma County, in the southwestern corner of Arizona and bordering Mexico, is called the "Winter Lettuce Capital of the World," according to the Yuma County chamber of commerce. Sunshine is common in that corner of the United States, where green rows of lettuce leaves stretch across the flat earth and help employ thousands of workers. The diverse landscape, covering 5,519 square miles, consists of a fertile valley, the Colorado and Gila rivers, and desert that rises into a chain of rugged mountains. While agriculture is the region's leading industry, the county's commitment to education and student growth are what enable future generations to thrive.

"We know that investing in our children will enrich our community for years to come," is the message <u>featured on a website</u> for the school system, comprised of nine school districts serving about 38,000 children.

Yuma County is designated as rural, and, like so many other rural counties in the United States, faces a range of challenges when it comes to providing special education and related services that meet every child where they are. That was true for Yuma School District One, one of the largest school districts in the county, with a population of more than 10,000 students in kindergarten through eighth grade. Of the problems they needed to solve, one stood out. "Our biggest challenge was the retention and recruitment of qualified speech-language pathologists," said Matt Kaste, director of exceptional student services at Yuma School District One. "Finding teachers and related services providers is difficult right now across the country—and in Yuma County even more so."

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JOIN By completing the form you are concenting to reaching marketing communications from Preventie Learning.

ATTACHMENT III

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ASHA Summary of States Requirements



State Teacher Requirements Licensing Trends - SLP

Page 1

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State Teacher Requirements Licensing Trends - SLP

Page 2

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State Teacher Requirements Licensing Trends - SLP

¹ South Dakota - Current Certificate 402 Endorsement holders have until 2020 to obtain Master's Degree.

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ATTACHMENT IV

Insurance Companies for SLP Providers





Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, HHS

(2) Disease, injury, or impairment that may affect the oral or general health of the recipient.

(b) "Dentist" means an individual licensed to practice dentistry or dental surgery.

[43 FR 45224, Sept. 29, 1978, as amended at 45 FR 24888, Apr. 11, 1980]

§440.110 Physical therapy, occupational therapy, and services for individuals with speech, hearing, and language disorders.

(a) Physical therapy. (1) Physical therapy means services prescribed by a physician or other licensed practitioner of the healing arts within the scope of his or her practice under State law and provided to a recipient by or under the direction of a qualified physical therapist. It includes any necessary supplies and equipment.

(2) A "qualified physical therapist" is an individual who is—

(i) A graduate of a program of physical therapy approved by both the Committee on Allied Health Education and Accreditation of the American Medical Association and the American Physical Therapy Association or its equivalent; and

(ii) Where applicable, licensed by the State.

(b) Occupational therapy. (1) Occupational therapy means services prescribed by a physician or other licensed practitioner of the healing arts within the scope of his or her practice under State law and provided to a recipient by or under the direction of a qualified occupational therapist. It includes any necessary supplies and equipment.

(2) A "qualified occupation therapist" is an individual who is—

(i) Registered by the American Occupational Therapy Association; or

(ii) A graduate of a program in occupational therapy approved by the Committee on Allied Health Education and Accreditation of the American Medical Association and engaged in the supplemental clinical experience required before registration by the American Occupational Therapy Association.

(c) Services for individuals with speech, hearing, and language disorders. (1) Services for individuals with speech, hearing, and language disorders means diagnostic, screening, preventive, or corrective services provided by or under the direction of a speech pathologist or audiologist, for which a patient is referred by a physician or other licensed practitioner of the healing arts within the scope of his or her practice under State law. It includes any necessary supplies and equipment.

(2) A "speech pathologist" is an individual who meets one of the following conditions:

(i) Has a certificate of clinical competence from the American Speech and Hearing Association.

(ii) Has completed the equivalent educational requirements and work experience necessary for the certificate.

(iii) Has completed the academic program and is acquiring supervised work experience to qualify for the certificate.

(3) A "qualified audiologist" means an individual with a master's or doctoral degree in audiology that maintains documentation to demonstrate that he or she meets one of the following conditions:

(i) The State in which the individual furnishes audiology services meets or exceeds State licensure requirements in paragraph (c)(3)(ii)(A) or (c)(3)(ii)(B) of this section, and the individual is licensed by the State as an audiologist to furnish audiology services.

(ii) In the case of an individual who furnishes audiology services in a State that does not license audiologists, or an individual exempted from State licensure based on practice in a specific institution or setting, the individual must meet one of the following conditions:

(A) Have a Certificate of Clinical Competence in Audiology granted by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

(B) Have successfully completed a minimum of 350 clock-hours of supervised clinical practicum (or is in the process of accumulating that supervised clinical experience under the supervision of a qualified master or doctoral-level audiologist); performed at least 9 months of full-time audiology services under the supervision of a qualified master or doctoral-level audiologist after obtaining a master's or doctoral degree in audiology, or a related field; and successfully completed

§440.110



The term "qualified speech-language pathologist" means an individual with a master's or doctoral degree in speech-language pathology who

- i. is **licensed** as a speech-language pathologist by the State in which the individual furnishes such services, or,
- ii. in the case of an individual who furnishes services in a State which does not license speech-language pathologists, has successfully completed 350 clock hours of supervised clinical practicum (or is in the process of accumulating such supervised clinical experience), performed not less than 9 months of supervised full-time speech-language pathology services after obtaining a master's or doctoral degree in speech-language pathology or a related field, and successfully completed a national examination in speech-language pathology approved by the Secretary.

At this time, 49 states offer licensure to SLPs; therefore, section (ii) of the Act does not afford protection to Clinical Fellows in states that license SLPs but do not license Clinical Fellows. If a state eliminated licensure completely for all SLPs, then Clinical Fellows could potentially provide reimbursable services to Medicare beneficiaries under the protection of section (ii); however, most Clinical Fellows would probably not meet the requirement for 9 months of supervised full-time speech-language pathology services after obtaining their degrees.

Most Medicare regulations, such as those outlined in policy manuals and in the conditions of participation for facility settings, also require licensure.

Medicaid and Private Insurers

National, or even regional, standards for Medicaid and private insurers are not available. When contracting with a private payer or state Medicaid agency, it is important to talk to the payer directly to determine the personnel qualifications. If a payer requires licensure for reimbursement and your state does not license clinical fellows, you should clarify the requirements (such as supervision level) that will allow the Clinical Fellow's services to be reimbursed.



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(https://www.aetna.com/)

Speech Therapy

Clinical Policy Bulletins Medical Clinical Policy Bulletins

Number: 0243

Policy

Note: Precertification of speech therapy may be required in certain plan designs. Speech therapy also may be a limited benefit. Often, in Aetna commercial HMO-based plans, the benefit is limited to a 60-day treatment period. The treatment period of 60 days applies to a specific condition. Once the 60-day treatment period expires, no additional speech therapy benefits will be provided for that condition; however, it is possible for a member to receive more than one 60-day treatment course of speech therapy when the need is the result of a separate condition. For example, a stroke or a surgical procedure causing the need for speech therapy is considered to be the initiation of a new or separate condition in a person who previously received this service for another reason, and so qualifies the member to receive coverage for an additional course of speech therapy as outlined above. An exacerbation or flare-up of a chronic illness is not considered a new incident of illness.

Policy History

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Review History Z

Definitions B

Additional Information

Clinical Policy Bulletin Notes B

State Information

Note: Coverage for speech therapy benefits under traditional plans range from a defined number of visits per year to unlimited benefits. Benefit levels are determined by the particular benefit plan selected by the employer or contract holder. Please check benefit plan descriptions for details.

See also <u>CPB 0625 - Dysphagia Therapy (../600_699/0625.html</u>), and <u>CPB 0646 - Voice Therapy (../600_699/0646.html)</u>.

Medically Necessary Indications

Speech therapy is considered medically necessary for the treatment of communication disabilities and/or swallowing disorders (dysphagia) from disease when all of the following criteria are met:

- I. The member's physician has determined that the member's condition can improve significantly with speech therapy; *and*
- II. The speech therapy is expected to result in a significant improvement in the individual's condition within a reasonable and generally predictable period of time; and
- III. Speech therapy services must be performed by a duly licensed and certified, if applicable, provider. All services provided must be within the applicable scope of practice for the provider in their licensed jurisdiction where the services are provided; and
- IV. The speech therapy services provided must be of the complexity and nature to require that they are performed by a licensed speech-language pathologist or provided under their direct supervision by a licensed ancillary person as permitted under state laws; *and*
- V. Speech therapy services must be provided in accordance with an ongoing, written plan of care that is reviewed with and approved by the treating physician in accordance with

California

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AGENDA ITEM 7

Consideration of Proposed Regulations NAC 637B.036 to Require ASHA CCC-SLP for SLP License Renewal Based on Comments Received at Public Workshop

The Board will consider additions, amendments, and/or repeal of regulations taking into consideration comments from the public.

ACTION: Take action, table the matter, or take no action on the request. **ATTACHMENT(S):** None.



AGENDA ITEM 8

Appointments/Reappointments to the Advisory Committee on Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids

The terms of three (3) members of the Advisory Committee are scheduled to expire as follows:

•	Nanci Campbell, AuD
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- Jennifer Joy-Cornejo, AuD, MA, CCC-A/FAAA
- Melissa Maestas, BC-HIS

Term expires 7/19/2022 Term expires 7/19/2022 Term expires 7/19/2022

Per NAC637B.033: "Members may be reappointed to serve additional terms at the discretion of the Board."

All three members listed above have requested reappointment in writing.

ACTION: Take action, table the matter, or take no action on the request. **ATTACHMENT(S):** None.



AGENDA ITEM 9

Report Out and Recommendations for Action from Advisory Committee on Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids Meeting of June 21, 2022

a. Draft Revisions to NRS 637B Related to NBC-HIS Certification for HAS License

Draft revisions to two sections of NRS 637B removing the requirement for this certification were reviewed by the Committee with <u>approval to recommend the drafted language to the Board</u>. Action may be deferred to the next agenda item where this matter is included as a standing agenda item.

ACTION: Take action, table the matter, or take no action on the request.

ATTACHMENT(S): None.

b. Consideration for Revisions to NAC 637B.0391(2) Regarding In-Service Training for Hearing Aid Specialist Apprentices

The prior agenda item regarding future legislation to remove NBC-HIS certification as a requirement for a Standard HAS License highlighted the requirement in NAC 637B.0391 for a HAS Apprentice with no formal education in hearing instrument sciences to complete a 2 year in-service training program, which mirrors NBC-HIS requirements. The matter was brought to the Committee to consider whether the requirement is still appropriate given the decision to remove NBC-HIS certification. <u>All members were in consensus that to ensure the safety of the public and consumers and uphold high training standards, 2 years is an appropriate minimum to maintain. No action was taken as the Committee agreed that no recommendation for change was necessary.</u>

ACTION: Take action, table the matter, or take no action on the request.

ATTACHMENT(S): None.

c. Consideration for Licensing Audiology Assistants or Revision to NAC 637B.0442

The members discussed pros and cons of both assistant licensing and pursuit of a NAC revision and the ultimate responsibility of the supervising Audiologist or HAS to oversee the work performed by an assistant or unlicensed individual. It was agreed that the most appropriate option would be a revision to the NAC to expand the list of duties that could be delegated to an unlicensed individual. <u>The Committee agreed that it would like to hold a work session in the next meeting to work on drafting revised NAC language.</u> Action may be deferred to the next agenda item where this matter is included as a standing agenda item.

ACTION: Take action, table the matter, or take no action on the request. **ATTACHMENT(S):** None.



d. Consideration of Examinations Required for Dispensing Audiologists and Hearing Aid Specialists This was introduced to the Committee as a new matter raised at the Board's April 2022 meeting related to streamlining reciprocal licensing practices for individuals already licensed in another state. <u>Discussion</u> resulted in a unanimous consensus that there should be no changes made to the current examination requirements. Citing the safety of the public and consumers, it was agreed that both examinations serve important protective functions to ensure that only qualified and skilled practitioners are licensed in Nevada. The Committee asked Board staff to gather more information on the use of out-of-state proctors/testing companies for consideration at its next meeting.

ACTION: Take action, table the matter, or take no action on the request. **ATTACHMENT(S):** None.

e. Consideration of Cerumen (Earwax) Management by Hearing Aid Specialists

The Committee considered current legislative trends, training to perform the services, and alternative providers who patients can seek out for care, resulting in agreement that the practice should be allowed by Hearing Aid Specialists and <u>reaffirmed its prior recommendation that the Board pursue a revision to NRS 637B to specifically allow this practice by Hearing Aid Specialists.</u>

ACTION: Take action, table the matter, or take no action on the request.

ATTACHMENT(S): None.



AGENDA ITEM 10

Work Session on Future Legislative Efforts (Standing Agenda Item):

a. SLP Assistants

Per the Board's approval in April 2022, Board Chair Tami Brancamp and the Executive Director met with Jeff Briske, Director of the Office of Educator Development, Licensure and Family Engagement for the Nevada Department of Education on June 15, 2022. Mr. Briske also coordinates and facilitates meetings of the NDE Commission on Public Standards (COPS) which oversees personnel licensing standards.

During this meeting, Mr. Briske confirmed NDE's intent to sunset bachelor's level staff in October 2026, and further confirmed that NDE does not need the Board to pursue SLPA licensing or regulation changes.

A Public Workshop was held in May 2022 on the regulation change with drafted language to make this change in 2027. This was a revision from the original 2025 reported by NSHA based on stakeholder feedback, specifically NSC's concerns about current students who enrolled with the understanding that they would graduate with the option to work for NDE under the endorsement. NSC reports that Post-Baccalaureate (non-masters) admissions were stopped in early 2022 knowing the sunsetting was coming so there are no new cohorts. The current cohort is 5-10 students and will finish before 2026. The NAC revision also included new language to grandfather existing staff. During the workshop, NDE and NSC presented and verbally stated that the language would be revised to 2026 as a compromise to capture current NSC students. A second Public Workshop on the regulation was held on June 22, 2022 and the Commission voted to approve the proposed regulation and move to a Public Hearing.

Considerations:

- Regardless of whether the Board adds licensing for SLPAs, our laws and regulations exclude school personnel and any changes made by this Board would not apply to these professionals.
- NAC 391.370 will require a master's degree and NDE is not currently seeking an Assistant role. One
 argument in support of SLPAs was to provide a "bridge" for those with a bachelor's degree who can't
 go to graduate school, but this appears to be part of the 2026 compromise, and the regulation includes
 language to "grandfather" in those already holding NDE endorsement. Professionals in a school-setting
 would not fall under this Board's authority and it's unclear at this time whether there are available nonschool roles in Nevada for SLPAs.
- NDE does NOT require a state Board license, though we know there are incentives for holding one.
- An AAA statement regarding Audiology Assistants may apply here: "does not see a need for state licensing of audiology assistants since these individuals should only work under the supervision of a state-licensed audiologist. The creation of a separate state licensure category for these types of support personnel is unnecessary and could prove confusing to consumers who may interpret such a separate licensure "category" as an indication that audiology assistants are independent practitioners."
- Can the private sector use/employ/obtain reimbursement for SLPAs?

ACTION: Take action, table the matter, or take no action on the request.

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Proposed Regulation NAC 391.370



b. Audiology Assistants

Per the prior agenda item: The Advisory Committee on Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids heard this matter in June 2022 with agreement that the most appropriate course of action is to pursue a revision to NAC 637B to expand the list of duties that could be delegated to an unlicensed individual, rather than pursuit if AuD Assistant licensing. The Committee plans to hold a work session in its September 2022 meeting to work on drafting revised NAC language.

ACTION: Take action, table the matter, or take no action on the request.

ATTACHMENT(S): None.

c. Telehealth and Telesupervision

No updates since the April 2022 meeting review:

- The Board's laws and regulations do not provide authority for the supervision of Clinical Fellows and student interns, and it is not the Board's responsibility to oversee these learning experiences.
- The Board's practice law/regulations do not regulate billing, claims, or reimbursement, which aligns with the NRS/NAC of other Nevada Boards whose licensees may bill Medicaid.
- Most states do not have regulations allowing telesupervision, and in fact, some specifically prohibit the practice, per <u>ASHA Telesupervision Maps</u>
- The Board's laws and regulations do not apply to an SLP employed by a public educational institution and working within the scope of that credential, therefore, this request is not within this Board's authority. These requests would be more appropriately directed to the Nevada Department of Education to consider revisions to NRS 391 as it relates to school-based SLPs.

It is recommended that the Board take no action at this time and encourage those who continue to make these requests to contact the Nevada Department of Education instead. Should the Board consider licensing of SLP Assistants in the future, it may consider telesupervision of non-school-based SLP Assistants at that time.

ACTION: Take action, table the matter, or take no action on the request.

ATTACHMENT(S): None.





d. NBC-HIS Certification for HAS License

Per the prior agenda item: The Advisory Committee on Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids heard this matter in June 2022 and <u>recommended the drafted language as presented to the Board.</u> Upon approval, this language is ready for inclusion in a future BDR.

NRS 637B.193 Hearing aid specialists: Qualifications of applicants. An applicant for a license to engage in the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids must:

1. Successfully complete a program of education or training approved by the Board which requires, without limitation, that the applicant:

(a) Hold an associate's degree or bachelor's degree in hearing instrument sciences; or

(b) Hold a high school diploma or its equivalent or an associate's degree or bachelor's degree in any field other than

hearing instrument sciences, and successfully complete a training program in hearing instrument sciences as prescribed by regulation of the Board.

2. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 637B.201, be certified by the National Board for Certification in Hearing Instrument Sciences.

3. 2. Pass the examination prescribed pursuant to NRS 637B.194.

4. 3. Comply with the regulations adopted pursuant to NRS 637B.194.

5. 4. Include in his or her application the complete street address of each location from which the applicant intends to engage in the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids.

NRS 637B.201 Provisional license to practice speech-language pathology-or fitting and dispensing hearing aids.

1. Upon application and payment of the application fee required pursuant to NRS 637B.175, the Board may issue a provisional license to engage in the practice of:

(a) Speech-language pathology to a person who is completing the clinical fellowship requirements for obtaining a certificate of clinical competence issued by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

(b) Fitting and dispensing hearing aids to a person who:

(1) Holds a license to engage in the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids in another state; and

(2) Is completing the training required for certification by the National Board for Certification in Hearing Instrument Sciences.

2. A provisional license issued pursuant to this section may be:

(a) Renewed not more than twice; and

(b) Converted to an active license upon payment of the fee required pursuant to NRS 637B.175 for converting the license and the

award of: (1) a A certificate of clinical competence by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.; or (2) Certification by the National Board for Certification in Hearing Instrument Sciences.

deletion • addition • cross-reference • moved from other section

ACTION: Take action, table the matter, or take no action on the request.

ATTACHMENT(S): None.

NAC 391.370 Qualifications for teaching pupils students who have speech and language impairments. [Effective through September 30, 2026] (NRS 385.080, 391.019, 391.032)

1. Before teaching **pupils students**, ages 3 to 21, inclusive, who have speech and language impairments, a person must hold an endorsement issued pursuant to this section.

2. To receive the endorsement, the person must:

(a) Have completed a program of preparation for teaching pupils who have speech and language impairments, which has been approved by the Board;

(a) Hold a master's degree or higher in Speech/Language Pathology or Communication Disorders/Sciences or equivalent from a college or university that has been accredited by the American Speech Language Hearing Association; and

(b) Hold a certificate of clinical competence in speech-language pathology from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association or an equivalent a standard or provisional license from the Nevada Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Board; or

(c) Hold a license or certificate, issued by another state, with an endorsement to teach pupils **students** who have speech and language impairments; **or**

(d) Hold a bachelor's or master's degree in the area of speech and language impairments, and have 8 semester hours of student teaching, a clinical practicum, equivalent field experience or 1 year of verifiable teaching experience with **pupils students** who have speech and language impairments; or

(e) Have completed a bachelor's or master's degree and:

(1) Have completed 8 semester hours in student teaching of **pupils students** who have speech and language impairments, a clinical practicum with those **pupils students**, equivalent field experience with those pupils or 1 year of verifiable teaching experience with those **pupils students**; and

(2) Have completed at least 28 semester hours of course work, including course work in the following areas:

(I) Audiology;

(II) Methods for the assessment and treatment of the disorders of articulation, fluency, voice and language;

(III) The development of normal speech and language;

(IV) Science of speech and voice;

(V) Phonetics;

(VI) Introduction to special education or the education of pupils students who have disabilities; and

(VII) Parental involvement in programs for pupils students who have disabilities.

3. A person who holds only a special education license with an endorsement to provide services to students who have speech and language impairments pursuant to paragraph (a) and (b), or (c) of subsection 2 is exempt from the requirements of NAC 391.036 and 391.065.

NAC 391.370 Qualifications for teaching pupils students who have speech and language impairments. [Effective October 1, 2026] (NRS 385.080, 391.019, 391.032)

1. Before teaching **pupils students**, ages 3 to 21, inclusive, who have speech and language impairments, a person must hold an endorsement issued pursuant to this section.

2. To receive the endorsement, the person must:

(a) Have completed a program of preparation for teaching pupils who have speech and language impairments, which has been approved by the Board;

(a) Hold a master's degree or higher in Speech/Language Pathology or Communication Disorders/Sciences or equivalent from a college or university that has been accredited by the American Speech Language Hearing Association; and

(b) Hold a certificate of clinical competence in speech-language pathology from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association or an equivalent a standard or provisional license from the Nevada Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Board; or

(c) Hold a license or certificate, issued by another state, as a speech-language pathologist with an endorsement to teach pupils students who have speech and language impairments;

(d) Hold a bachelor's or master's degree in the area of speech and language impairments, and have 8 semester hours of student teaching, a clinical practicum, equivalent field experience or 1 year of verifiable teaching experience with pupils who have speech and language impairments; or
 (e) Have completed a bachelor's or master's degree and:

(1) Have completed 8 semester hours in student teaching of pupils who have speech and language impairments, a clinical practicum with those pupils, equivalent field experience with those pupils or 1 year of verifiable teaching experience with those pupils; and

(2) Have completed at least 28 semester hours of course work, including course work in the following areas:

(I) Audiology;

(II) Methods for the assessment and treatment of the disorders of articulation, fluency, voice and language;

(III) The development of normal speech and language;

(IV) Science of speech and voice;

(V) Phonetics;

(VI) Introduction to special education or the education of pupils who have disabilities; and

(VII) Parental involvement in programs for pupils who have disabilities.

3. A person who holds only a special education license with an endorsement to teach students who have speech and language impairments and meets the requirements in subsection (2)(a) and subsection (2)(b), or subsection (2)(c) is exempt from the requirements of NAC 391.036 and 391.065.

4. A person who only holds a special education license with an endorsement to teach students who have speech and language impairments in Nevada prior to the effective date of this regulation (October 1, 2026) and does not meet the requirements in subsection (2)(a) and subsection (2)(b) may continue to renew their license and is subject to the requirements of NAC 391.065.



AGENDA ITEM 11

Consideration to Issue Public Comment in Support of Proposed Amendments to NAC Chapter 391.370 – *Qualifications for teaching pupils who have speech and language impairments*

Based on discussions with the Nevada Department of Education, Nevada State College, and the University of Nevada, Reno, it is recommended that the Board approve development and delivery of public comment in support of the proposed revision to NAC Chapter 391.370 by the Board Chair and Executive Director for future workshops/hearings/meetings on the regulation.

ACTION: Take action, table the matter, or take no action on the request.

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Proposed Regulation Amendment NAC 391.370 – see prior agenda item



AGENDA ITEM 12 Executive Director's Report

Please see the Written Executive Director's Report.

ACTION: Take action, table the matter, or take no action on the request.

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. ED Report 7 19 2022

2. Resource Roundtable Flyer – NV Commission on Persons Who Are Deaf and Hard of Hearing



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 <u>www.nvspeechhearing.org</u> Email <u>board@nvspeechhearing.org</u>

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

July 19, 2022

a. Licensure Statistics

The following chart provides licensing statistics for the period April 1, 2022 through June 30, 2022 with a net increase of 41 licenses, a 3% increase from the prior quarter. This is a smaller increase from the 6% jump we saw in FY21 Q4, but this fiscal year saw a higher renewal rate at 81% compared to 79% for FY21.

Description	Total Licensees	Speech Pathologists	Audiologists	Dispensing Audiologists	Hearing Aid Specialists	Apprentices
Mar 31, 2022	1432	1166	65	98	83	20
Issued	100	80	4	12	3	1
Expired	59	43	6	5	3	2
June 30, 2022	1473	1203	63	105	83	19
Not Change	+41	+37	-2	7	0	-1
Net Change	3%	3%	-3%	7%	0%	-5%

b. FY22 Q4/End of Fiscal Year Financial Report

Due to the end of the fiscal year, the Q4/End of Year financial statements are not yet complete but will be provided at the October 2022 meeting. Expenses and license revenue have remained stable and cash accounts total over \$200,000.

There were two notable expenses involving closure of the storage account with Vital Records Control who acquired the former Puliz Records Management in 2020. Soon after the acquisition we began seeing increased monthly charges with a "minimum" rate imposed, increasing our monthly rate from \$40 to \$95 despite no increase in our inventory and multiple denied requests to for a lowered/ government rate. Board staff assessed storage needs against the state Records Retention Schedule and made a termination request in March 2022. Initially VRC attempted to charge an additional \$1,900 based on an old service agreement but this was dropped following intervention from our DAG. Despite one-time charges for delivery and destruction of records, the termination of this ongoing expense will support future cost savings.

c. Update on Proposed Regulations LCB File No. R064-21 (NAC 637B.400 Licensee Continuing Education Requirements)

The proposed regulation, LCB File R064-21 which revised our annual CE requirements was heard and approved at the June 10, 2022 Legislative Commission meeting and became effective upon filing with the Secretary of State on June 13, 2022. Our online renewal application and Board website were updated that day, and licensees were notified with instructions for requesting an extension if additional time was needed to complete the required 1 hour in ethics/cultural competence.

d. Update on Implementation of License by Endorsement Application Process

The online application has been revised to allow an Audiologist or SLP applying for a Standard license to request expedited license by endorsement. Board staff and the website vendor are testing the final application now with plans to go live on Monday, July 18, 2022. Website content will also be updated to reflect this option.

e. Legislative Update

- Joint Interim Standing Committee on Commerce and Labor
 The Committee last met on June 30, 2022 and no occupational licensing boards were reviewed. Its final meeting is scheduled for August 23, 2022.
- Sunset Subcommittee of the Legislative Commission

The Committee last met on June 9, 2022 and three agenda items discussed were of note to our Board. Updates will be provided should any result in tasking:

- Increasing the diversity of members of certain boards and commissions;
- Recommendations to require certain boards and commissions to submit to the governor a list of names of persons qualified to be appointed to vacant board and commission position(s); and
- Requirement for agencies to report on subcommittee's form for reviewing a regulatory body's restrictions on the criminal history of an applicant for an occupational or professional license pursuant to 232B.237.
- Governor's Bipartisan Task Force on Occupational Licensing No updates/contacts have been received by the Board office to date.

f. Introduction of the Nevada Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing

The Commission is part of the Governor's Office who appoints its members and considers its recommendations on services for persons with disabilities. The Commission *"advocates for and support the goal that all Nevada citizens have equal and full access to resources, services and opportunities in all aspects of community life."* As a collaborative effort with state partners, the Executive Director has begun attending the Commission's meetings and networking with its Executive Director on shared issues. More information on the <u>Commission's website</u>. A flyer is also attached for an upcoming Resource Roundtable being hosted by the Commission.

g. Update on FDA Rulemaking for Over-the-Counter Hearing Aids

Public comments on the FDA's <u>Proposed Rules for Over the Counter Hearing Aids</u> were due by January 18, 2022. No update has been received and it is expected that comments are currently under review.

Name	Credential/ Role	Location	Term	Term Expires	Eligible for Reappointment
Tami Brancamp	SLP/Board Chair	Reno	1	7/1/2023	No
Andrea Menicucci	SLP/Board Vice Chair	Reno	2	7/1/2024	Yes
Lynee Anderson	BC-HIS/Board Member	Reno	2	7/1/2024	Yes
Minnie Foxx	Public Member	Las Vegas	1	7/1/2023	Yes
Michael Hodes	AuD/Board Member	Reno	1	7/1/2023	Yes
Timothy Hunsaker	AuD/Board Member	Las Vegas	2	7/1/2025	No
Adrienne Williams	SLP/Board Member	Las Vegas	1	7/1/2025	Yes

h. Board Member Appointments/Reappointments

The Board office has received notice of Timothy Hunsaker's reappointment for his second term and Adrienne Williams' appointment to her first term, both through 7/1/2025.

i. Complaints

There were **3** open complaint cases following the April 21, 2022 Board Meeting. No new complaints have been received to date, totaling **3 cases**.

COMMUNITY EVENT

Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing Access for

LOCATIONS

IN-PERSON

ADSD LV Office

3320 W Sahara, Conf. Rm. Aladdin A/B, Las Vegas, NV 89102 RSVP Required, email NVDeafCommission@adsd.nv.gov

ONLINE

Join Zoom Meeting Zoom Meeting Link

Meeting ID: 850 9852 7496 Passcode: 487730

RESOURCE ROUNDTABLE

PAGE 63

HIGHLIGHTED GUEST: GLOBAL TECHNICAL COMMUNICATIONS (GTC)

TUES. JULY 19TH, 2022 COMMISSION COMMUNITY EVENT 3:00PM – 5:00PM

Accommodation Requests and Meeting Materials:

We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public who are disabled and wish to attend this event. If special arrangements for this event are necessary, please notify Lorraine Belt-Dolan in writing at 3320 W. Sahara, Suite 100, Las Vegas, Nevada 89102, email <u>lorrainebelt@adsd.nv.gov</u> or call at (702) 486-4307 5 days prior to this event.



Nevada Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Commission Resource Roundtable Highlighted Guest: Global Technical Communications (GTC)

Date and Time of Meeting: Tuesday, July 19th, 2022 3:00PM

Meeting Location(s):IN PERSON Participant(s)3320 W Sahara, Conf. Rm. Aladdin A/B, Las Vegas, NV 89102

ONLINE Participant(s) Join Zoom Meeting Zoom Link Meeting ID: 850 9852 7496 Passcode: 487730

Audio Only Option 1-669-900-6833 (San Jose)

Accommodations:	ASL Interpreters Provided.
	CART will be accessible the link will be posted
	Meeting Materials can be found here: <u>Home (nv.gov)</u>

Engagement Initiative & Objective:

This presentation by our potential partner, Global Technical Communications (GTC), is expected to be one of innovation and forward thinking. Global Technical Communications' (GTC) mission is to refine communication access and technology solutions through experience, innovation, and purposes. Their vision is to build and provide communication access to all deaf, hard of hearing, and deaf-blind individuals globally and work with companies and states in making this a reality. By using mobile device technology already in people's hands, they believe they can enhance and more efficiently deploy communication services that fill gaps in access today and expand opportunities for individuals long-term. Take some time to review GTC's two products: ASL Anywhere (https://aslanywhere.com) and Mobile Communication Access (website currently under reconstruction) in advance and jot down some questions/concerns as they pertain to the community you represent/serve.

This event is not to sell these products, but to vet the effectiveness of the tools present in respect of our Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 656A.800 – All sign language interpreters and CART providers must be registered in order to practice in the State of Nevada. With interpreter defined as, "... anyone engaging in the practice of interpreting (the facilitation of communication between persons who are deaf or whose hearing is impaired and other persons) (NRS 656A.060).

The GTC presenters for this event will be Benjamin J Soukup, President/Co-Owner of Global Technical Communications; Bridget Bonheyo, Vice President of Marketing and Sales; and Steve

Chair: Eric Wilcox | Vice-Chair: Susan Beckett 3320 W. Sahara Ave, Las Vegas, NV 89102 NVDeafCommission@adsd.nv.gov



Florio, Vice President of Government Affairs. With possible special appearances of Tom Scuderi, Co-Owner of Global Technical Communications (GTC) and Michael Pimentel, Vice President of Technology.

See attachment State Plan priority: Engagement (page 5).

NOTE: Items on this agenda may be taken in a different order than listed. Two or more agenda items may be combined for consideration. An item may be removed from this agenda or discussion relating to an item on this agenda may be delayed at any time.

Minutes of this meeting will be produced in summary format. Please provide the Commission administrative support with electronic or written copies of testimony and visual presentations if you wish to have complete versions included as exhibits with the minutes.

AGENDA DOORS OPEN at 2:30PM

1. Welcome & Objective of this Event Obioma Officer, ED State Plan Initiative of Engagement: Strategic Priority Engagement (pg. 5)

2. Public Comment(s) (No action may be taken upon a matter raised under public comment period unless the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an action item. Comments will be limited to five minutes per person. Persons making comment will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record and to spell their last name and provide the secretary with written comments.)

3.	Guest Introductions	Obioma Officer, ED GTC Rep.
4.	GTC Presentation	GTC Rep.
5.	Open Discussion Commissioner Response/Questions	Eric Wilcox, Chair Obioma Officer, ED

6. BREAK (15 Minutes)

7. Open Discussion Community Response/Questions

8. Public Comment(s)

(No action may be taken upon a matter raised under public comment period unless the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an action item. Comments will be limited to five minutes per person. Persons making comment will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record and to spell their last name and provide the secretary with written comments.)

> Chair: Eric Wilcox | Vice-Chair: Susan Beckett 3320 W. Sahara Ave, Las Vegas, NV 89102 NVDeafCommission@adsd.nv.gov

Obioma Officer, ED

GTC Rep.



Nevada Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing

9. Closing Remarks GTC will be available until 5:30PM for any 1:1 inquiry via Zoom and/or our Zoom Booth in-person.

10. Adjournment

Obioma Officer, ED

Obioma Officer, ED

Accommodation Requests and Meeting Materials:

We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public who are disabled and wish to attend the meeting. If special arrangements for this event are necessary, please notify Lorraine Belt-Dolan in writing at 3320 W. Sahara, Las Vegas, Nevada 89102, email <u>lorrainebelt@adsd.nv.gov</u> or call at (702) 486-4307 5 days prior to the meeting.

Notice of this event was posted at the following Aging and Disability Services Office at 3320 W Sahara, Las Vegas, NV. Notice of this meeting was posted on the Internet through the Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division website at <u>www.adsd.nv.gov</u> and Nevada Public Notices website at <u>www.notice.nv.gov</u>

Supporting public material provided to Commission members for this meeting may be requested from Lorraine Belt-Dolan, Commission Administrative Support, ADSD at (702)486-4307 and is/will be available at the meeting locations and ADSD website at <u>Nevada Commission for</u> <u>Persons Who Are Deaf Hard of Hearing or Speech Impaired (nv.gov)</u>.



AGENDA ITEM 13 Report from Legal Counsel

Henna Rasul, Board Counsel will provide the Board with a general update on legal activities.

ACTION: None – INFORMATIONAL ONLY ATTACHMENT(S): None.



AGENDA ITEM 14 Reports from Board Chair and Board Members

- a. Report from Board Chair and Board Members
- b. **2022 Proposed Meeting Schedule:** Next Meeting: <u>Wednesday, October 19, 2022 at 4:30pm</u>. Teleconference hosted in-person at the Board Office and virtually via ZOOM.

c. Future Agenda Items

- 1) Work Session: Continued work on Future Legislative Efforts (Standing Agenda Item):
 - (a) Licensing Speech-Language Pathology Assistants
 - (b) Licensing Audiology Assistants
 - (c) Telehealth and Telesupervision
 - (d) NBC-HIS Certification for HAS License
 - (e) Other Items Added During this Meeting
- 2) Work Session on Jurisprudence Exam Requirements

ACTION: Take action, table the matter, or take no action on the request.

ATTACHMENT(S): None.



AGENDA ITEM 15 Public Comment

No vote may be taken upon a matter raised during a period devoted to public comment until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. (NRS 241.020)

ACTION: None – INFORMATIONAL ONLY ATTACHMENT(S): None.



AGENDA ITEM 16

Adjournment

ACTION: Meeting adjourned. ATTACHMENT(S): None.