

## State of Nevada Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Board

## **NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**

## Wednesday, July 31, 2024 ~ 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 <a href="https://www.nvspeechhearing.org/about/Minutes.asp">https://www.nvspeechhearing.org/about/Minutes.asp</a>

#### **Teleconference Access**

#### **ZOOM VIDEO & AUDIO:**

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85731754830?pwd=eFBZWk5IS2VxVi9QYnFGNUFGUVF2QT09

**AUDIO ONLY BY TELEPHONE: (669) 900-6833** 

Meeting ID: 857 3175 4830 Passcode: 542775

If you are outside the United States or need **toll-free telephone access**, please contact the Board office at <a href="mailto:board@nvspeechhearing.org">board@nvspeechhearing.org</a> or (775) 787-3421 to request a toll-free number no later than 3:00pm Pacific on the day of the meeting.

#### **Public Comment**

Any person wishing to make public comment may attend the meeting and provide comment as follows:

1) In person at the physical location(s) listed above, 2) Virtually through the Zoom teleconference video link listed above, or 3) Telephonically through the Zoom telephone number listed above. Please see additional public comment instructions at the end of this agenda.

#### **AGENDA**

Revised 7/26/2024 - Item 9

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. Welcome & Introduction of New Board Member (informational only)
- 4. Election of Board Chair & Vice Chair, Appointment of Board Bank Signatories and Financial Reviewer, and Reappointment of Members to the Advisory Committee on Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids (for possible action)
- 5. Approval of the Minutes: Board Meeting & Public Hearing of April 24, 2024 (for possible action)

- 6. Update and Report Out from Strategies 360 on Legislative and Lobbying Activities for 2024 Interim and 2025 Legislative Session (for possible action)
- 7. Consideration to Approve Revisions to NRS 637B for Inclusion in 2025 Legislative Effort as Recommended by the Advisory Committee on Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids and Speech-Language Pathology Subcommittee (for possible action)
  - a. Revisions Related to Speech-Language Pathology (for possible action)
    - 1) NRS 637B.NEW "Speech-Language Pathology Assistant" defined. (for possible action)
    - 2) NRS 637B.NEW "Supervising Speech-Language Pathologist" defined. (for possible action)
    - 3) NRS 637B.NEW "Provisional Licensee" defined. (for possible action)
    - 4) NRS 637B.NEW "Student" defined. (for possible action)
    - 5) NRS 637B.NEW "Supervision" defined. (for possible action)
    - 6) NRS 637B.NEW "Telesupervision" defined. (for possible action)
    - 7) NRS 637B.NEW Speech-language pathology assistants: Educational requirements. (for possible action)
    - 8) NRS 637B.NEW Speech-language pathology assistants: Regulations. (for possible action)
    - 9) NRS 637B.NEW Requirements for speech-language pathology assistant, provisional licensee, or student to assist in practice of speech-language pathology. (for possible action)
    - 10) NRS 637B.060 "Practice of speech-language pathology" defined. (for possible action)
    - 11) NRS 637B.080 "Applicability of Chapter." (for possible action)
  - b. Revisions Related to Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids (for possible action)
    - 1) NRS NEW "Cerumen Management" defined. (for possible action)
    - 2) NRS NEW "Tinnitus Care" defined. (for possible action)
    - 3) NRS NEW "Over-the-counter hearing aid" defined. (for possible action)
    - 4) NRS 637B.044 "Hearing aid" defined. (for possible action)
    - 5) NRS 637B.055 "Practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids" defined. (for possible action)
  - c. Revisions Related to Audiology (for possible action)
    - 1) NRS 637B.050 "Practice of Audiology" defined. (for possible action)
- 8. Consideration to Approve Recommendations from Advisory Committee on Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids Revision to "Board Policy 03 Dispensing Examinations" to Expand Waiver of Exams for Prior Licensee and Issue Guidance on Audiometry Outside a Sound-Treated Room (for possible action)
- 9. Disciplinary and Administrative Matters (for possible action)
  - a. Case #S24-01: Disciplinary Complaint Case Recommended for Dismissal (for possible action)
  - b. Case #UP24-01: Administrative Unlicensed Practice Case and License Reinstatement Application: Shelby Sands, SLP Provisional License #SP-3633 Provisional, Expired June 13, 2024
- **10. Executive Director's Report** 
  - a. Licensure Statistics (for possible action)
  - b. FY24 Q4/End of Year Financial Report (for possible action)
  - c. Update on NAC 637B Regulation Changes (for possible action)
  - d. Board Member Appointments/Reappointments (for possible action)
  - e. Complaints (for possible action)
- 11. FY24 LCB Audit Election Form and Review & Approval as Needed of FY25 Budget (for possible action)
- 12. Report from Legal Counsel (informational only)
- 13. Reports from Board Chair and Members
  - a. Report from Board Chair and Board Members (for possible action)
  - b. 2024 Proposed Meeting Schedule: Next meeting proposed: <u>Wednesday, October 23, 2024 at 4:30pm</u>. Teleconference hosted via Zoom and in-person at the Reno Board Office (for possible action)

- c. Future Agenda Items (for possible action)
  - 1) Update and Report Out from Strategies 360 on Board BDR and Legislative Activities for 2024 Interim and 2025 Legislative Session
  - 2) Other Items As Proposed

#### 14. 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)

#### **15.** Adjournment (for possible action)

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

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 Board Chair, 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 their 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).

#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

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

#### **AGENDA POSTING & DISSEMINATION**

This meeting has been properly noticed and posted in the following locations:

- Nevada Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Board <u>Website</u> and Office, 6170 Mae Anne Avenue, Suite 1, Reno, Nevada 89523
- State of Nevada Public Notices Website: 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 MATERIALS**

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



## Call to Order, Confirmation of Quorum

Call to Order, Confirmation of Quorum.

**Action:** Meeting Called to Order



## **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).

#### CHAIR/VICE CHAIR: PLEASE READ PRIOR TO CALLING FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

I will now review the instructions for providing public comment during this meeting:

Any person wishing to make public comment may attend this meeting and provide public comment in one of the following ways:

- 1. Attend the meeting and provide public comment in-person at the physical location; OR
- 2. Attend the meeting and provide public comment virtually through the Zoom teleconference video link listed on the agenda; OR
- 3. Attend the meeting and provide public comment telephonically through the Zoom telephone number listed at the end of the meeting agenda with additional public comment instructions.

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 Board Chair, 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 their sole discretion.
- 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.

Action: None – Informational Only



## Welcome & Introduction of New Board Member

The Board is currently awaiting an appointment from the Governor's Office to fill the SLP seat vacated by Andrea Menicucci.

As of the date this packet was disseminated, no appointments have been made but we will keep this agenda item in place in case appointments are received prior to the meeting.

**Action:** Informational Only



Election of Board Chair & Vice Chair, Appointments of Bank Signatories and Financial Reviewer, and Reappointment of Members to the Advisory Committee on Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids

The Board is currently awaiting an appointment from the Governor's Office to fill the SLP seat vacated by Andrea Menicucci. As of the date this packet was disseminated, no appointments have been made but we will keep the agenda item in place in case the appointment is received prior to the meeting. If an appointment for the SLP seat is not received, parts of this agenda item may still be considered.

#### a. Election of Board Chair & Vice Chair

Pursuant to NRS 637B.120, the Board is to elect a Chair and Vice Chair who serve at the pleasure of the Board. The Chair and Vice Chair are voting members of the Board. Board members will be invited to volunteer or nominate members for either position during this meeting, and an election vote will be held.

#### **Duties of the Chair**

The Chair presides over all public meetings of the Board:

- Decides if a quorum is present before the meeting is opened;
- Leads the Board members into discussion and attempts to have all sides presented;
- Sets ground rules for time allocation, discussion limits, adjournment, and keeps focus on the agenda;
- Has the agenda adopted at the start of the meeting and ensures motions are properly voted upon;
- Conducts hearings and may be called upon to make evidentiary rulings pursuant to legal obligations.

#### **Characteristics of a Good Chair**

- Leadership ability
- Knowledgeable of basic parliamentary procedures
- Ability to handle critical & controversial issues
- Impartial, exercising common sense and good judgment
- Ability to get along with people while remaining firm and orderly
- Maintains control of emotions, convictions, & ill will or negative thoughts about others in public

#### **Duties of the Vice Chair**

The Vice Chair assumes the duties of the Chair in the absence of the Chair. The Vice Chair will assume the Chair position for the balance of the term/year, if for any reason the Chair is unable to continue in the position, such as long-term illness or resignation from the Board.

#### b. Banking Signatories

The Board holds operating checking, savings, and Visa credit accounts at Wells Fargo Bank. The current signatories are Andrea Menicucci, Timothy Hunsaker, and ED Jennifer Pierce. It is recommended the Board authorize the execution of updated Board member signatories.

#### c. Financial Reviewer

Adrienne Williams is the current, but should she be elected as Board Chair or Vice Chair, it is recommended that another member of the Board be appointed. Any member may serve in this role, which consists of receiving monthly documentation of Board financial transactions, i.e. bank statements, receipts and disbursements. The reviewer examines the documents for discrepancies and approves/signs off on the accounts payable.



State of Nevada

#### Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology & Hearing Aid Dispensing Board

**d.** Appointments/Reappointments to the Advisory Committee on Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids
The Committee must have a minimum of three/maximum of five members appointed by the Board for twoyear terms, who may be reappointed at the discretion of the Board. (NAC 637B.033).

#### Membership must include:

- At least two members of the Board: one dispensing audiologist and one HAS; and
- Not more than three additional members who are dispensing audiologists or hearing aid specialists or any combination thereof.

The Advisory Committee is currently comprised of the following Board and non-Board members with term expiration dates:

Member	Term Expires	Proposed for Reappointment
Timothy Hunsaker, AuD-D Board Member, Committee Chair	July 1, 2025	Yes
Lynee Anderson, BC-IHS Board Member	July 1, 2024*	Yes
Jennifer Joy-Cornejo, AuD, MA, CCC-A, FAAA Board Member	July 19, 2024	Yes
Nanci Campbell, AuD-D	July 19, 2024	No
Melissa Maestas, BC-IHS	July 19, 2024	Yes

All members listed above have requested/agreed to reappointment except Nanci Campbell who has opted to resign her position on the Committee.

Action: Approve, Table, or Take No Action on the Matter



Approval of the Minutes: Board Meeting & Public Hearing of April 24, 2024

The minutes of the Board Meeting & Public Hearing of April 24, 2024 are presented for approval.

Attachment on next page: Minutes Not Yet Approved 2024 4 24

Action: Approve, Table, or Take No Action on the Matter

#### **MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING**

Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology & Hearing Aid Dispensing Board

## Board Meeting and Public Hearing LCB File R108-23 April 24, 2024

Members Present: Timothy Hunsaker, Lynee Anderson, Shawn Binn, Jennifer Joy-Cornejo, Branden

Murphy, Adrienne Williams

Members Absent: Andrea Menicucci

**Staff Present:** Jennifer Pierce, Executive Director

Stacey Whittaker, Licensing Coordinator

Henna Rasul, Sr. Deputy Attorney General, Board Counsel

Izack Tenorio, Board Lobbyist

Public Present: Renee Erno, Laura "Wednesday" Fussell, Karen Klopfer, Nancy Kuhles, Elyse

Monroy, Katrina Nicholas, Kim Reddig, Shawna Ross

#### Call to Order, Confirmation of Quorum

Vice Chair Hunsaker called the meeting to order at 4:36pm. A roll call confirmed a quorum was present.

#### **Public Comment**

Vice Chair Hunsaker introduced this agenda item and read the following statement pursuant to AB219 (2023):

"I will now review the instructions for providing public comment during this meeting: Any person wishing to make public comment may attend this meeting and provide public comment in one of the following ways: 1. Attend the meeting and provide public comment in-person at the physical location; OR 2. Attend the meeting and provide public comment virtually through the Zoom teleconference video link listed on the agenda; OR 3. Attend the meeting and provide public comment telephonically through the Zoom telephone number listed above. Please see additional public comment instructions at the end of this agenda. 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 Board Chair, 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 their sole discretion. 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."

Dr. Hunsaker then called for public comment. Executive Director Pierce reported that a public comment was emailed to the Board Office from Tenaya Watson, NSHA President earlier today and will read the comment into the record under Agenda Item #4 as it pertains to the Proposed Regulations.

#### Approval of the Minutes: Board Meeting of February 21, 2024

Vice Chair Hunsaker asked if there were any corrections or revisions to the minutes of the meeting of February 21, 2024 and none were noted. Adrienne Williams made a motion to approve the minutes of February 21, 2024 as written. Shawn Binn seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### Public Hearing on Proposed Regulations LCB File R108-23P

#### a. Introduction to Proposed Regulations LCB File R108-23P

Vice Chair Hunsaker opened the Public Hearing and asked Ms. Pierce to summarize the regulation changes. Ms. Pierce outlined the nine sections of the regulation and clarified that the duplicate section noted at the January 2024 Workshop has been removed.

#### b. Public Comment on Proposed Regulations LCB File R108-23P

Vice Chair Hunsaker opened the Workshop for public comment. Ms. Pierce reported that a written comment was received from Tenaya Watson, NSHA President and read the letter into the record:

April 24, 2024 Re: Public Comment to the State of Nevada Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology & Hearing Aid Dispensing Board. Dear Members of the State of Nevada Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology & Hearing Aid Dispensing Board, Thank you for the opportunity to make a public comment, and thank you for serving on the State of Nevada Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology & Hearing Aid Dispensing Board. My name is Tenaya Watson. I hold a Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech Language Pathology from the American Speech Language and Hearing Association and Nevada state license to practice Speech Language Pathology serving as a practicum supervisor and school based speech language pathologist for Clark County School District. I also serve as the President of Nevada Speech-Language Hearing Association (NSHA). I would like to make a public comment on agenda item number 4, proposed regulation LCB File R108-23 and agenda item number 5 consideration to adopt proposed regulation LCB File R108-23. My public comments represent NSHA members' concerns surrounding proposed regulations and proposed adoption of regulations regarding unlicensed audiology assistants. NSHA members are seeking further clarification and attention to LCB File R108-23, page 10 the proposed regulatory change to NAC 637B.0442, Section 7, 4. (h) stating who can perform a pure-tone hearing screening and universal newborn hearing screening test. According to the Division of Public and Behavioral Health Bureau of Child, Family, and Community Wellness Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Guidelines, all babies born in Nevada are offered a newborn hearing screening at birth prior to discharge from hospital care. This hearing screening is free of charge to caregivers. If screening is not passed, then an out-patient rescreen is recommended at the hospital. According to EHDI guidelines, babies should have a diagnostic hearing evaluation by a licensed, pediatric audiologist if not passed. Additionally, Nevada Revised Statute Chapter 442 - Maternal and Child Health specifically NRS 442.530 "Provider of hearing screenings" defined; "Provider of hearing screenings" means a health care provider who, within the scope of his or her license or certificate, provides for hearing screenings of newborn children in accordance with NRS 442.500 to 442.590, inclusive. The term includes a licensed audiologist, a licensed physician or an appropriately supervised person who has documentation that demonstrates to the State Board of Health that he or she has completed training specifically for conducting hearing screenings of newborn children. NSHA's questions are as follows: How is the proposed regulation following the Nevada's Division of Public and Behavioral Health Bureau of Child, Family, and Community Wellness EHDI guidelines? How does the allowance of an unlicensed audiology assistant to perform a newborn universal screener align with the Nevada EHDI guidelines? How is the proposed regulation aligned with NRS 442.530? Additionally, if the proposed regulation is adopted, how is NAC 637B.0442, Section 7, 4.

(h) not in conflict with NRS 442.530? Thank you for the opportunity to bring these concerns forward to the State of Nevada Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Board. We are happy to provide any additional information and look forward to hearing how we can continue to advocate for these areas. We appreciate your consideration. Sincerely, Tenaya Watson M.Ed., CCC-SLP NSHA President

No further public comment was received, and Vice Chair Hunsaker closed the Public Hearing.

#### Consideration to Adopt Proposed Regulations LCB File R108-23

Vice Chair Hunsaker opened the discussion for any additions, amendments, and consideration for adoption of the proposed regulations taking into consideration the comments from the public.

The Board discussed the public comment received from NSHA and addressed NRS Chapter 442 which covers standards of care and newborn screenings. Ms. Pierce explained that she spoke with Perry Smith at Nevada Early Hearing Detection and Intervention and discussed their newborn screening guidelines, specific to this concern. Mr. Smith confirmed that anyone can be trained to conduct the newborn screenings as long as there is no diagnosis and stated that often the EDHI program contracts with Audiologists to conduct this training. Mr. Smith confirmed there would be no issue with the Board's planned revision and discouraged any changes to laws or regulations that would inhibit these screenings.

Vice Chair Hunsaker called for a motion. Jennifer Joy-Cornejo made a motion to adopt the regulations as presented. Adrienne Williams seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## Update and Report Out from Strategies 360 on Legislative and Lobbying Activities for 2024 Interim and 2025 Legislative Session

Izack Tenorio of Strategies 360 provided the Board with an update on legislative activities, including a thorough timeline for the Board's planned BDR in the 2025 Legislative Session. The plan is to secure a Bill Sponsor by July 1<sup>st</sup> with subsequent meetings with minority and majority leaders and Senate Chairs before the Legislative Session begins on February 3, 2025. There has been talk of a unified "joint" BDR being proposed for occupational licensing reciprocity. Ms. Pierce reminded the Board that NSHA will be carrying a bill for the ASLP Interstate Compact, on which the Board previously voted to formally support. More information will be provided as the session nears.

# Consideration to Approve Proposed Revisions to NRS 637B for Inclusion in 2025 Legislative Effort with Recommendations from Advisory Committee on Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids and Speech-Language Pathology Subcommittee

Ms. Pierce explained that a number of NRS sections have been reviewed and approved by the Board for inclusion in the planned 2025 BDR. The NRS sections presented in this meeting are either 1) proposed for inclusion in the 2025 BDR and presented for the Board's review and approval, or 2) are still under consideration. It is hoped that a final draft of all proposed NRS revisions will be ready for review at the Board's July 2024 meeting.

## Revisions Related to Audiology: Report Out and Recommendations from Advisory Committee on Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids

Proposed revisions to NRS 637B relating to Audiology were presented, which would eliminate examination and endorsement requirements for Audiologists to fit and dispense hearing aids. The revisions were reviewed and recommended by the Advisory Committee on Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids at its April 10, 2024 meeting. Vice Chair Hunsaker made a motion, seconded by Adrienne

Williams, to approve the recommended revisions to NRS 637B items A) 1-8 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Revisions Related to Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids**

Ms. Pierce explained that item b.1. in this section outlines changes to both NRS 637B and NAC 637B regarding Hearing Aid Specialist License Requirements. The intent of the language changes is to require independent practice experience, not supervised training. Jennifer Joy-Cornejo made the motion, seconded by Adrienne Williams, to approve the changes to section b)1 regarding HAS License Requirements. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Pierce explained that sections b. 2-4 in this section are general updates for the Board and may come before the Board for consideration at the July meeting. They include the definition of a hearing aid, the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids, and reciprocity mechanisms for examinations. No action was taken.

#### **Revisions Related to Speech-Language Pathology**

Ms. Pierce explained that this section includes revisions related to Speech-Language Pathology including SLP Assistants, Telesupervision and FEES Procedure in SLP scope of practice. The newly formed SLP Subcommittee is addressing these items with formal recommendations coming to the full Board in the near future. No action was taken.

#### Disciplinary Matters: Case No. S23-02 Recommended for Dismissal

Ms. Pierce summarized that the Complaint alleged unprofessional conduct, attempting to influence a client to derive financial benefits, failure to complete reports in a timely manner, premature termination of services, and conduct that is harmful to the public health and safety. After investigation and review of all documentation received on this complaint, it has been determined that there is insufficient evidence to file a formal complaint for hearing before the Board and the facts set forth in the accusations are insufficient to establish a violation of Chapter 637B of the Nevada Revised Statutes or the Nevada Administrative Code. This case is recommended for dismissal. Vice Chair Hunsaker called for a motion. Branden Murphy made a motion to dismiss Case S23-02, seconded by Shawn Binn. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Executive Director's Report**

Ms. Pierce directed the Board to the written Executive Director's Report which included FY24 Q3 Licensure Statistics and Financial Reports including noted deviations in the budget. Upcoming Board Member appointments/reappointments were discussed as Andrea Menicucci will term out on 7/1/2024 and Lynee Anderson will be eligible for reappointment at that time. Ms. Pierce reported that there was one open complaint case following the last report-out at the January 24, 2024 Board Meeting. Three new complaints were received in March & April 2024 respectively, with one screened out and two cases opened for investigation, totaling three open cases. One case was presented earlier in this meeting and approved for dismissal, leaving two open cases. The Board received no reports of unlicensed practice since the January 2024 meeting. There were no questions, and no action was taken.

## Review and Approval of Revised FY25 Budget and Contracts for Bookkeeping Services and Licensing Database

Ms. Pierce explained that a revision to the FY25 budget that was originally approved in January 2024 is attached, reflecting increases in the expenses listed below for an overall increase of \$2,108 for the fiscal year. This budget was initially approved in January 2024 with an intentional deficit to cover the non-recurring cost of legislative services that are hoped to support passage of the Board's planned BDR. While anticipated FY25

revenue will likely not be sufficient to cover FY25 revenue, there are sufficient reserves to cover the deficit. Changes are noted in the FY25 Budget. A proposed new contract for Numbers Inc. bookkeeping services was presented for review and approval. Vice Chair Hunsaker called for a motion. Shawn Binn motioned to approve the FY25 Budget as presented and the Numbers Inc. sole-source contract. Adrienne Williams seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Pierce provided an explanation for the consideration of the Technology Risk Assessment as recommended by the Nevada Office of the CIO pertaining to the previously approved contract for Albertson Consulting, the Board's current licensing database provider. Submission of the contract to the Governor's Finance Office requires inclusion of a TIN (Technology Investment Notification), for which Albertson Consulting provided a comprehensive response to support the Board's review and assessment. After review of the documentation provided, Vice Chair Hunsaker called for a motion. Shawn Binn motioned to approve the Technology Risk Assessment for Albertson Consulting, seconded by Lynee Anderson. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **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. There were no reports from the Board Chair or members.
- b. 2024 Proposed Meeting Schedule: After discussion, the next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, July 31, 2024 at 4:30pm.
- c. Future Agenda Items: The following matters were identified for the July 2024 meeting and future agendas:
  - 1) New Board Member Appointments
  - 2) Election of Board Chair/Vice Chair (as needed)
  - 3) Comprehensive Review of Proposed Revisions to NRS637B for 2025 Legislative Session
  - 4) Update on Proposed Regulation R108-23
  - 5) Report Out from Strategies 360 on Legislative & Lobbying Activities
  - 6) Other Items as Proposed

#### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

#### **Adjournment**

Timothy Hunsaker adjourned the meeting at 5:35 pm.



Update and Report Out from Strategies 360 on Legislative and Lobbying Activities for 2024 Interim and 2025 Legislative Session

Izack Tenorio of Strategies, 360 will provide the Board with an update on plans and activities related to the 2024 Interim and planned BDR in the 2025 legislative session.

Action: Approve, Table, or Take No Action on the Matter



Consideration to Approve Revisions to NRS 637B for Inclusion in 2025 Legislative Effort as Recommended by the Advisory Committee on Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids and Speech-Language Pathology Subcommittee

A number of NRS sections have already been reviewed and approved by the Board for inclusion in the planned 2025 BDR. The Advisory Committee on Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids and Speech-Language Pathology Subcommittee have recommended additional revisions for the final draft of the Board's BDR if approved. Please refer to the attached draft BDR document.

#### Update on Items a.7. & a.11. below.

The SLP Subcommittee felt strongly that a Bachelor's degree should be the minimum educational requirement for SLPA licensing, however also recommended removing the exclusion of NDE SLP personnel in NRS 637B.080 Applicability of Chapter. This was in response to NDE's recent regulation changes that will sunset licensing of bachelor's level personnel in October 2026.

NDE is drafting new SLPA regulations and plans to require applicants to first obtain this Board's SLPA license. However, we have recently confirmed that this will apply to new applicants only; current staff who are "grandfathered" will not be required by NDE to obtain their SLPA license. Additionally, NAC 391.223 regarding Audiologists does not require these NDE personnel to hold a Board license. Therefore, removal of the section in NRS 637B.080 would subject both sets of NDE personnel to engaging in unlicensed practice.

There are several options to consider, along with others that may be suggested during the meeting:

- Proceed with removal of the entire part of .080 as proposed and advise NDE and their SLP/AuD
  personnel that they will need to obtain licensure from the Board to avoid unlicensed practice.
- Proceed with removal of just the reference to SLPs and advise re: unlicensed practice described above, leaving the exclusion for AuD personnel.
- Retain the reference to both sets but add transitory language re: SLPs to address the sunsetting date.

#### a. Revisions Related to Speech-Language Pathology

- 1) NRS 637B.NEW "Speech-Language Pathology Assistant" defined.
- 2) NRS 637B.NEW "Supervising Speech-Language Pathologist" defined.
- 3) NRS 637B.NEW "Provisional Licensee" defined.
- 4) NRS 637B.NEW "Student" defined.
- 5) NRS 637B.NEW "Supervision" defined.
- 6) NRS 637B.NEW "Telesupervision" defined.
- 7) NRS 637B.NEW Speech-language pathology assistants: Educational requirements.
- 8) NRS 637B.NEW Speech-language pathology assistants: Regulations.
- 9) NRS 637B.NEW Requirements for speech-language pathology assistant, provisional licensee, or student to assist in practice of speech-language pathology.
- 10) NRS 637B.060 "Practice of speech-language pathology" defined.
- 11) NRS 637B.080 "Applicability of Chapter."



State of Nevada

## Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology & Hearing Aid Dispensing Board

### b. Revisions Related to Hearing Aid Fitting & Dispensing

- 1) NRS NEW "Cerumen Management" defined.
- 2) NRS NEW "Tinnitus Care" defined.
- 3) NRS NEW "Over-the-counter hearing aid" defined.
- 4) NRS 637B.044 "Hearing aid" defined.
- 5) NRS 637B.055 "Practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids" defined. (for possible action)

#### c. Revisions Related to Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids

1) NRS 637B.050 "Practice of Audiology" defined."

Attachment on next page: 2025 BDR NRS Revisions for Board Review 7 31 2024

Action: Approve, Table, or Take No Action on the Matter



## Nevada Speech Language-Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Board

Proposed NRS Revisions | 85th (2025) Session of the Nevada Legislature

FOR BOARD REVIEW 7.31.2024 | LAST REVISED 7.24.2024

## I. PROPOSED REVISIONS PENDING BOARD REVIEW

## a. Revisions Related to Speech-Language Pathology

## 1) NRS 637B.NEW "Speech-Language Pathology Assistant" defined.

"Speech-language pathology assistant" means a person who is licensed pursuant to this chapter to assist in the practice of speech-language pathology under the direction of a supervising speech-language pathologist.

### 2) NRS 637B.NEW "Supervising Speech-Language Pathologist" defined.

"Supervising speech-language pathologist" means a speech-language pathologist who supervises a speech-language pathologist assistant, a provisional speech-language pathologist, or a student who is completing a program for speech-language pathologists or speech-language pathologist assistants.

#### 3) NRS 637B.NEW "Provisional Licensee" defined.

"Provisional licensee" means any person who holds a provisional speech-language pathology license pursuant to chapter 637B of NRS.

## 4) NRS 637B.NEW "Student" defined.

"Student" means an unlicensed student enrolled in a bachelor's or master's degree program in speech-language pathology or communication science disorders at an educational institution that is accredited by a nationally recognized agency under the U.S. Department of Education.

## 5) NRS 637B.NEW "Supervision" defined.

"Supervision" means the provision of direction and evaluation of the tasks assigned by a supervising speech-language pathologist to a speech-language pathology assistant, provisional licensee, or student, including direct supervision, indirect supervision, and telesupervision.

## 6) NRS 637B.NEW "Telesupervision" defined.

"Telesupervision" means the real-time, distance observation of services delivered by a speech-language pathology assistant, provisional licensee, or student by a supervising speech-language pathologist, with feedback or assistance provided by the supervising speech-language pathologist as needed. The supervising speech-language pathologist may view and communicate with the client and speech-language pathology assistant, provisional licensee, or student in real time via virtual telecommunication software, webcam, telephone, and similar devices and services to provide immediate feedback.

New per addition of SLPA licensing path.

PENDING Board July 2024

## 7) NRS 637B.NEW Speech-language pathology assistants: Educational requirements.

- 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, an applicant for a license to practice as a speech-language pathology assistant must hold either:
  - a. A bachelor's degree or master's degree in speech-language pathology or communication sciences and disorders awarded by an educational institution that is accredited by a nationally recognized agency under the U.S. Department of Education.
  - b. A current endorsement issued on or before September 30, 2026 by the Nevada Department of Education pursuant to <u>chapter 391</u> of NRS to teach students who have speech and language impairments.
- 2. An applicant for a license to practice as a speech-language pathology assistant who holds a bachelor's degree or master's degree in speech-language pathology or communication sciences and disorders from a foreign school must prove to the satisfaction of the Board that their educational program:
  - a. Is substantially equivalent to the requirements set forth in subsection 1, as applicable; and
  - b. Is accredited by an accrediting agency approved by the Board.

Establishes SLPA licensing requirements.

**PENDING Board** 

July 2024

## 8) NRS 637B.NEW Speech-language pathology assistants: Regulations.

The Board shall adopt regulations regarding speech-language pathology assistants, including, without limitation:

- 1. The licensing of speech-language pathology assistants;
- 2. The educational, training requirements for speech-language pathology assistants;
- 3. The supervision of speech-language pathology assistants; and
- 4. The practice of speech-language pathology by speech-language pathology assistants.

## 9) NRS 637B.NEW Requirements for speech-language pathology assistant, provisional licensee, or student to assist in practice of speech-language pathology.

A speech-language pathology assistant, provisional licensee, or student may assist in the practice of speech-language pathology only under the supervision of a supervising speech-language pathologist, as regulated by the Board and subject to the conditions and limitations of this chapter and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto.

## 10) NRS 637B.060 "Practice of speech-language pathology" defined.

"Practice of speech-language pathology" means the application of principles, methods and procedures relating to the development and effectiveness of human communication and disorders of human communication, and includes, without limitation:

- 1. The prevention, screening, consultation, assessment, treatment, counseling, collaboration and referral services for disorders of speech, fluency, resonance voice language, feeding, swallowing and cognitive aspects of communication;
- 2. Augmentative and alternative communication techniques and strategies;
- 3. Auditory training, speech reading and speech and language intervention for persons who suffer from hearing loss;
- 4. The screening of persons for hearing loss and middle ear pathology;
- 5. The use of [oral and nasal endoscopy] flexible/nasal endoscopy, rigid/oral endoscopy, and/or stroboscopy for the purpose of evaluating and treating disorders of speech, voice, resonance, and swallowing function [vocal tract imaging and visualization];
- 6. Selecting, fitting and establishing effective use of prosthetic or adaptive devices for communication, swallowing or other upper respiratory and digestive functions, not including sensory devices used by persons with hearing loss;
- 7. Providing services to modify or enhance communication;
- 8. Providing referral services for medical diagnosis and treatment; and
- 9. At the request of a physician, participating in the diagnosis of a person.

(5) Revises to more effectively address the range of tools used by SLPs for the purpose of vocal tract imaging and visualization including, but not limited to FEES Procedure.

PENDING Board July 2024

## **PAGE 20**

## 11) NRS 637B.080 Applicability of chapter. The provisions of this chapter do not apply to any person who:

- [1. Holds a current credential issued by the Department of Education pursuant to <u>chapter 391</u> of NRS and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto and engages in the practice of audiology or speech-language pathology within the scope of that credential;]
- 1. [2.] Is employed by the Federal Government and engages in the practice of audiology or speech-language pathology within the scope of that employment;
- 2. [3.] Is a student enrolled in a program or school approved by the Board, is pursuing a degree in audiology or speech-language pathology and is clearly designated to the public as a student; or
- 3. [4.] Holds a current license issued pursuant to chapters 630 to 637, inclusive, 640 to 641D, inclusive, or 653 of NRS, and who does not engage in the private practice of audiology or speech-language pathology in this State.

(1) Revised to remove exclusion for NDE staff in alignment with addition of SLPAs and NDE sunsetting of bachelor's level staff.

\*May need revision to retain audiology reference.

PENDING Board July 2024

## b. Revisions Related to Hearing Aid Fitting & Dispensing

### 1) NRS 637B.NEW "Over-the-counter hearing aid" defined.

"Over-the-counter hearing aid" means any device as defined in 21 C.F.R. § 800.30(b).

## New per FDA Final Rule on OTC Hearing Aids.

RECOMMENDED BY Advisory Committee PENDING Board July 2024

## 2) NRS 637B.NEW "Cerumen Management" defined.

"Cerumen Management" means the removal of cerumen for the purpose of inspecting the ears, making impressions, and/or fitting and maintaining hearing aids.

## New per revision to section .055.

RECOMMENDED BY Advisory Committee PENDING Board July 2024

### 3) NRS 637B.NEW "Tinnitus Care" defined.

"Tinnitus Care" means the assessment of tinnitus symptoms and advising patients on sound therapy techniques and other strategies to address tinnitus symptoms.

## 4) NRS 637B.044 "Hearing aid" defined. "Hearing aid" means any:

- 1. Device worn by a person who suffers from impaired hearing for the purpose of amplifying sound to improve hearing or compensate for impaired hearing, including, without limitation, an earmold, as defined by the United States Food and Drug Administration in 21 C.F.R. § 800.30 and is not an over the counter (OTC) hearing aid as defined in 21 C.F.R. § 800.30.; and
- 2. Part, attachment or accessory for such a device.

## (1) Adds CFR definition per FDA Final Rule.

RECOMMENDED BY Advisory Committee PENDING Board July 2024

## 5) NRS 637B.055 "Practice of ordering the use of, fitting, and dispensing hearing aids" defined.

"Practice of ordering the use of, fitting, and dispensing hearing aids" means measuring human hearing and selecting, adapting, distributing or selling hearing aids and includes, without limitation:

- 1. Making impressions for earmolds;
- 2. Administering and interpreting tests of human hearing and middle ear functions;
- 3. Determining whether a person who suffers from impaired hearing would benefit from a hearing aid;
- 4. Ordering the use of, [S] selecting, and fitting hearing aids;
- 5. Providing assistance to a person after the fitting of a hearing aid;
- 6. Providing services relating to the care and repair of hearing aids;
- 7. Providing supervision and in-service training concerning measuring human hearing and ordering the use of, selecting, adapting, distributing or selling hearing aids; [and]
- 8. Providing referral services for clinical evaluation, rehabilitation and medical treatment of hearing impairment.
- 9. Providing cerumen management removal in the course of inspecting ears, or for the purpose of making ear impressions, or fitting and/or maintaining hearing instruments; and
- 10. Providing tinnitus management, only when holding one of the following:
  - (a) A license to engage in the practice of audiology pursuant to the provisions of this chapter; or
  - (b) A tinnitus care provider certificate awarded by the International Hearing Society or its successor organization, or another equivalent program approved by the Board.

## **PAGE 21**

Title and (4) additions per FDA Final Rule on OTC Hearing Aids.

RECOMMENDED BY Advisory Committee PENDING Board July 2024

(9) Addition to allow cerumen management.

RECOMMENDED BY Advisory Committee PENDING Board July 2024

(10) Addition to allow tinnitus care.

RECOMMENDED BY Advisory Committee PENDING Board July 2024

## c. Revisions Related to Audiology

## 1) NRS 637B.050 "Practice of audiology" defined.

"Practice of audiology" means the application of principles, methods and procedures relating to hearing and balance, hearing disorders and related speech and language disorders and includes, without limitation:

- 1. The conservation of auditory system functions;
- 2. Screening, identifying, assessing and interpreting, preventing and rehabilitating auditory and balance system disorders;
- 3. The ordering the use of, selection, fitting, programming and dispensing of hearing aids, the programming of [cochlear implants] implantable hearing devices and other technology which assists persons with hearing loss and training persons to use such technology; ["only when holding the dispensing endorsement required pursuant to NRS 637B.205".]
- 4. Providing vestibular and auditory rehabilitation, cerumen management and associated counseling services;
- 5. Conducting research on hearing and hearing disorders for the purpose of modifying disorders in communication involving speech, language and hearing;
- 6. Providing referral services for medical diagnosis and treatment; and
- [7. At the request of a physician, participating in the diagnosis of a person.]

(3) "Ordering the use of" added to align with FDA Final Rule on OTC Hearing Aids

Approved April 2024

(3) "Only when holding...." deleted per proposed repeal of NRS 637B.205

Approved April 2024

(3) Broadens from "cochlear implants" to "implantable hearing devices"

RECOMMENDED BY Advisory Committee PENDING Board July 2024

(7) Removes physician's request requirement

RECOMMENDED BY Advisory Committee PENDING Board July 2024

## II. APPROVED PROPOSED REVISIONS

#### [NRS 637B.042 "Dispensing audiologist" defined.

"Dispensing audiologist" means a licensed audiologist who has obtained an endorsement from the Board to engage in the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids.]

Deletion per proposed repeal of NRS 637B.205 Approved January 2024

#### NRS 637B.075 Sponsor" defined.

"Sponsor" means a hearing aid specialist or [dispensing] audiologist who is responsible for the direct supervision and in-service training of an apprentice in the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids.

Deletion per proposed repeal of NRS 637B.205

Approved January 2024

## NRS 637B.100 Creation; number, appointment and qualifications of members; terms; vacancies.

- 1. The Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Board, consisting of seven members appointed by the Governor, is hereby created.
- 2. The Governor shall appoint:
  - (a) Three members who are speech-language pathologists, each of whom must practice in a different setting, including, without limitation, a university, public school, hospital or private practice;
  - (b) Two members who are audiologists, at least one of whom must be a dispensing audiologist;
  - (c) One member who is a hearing aid specialist; and
  - (d) One member who is a representative of the general public. This member must not be:
    - (1) A speech-language pathologist, a hearing aid specialist or an audiologist; or
    - (2) The spouse or the parent or child, by blood, marriage or adoption, of a speech-language pathologist, a hearing aid specialist or an audiologist.
- 3. Each member of the Board who is an audiologist, a speech-language pathologist or a hearing aid specialist must:
  - (a) Have practiced, taught or conducted research in his or her profession for the 3 years immediately preceding the appointment; and
  - (b) Hold a current license issued pursuant to this chapter.
- 4. A person who is a stockholder in a manufacturer of hearing aids may not be selected to or serve as a member of the Board.
- 5. After the initial terms, each member of the Board serves a term of 3 years.
- 6. A member of the Board shall not serve for more than two terms.
- 7. If a vacancy occurs during the term of a member, the Governor shall appoint a person similarly qualified to replace that member for the remainder of the unexpired term.

Deletion per proposed repeal of NRS 637B.205

Approved April 2024

#### NRS 637B.175 Fees.

1.	The Board shall charge and collect only the following fees whose amounts must Application fee		d by the Board, but may not exceed: \$300	(1) Increases maximum amounts the Board may
	License fee	[100]	200	charge for license fees
	Fee for the renewal of a license.	[100]	200	and other services.
	Reinstatement fee	[100]	300	Approved
	Examination fee	[300]	500	January 2024
	Fee for converting to a different type of license	50		
	Fee for each additional license [or endorsement]	50		(1) "Endorsement"
	Fee for obtaining license information	[50]	200	deleted per proposed
2.	If an applicant submits an application for a license by endorsement pursuant to	NRS 637B.204	4, the Board shall collect not more than	repeal of section .205.
	one-half of the fee set forth in subsection 1 for the initial issuance of the license	·.		Approved April 2024

3. All fees are payable in advance and may not be refunded.

## NRS 637B.191 Regulations concerning examinations for, period of validity of, renewal and reinstatement of licenses; placement of license on inactive status.

- 1. The Board shall adopt regulations prescribing:
  - (a) The examinations required pursuant to <u>NRS 637B.160</u> and concerning the practice of audiology and the practice of speech-language pathology;
  - (b) The period for which a license issued pursuant to the provisions of this chapter is valid which, except as otherwise provided in NRS 637B.200 and 637B.202, must be not less than 1 year; and
  - (c) The manner in which a license [or endorsement] issued pursuant to this chapter must be renewed, which may include requirements for continuing education.
- 2. The Board may adopt regulations providing for the late renewal of a license and the reinstatement of an expired license, except that the Board must not renew or reinstate a license more than 3 years after the license expired.
- 3. The Board may, at the request of a person licensed pursuant to this chapter, place a license on inactive status if the holder of the license:
  - (a) Does not engage in, or represent that the person is authorized to engage in, the practice of audiology, speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids in this State; and
  - (b) Satisfies any requirements for continuing education prescribed by the Board pursuant to this section.

Deletion per proposed repeal of section .205.

Approved April 2024

## 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; or
  - (c) Hold current certification from the National Board for Certification in Hearing Instrument Sciences.
- [2. Except as otherwise provided in <u>NRS 637B.201</u>, be certified by the National Board for Certification in Hearing Instrument Sciences.]
- 2. [3.] Pass the examination prescribed pursuant to NRS 637B.194.
- 3. [4.] Comply with the regulations adopted pursuant to NRS 637B.194.
- 4. [5.] 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.200 Temporary licenses.

- 1. The Board may issue a temporary license to engage in the practice of:
  - (a) Audiology, speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids upon application and the payment of the fee required pursuant to NRS 637B.175 to any person who is so licensed in another state and who meets all the qualifications for licensing in this State, the District of Columbia or any state or territory of the United States; and
  - (b) Fitting and dispensing hearing aids upon application and payment of the fee required pursuant to NRS 637B.175 to any person who meets all the qualifications for licensing as a hearing aid specialist [or an endorsement of a license to engage in the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids] other than passing the examination concerning the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids prescribed pursuant to NRS 637B.194.
- 2. The Board may issue a temporary license to engage in the practice of audiology, speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids upon application and payment of the fee required pursuant to NRS 637B.175 to any spouse of a member of the Armed Forces of the United States who:
  - (a) Is so licensed in another state, the District of Columbia or any state or territory of the United States; and
  - (b) Attests that he or she meets all of the qualifications for licensure in this State.
- 3. A temporary license issued pursuant to this section:
  - (a) Is valid for not more than 6 months;
  - (b) May be renewed not more than once; and
  - (c) May be converted to a Standard [an active] license upon the completion of all requirements for a license and payment of the fee required by NRS 637B.175.

## **PAGE 24**

(1)(c) Adds NBC-IHS Cert as automatic qualifier for HAS license. Approved January 2024

(2) Removes NBC-HIS Cert requirement for HAS Standard license

Approved July 2022

(1)(a) & (2)(a) Additions in alignment with License by Endorsement sections .203-204

Approved October 2023

(3)(c) Revises to clarify license type following conversion vs. current reference to license status.

Approved October 2023

(1)(b) Deletion per proposed repeal of NRS 637B.205.

Approved January 2024

## **PAGE 25**

## 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) Has completed the program of academic training prescribed in NRS 637B.193 but has not yet completed the on-site training and work experience prescribed in NRS 637B.193. [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 a Standard [an active] license upon payment of the fee required pursuant to NRS 637B.175 for converting the license and submission [the award] of:
    - (1) A certificate of clinical competence awarded by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association; or
    - (2) Certification by the National Board for Certification in Hearing Instrument Sciences.] Proof satisfactory of completion of the on-site work experience prescribed in NAC 637B.

(1)(b)(2) & (2)(b)(2) Revise requirements for HAS Provisional license and conversion to HAS Standard license per proposed removal of **NBC-HIS Certification** from NRS 637B.193 and planned NAC changes to revise the requirement to 1 year when holding an out-of-state license.

Approved January 2024

(2)(b) Revises to clarify license type following conversion vs. current reference to license status

Approved October 2023

## NRS 637B.203 Expedited license by endorsement to practice audiology or speech-language pathology: Requirements; procedure for issuance.

- 1. The Board may issue a license by endorsement to engage in the practice of audiology or speech-language pathology, to an applicant who meets the requirements set forth in this section. An applicant may submit to the Board an application for such a license if the applicant holds a corresponding valid and unrestricted license to engage in the practice of audiology or speech-language pathology, as applicable, in the District of Columbia or any state or territory of the United States.
- 2. An applicant for a license by endorsement pursuant to this section must submit to the Board with his or her application: Proof satisfactory to the Board that the applicant:
  - (1) Satisfies the requirements of subsection 1;
  - (2) Has not been disciplined or investigated by the corresponding regulatory authority of the District of Columbia or any state or territory in which the applicant currently holds or has held a license to engage in the practice of audiology or speech-language pathology, as applicable; and
  - (3) Has not been held civilly or criminally liable for malpractice in the District of Columbia or any state or territory of the United States:
    - An affidavit stating that the information contained in the application and any accompanying material is true and correct; (b) and
    - Any other information required by the Board.
- 3. Not later than 15 business days after receiving an application for a license by endorsement to engage in the practice of Audiology or speech-language pathology, pursuant to this section, the Board shall provide written notice to the applicant of any additional information required by the Board to consider the application. Unless the Board denies the application for good cause, the Board shall approve the application and issue a license by endorsement to engage in the practice of audiology or speech-language pathology as applicable to the applicant not later than 45 days after receiving the application.

(4) Removes requirement as the review process is minimally different than licenses already issued by Board staff without Board/Chair involvement and this involvement actually often delays issuance.

Approved October 2023

- [4. A license by endorsement to engage in the practice of audiology or speech-language pathology may be issued at a meeting of the Board or between its meetings by the President of the Board. Such an action shall be deemed to be an action of the Board.]
- 4. [5.] At any time before making a final decision on an application for a license by endorsement pursuant to this section, the Board may grant a provisional license authorizing an applicant to engage in the practice of audiology or speech-language pathology as applicable, in accordance with regulations adopted by the Board.
- 5. [6.] As used in this section, "veteran" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 417.005.

# NRS 637B.204 Expedited license by endorsement to practice audiology or speech-language pathology for active member of Armed Forces, member's spouse, veteran or veteran's surviving spouse: Requirements; procedure for issuance; provisional license pending action on application.

- 1. The Board may issue a license by endorsement to engage in the practice of audiology or speech-language pathology to an applicant who meets the requirements set forth in this section. An applicant may submit to the Board an application for such a license if the applicant:
  - (a) Holds a corresponding valid and unrestricted license to engage in the practice of audiology or speech-language pathology as applicable, in the District of Columbia or any state or territory of the United States; and
  - (b) Is an active member of, or the spouse of an active member of, the Armed Forces of the United States, a veteran or the surviving spouse of a veteran.
- 2. An applicant for a license by endorsement pursuant to this section must submit to the Board with his or her application:
  - (a) Proof satisfactory to the Board that the applicant:
    - (1) Satisfies the requirements of subsection 1;
    - (2) Has not been disciplined or investigated by the corresponding regulatory authority of the District of Columbia or any state or territory in which the applicant holds a license to engage in the practice of audiology or speech-language pathology as applicable; and
    - (3) Has not been held civilly or criminally liable for malpractice in the District of Columbia or any state or territory of the United States;
  - (b) An affidavit stating that the information contained in the application and any accompanying material is true and correct; and
  - (c) Any other information required by the Board.
- 3. Not later than 15 business days after receiving an application for a license by endorsement to engage in the practice of audiology or speech-language pathology pursuant to this section, the Board shall provide written notice to the applicant of any additional information required by the Board to consider the application. Unless the Board denies the application for good cause, the Board shall approve the application and issue a license by endorsement to engage in the practice of audiology or speech-language pathology, as applicable, to the applicant not later than 45 days after receiving all the additional information required by the Board to complete the application.
- [4. A license by endorsement to engage in the practice of audiology or speech-language pathology may be issued at a meeting of the Board or between its meetings by the President of the Board. Such an action shall be deemed to be an action of the Board.]
- 4. [5.] At any time before making a final decision on an application for a license by endorsement pursuant to this section, the Board may grant a provisional license authorizing an applicant to engage in the practice of audiology or speech-language pathology as applicable, in accordance with regulations adopted by the Board.
- 5. [6.] As used in this section, "veteran" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 417.005

(4) Removes requirement as the review process is minimally different than licenses already issued by Board staff without Board/Chair involvement and this involvement actually often delays issuance.

Approved October 2023

## **PAGE 27**

Repeals requirement for an Audiologist to hold separate endorsement to fit and dispense hearing aids.

Approved April 2024

## [NRS 637B.205 Endorsement for certain licensees or applicants to practice fitting and dispensing hearing aids.

An audiologist or an applicant for a license to engage in the practice of audiology who wishes to engage in the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids must:

- 1. Request an endorsement of the license to engage in the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids; an
- 2. Pass an examination prescribed by the Board pursuant to NRS 637B.194. The examination must be identical to the examination required for the licensure of hearing aid specialists.]

## NRS 637B.236 Apprentices: Supervision of and responsibility for work; selection of hearing aid; signing of audiogram or sales document.

- 1. All work performed by a licensed apprentice must be directly supervised by a hearing aid specialist or [dispensing] audiologist, and the hearing aid specialist or [dispensing] audiologist is responsible and civilly liable for the negligence or incompetence of the licensed apprentice under his or her supervision.
- 2. Any selection of a hearing aid for a customer made by a licensed apprentice must be approved by a hearing aid specialist or [dispensing] audiologist.
- 3. Any audiogram or sales document prepared by a licensed apprentice must be signed by the apprentice and the supervising hearing aid specialist or [dispensing] audiologist.
- 4. As used in this section:
  - (a) "Incompetence" means a lack of ability to practice safely and skillfully as a licensed apprentice arising from:
    - (1) A lack of knowledge or training; or
    - (2) An impaired physical or mental capability, including an alcohol or other substance use disorder.
  - (b) "Negligence" means a deviation from the normal standard of professional care exercised generally by apprentices.

## NRS 637B.242 Sale of hearing aids by catalog, mail or Internet: Conditions; records; regulations.

- 1. A hearing aid specialist or [dispensing] audiologist licensed pursuant to this chapter may sell hearing aids by catalog, mail or the Internet if[:]
  - [(a) The hearing aid specialist or dispensing audiologist has received:
    - (1) A written statement signed by:
      - (I) A physician or physician assistant licensed pursuant to <u>chapter 630</u> or <u>633</u> of NRS, an advanced practice registered nurse licensed pursuant to <u>NRS 632.237</u>, an audiologist or a hearing aid specialist which verifies that he or she has performed an otoscopic examination of the person to whom the hearing aid will be sold and the results of the examination indicate that the person may benefit from the use of a hearing aid;
      - (II) A physician or physician assistant licensed pursuant to <u>chapter 630</u> or <u>633</u> of NRS, an audiologist or a hearing aid specialist which verifies that he or she has performed an audiometric examination of the person to whom the hearing aid will be sold and the results of the examination indicate that the person may benefit from the use of a hearing aid; and
      - (III) A dispensing audiologist or a hearing aid specialist which verifies that an ear impression has been taken of the person to whom the hearing aid will be sold; or
    - (2) A waiver of the medical evaluation signed by the person to whom the hearing aid will be sold as authorized pursuant to 21 C.F.R. § 801.421(a)(2); and]
  - [(b) T]the person to whom the hearing aid will be sold has signed a statement acknowledging that the hearing aid specialist or [dispensing] audiologist is selling him or her the hearing aid by catalog, mail or the Internet based upon the information submitted by the person in accordance with this section.

Deletions per proposed repeal of section .205.

Approved April 2024

(1)(a) Deletion in alignment with FDA Final Rule on OTC Hearing Aids.

Approved October 2023

(1)(2)(3) "Dispensing" deletions per proposed repeal of section .205.

Approved April 2024

- 2. A hearing aid specialist or [dispensing] audiologist who sells hearing aids by catalog, mail or the Internet pursuant to this section shall maintain a record of each sale of a hearing aid made pursuant to this section for not less than 5 years.
- 3. The Board may adopt regulations to carry out the provisions of this section, including, without limitation, the information that must be included in each record required to be maintained pursuant to subsection 2.

## NRS 637B.243 Audiograms for use of physician or member of related profession.

A hearing aid specialist or [dispensing] audiologist, upon request by a physician or a member of a related profession specified by the Board, may make audiograms for the physician's or member's use in consultation with a person who suffers from impaired hearing.

Deletion per proposed repeal of section .205. Approved April 2024

#### NRS 637B.250 Grounds.

- 1. The grounds for initiating disciplinary action pursuant to this chapter are:
  - (a) Unprofessional conduct.
  - (b) Conviction of:
    - (1) A violation of any federal or state law regarding the possession, distribution or use of any controlled substance or any dangerous drug as defined in <u>chapter 454</u> of NRS;
    - (2) A felony or gross misdemeanor relating to the practice of audiology, speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids;
    - (3) A violation of any of the provisions of NRS 616D.200, 616D.220, 616D.240 or 616D.300 to 616D.440, inclusive; or
    - (4) Any offense involving moral turpitude.
  - (c) Gross or repeated malpractice, which may be evidenced by claims of malpractice settled against a practitioner.
  - (d) Professional incompetence.
  - (e) Operation of a medical facility, as defined in NRS 449.0151, at any time during which:
    - (1) The license of the facility is suspended or revoked; or
    - (2) An act or omission occurs which results in the suspension or revocation of the license pursuant to NRS 449.160.
      - This paragraph applies to an owner or other principal responsible for the operation of the facility.
- 2. As used in this section, "unprofessional conduct" includes, without limitation:
  - (a) Conduct that is harmful to the public health or safety;
  - (b) Obtaining a license through fraud or misrepresentation of a material fact;
  - (c) Suspension or revocation of a license to engage in the practice of audiology, speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids; and

A violation of any provision of:

- (1) Federal law concerning the practice of audiology, speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids or any regulations adopted pursuant thereto, including, without limitation, 21 C.F.R. §§ 801.420 [and 801.421];
- (2) NRS 597.264 to 597.2667, inclusive, or any regulations adopted pursuant thereto; or
- (3) This chapter or any regulations adopted pursuant thereto.

(2)(d)(1) Deletion in alignment with FDA Final Rule on OTC Hearing Aids.

Approved October 2023

## III. NO REVISIONS IDENTIFIED

NRS 637B.010 Legislative declaration. The practice of audiology, the practice of speech-language pathology and the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids are hereby declared to be learned professions, affecting public safety and welfare and charged with the public interest, and are therefore subject to protection and regulation by the State. (Added to NRS by 1979, 1253; A 2015, 2301)

NRS 637B.020 Definitions. As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in NRS 637B.025 to 637B.075, inclusive, have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections. (Added to NRS by 1979, 1253; A 2015, 2301)

NRS 637B.025 "Apprentice" defined. "Apprentice" means a person who is completing in-service training under the supervision of a sponsor to become eligible to apply for a license to engage in the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids.

NRS 637B.030 "Audiologist" defined. "Audiologist" means any person who is licensed to engage in the practice of audiology pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.

NRS 637B.040 "Board" defined. "Board" means the Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Board.

NRS 637B.045 "Hearing aid specialist" defined. "Hearing aid specialist" means any person licensed to engage in the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.

NRS 637B.047 "Manufacturer" defined. "Manufacturer" means any person who assembles, manufactures or fabricates hearing aids or any parts or supplies used in connection therewith.

NRS 637B.070 "Speech-language pathologist" defined. "Speech-language pathologist" means any person who is licensed to engage in the practice of speech-language pathology pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.

## NRS 637B.105 Advisory member: Appointment; restrictions.

- 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, the Board may, by majority vote, select one or more persons, including, without limitation, a physician licensed pursuant to <u>chapter 630</u> of NRS, an osteopathic physician licensed pursuant to <u>chapter 633</u> of NRS or a member of the public, to serve as an advisory member of the Board.
- 2. A person who is a stockholder in a manufacturer of hearing aids may not be selected to or serve as an advisory member of the Board.
- 3. An advisory member may not vote on any matter before the Board.

#### NRS 637B.120 Officers; meetings; quorum; compliance with Open Meeting Law.

- 1. The Board shall elect from its members a Chair and Vice Chair. The officers of the Board hold their respective offices at the pleasure of the Board.
- 2. The Board shall meet at least twice annually and may meet at other times on the call of the Chair or a majority of its members.
- 3. A majority of the Board constitutes a quorum to transact all business.
- 4. The Board shall comply with the provisions of chapter 241 of NRS, and all meetings of the Board must be conducted in accordance with that chapter.

NRS 637B.130 Salary of members; per diem allowance and travel expenses of members and employees; employment of Executive Director and other employees; payment of expenses and salaries.

- 1. A member of the Board is entitled to receive:
  - (a) A salary of not more than \$150 per day, as fixed by the Board, while engaged in the business of the Board; and
  - (b) A per diem allowance and travel expenses at a rate fixed by the Board, while engaged in the business of the Board. The rate must not exceed the rate provided for state officers and employees generally.
- 2. While engaged in the business of the Board, each employee of the Board is entitled to receive a per diem allowance and travel expenses at a rate fixed by the Board. The rate must not exceed the rate provided for state officers and employees generally.
- 3. The Board may employ and fix the compensation of an Executive Director and any other employee necessary to the discharge of its duties.
- 4. The expenses of the Board and members of the Board, and the salaries of its employees, must be paid from the fees received by the Board pursuant to this chapter, and no part of those expenses and salaries may be paid out of the State General Fund.

#### NRS 637B.132 Duties; regulations. The Board shall:

- 1. Enforce the provisions of this chapter and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto;
- 2. Prepare and maintain a record of its proceedings, including, without limitation, any administrative proceedings;
- 3. Evaluate the qualifications and determine the eligibility of an applicant for any license or endorsement of a license issued pursuant to this chapter and, upon payment of the appropriate fee, issue the appropriate license or endorsement of a license to a qualified applicant;
- 4. Adopt regulations establishing standards of practice for persons licensed or endorsed pursuant to this chapter and any other regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter;
- 5. Require a person licensed or endorsed pursuant to this chapter to submit to the Board documentation required by the Board to determine whether the person has acquired the skills necessary to engage in the practice of audiology, speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids;
- 6. Investigate any complaint received by the Board against any person licensed or endorsed pursuant to this chapter;
- 7. Hold hearings to determine whether any provision of this chapter or any regulation adopted pursuant to this chapter has been violated; and
- 8. Unless the Board determines that extenuating circumstances exist, forward to the appropriate law enforcement agency any substantiated information submitted to the Board concerning a person who engages in the practice of or offers to engage in the practice of audiology, speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids without the appropriate license or endorsement issued pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.

### NRS 637B.135 Subpoenas; oaths; seal. The Board may:

- 1. Issue subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses and production of books and papers;
- 2. Administer oaths when taking testimony in any matter relating to the duties of the Board; and
- 3. Adopt a seal which must be judicially noticed by the courts of this State.

### NRS 637B.137 Enforcement of subpoenas by district court.

- 1. The district court in the county in which any hearing is being conducted by the Board may compel the attendance of witnesses, the giving of testimony and the production of books and papers as required by any subpoena issued by the Board.
- 2. If any witness refuses to attend or testify or produce any papers required by that subpoena, the Board may report to the district court for the county in which the hearing is pending by petition, setting forth that:
  - (a) Due notice has been given of the time and place of attendance of the witness or the production of the books and papers;
  - (b) The witness has been subpoenaed pursuant to NRS 637B.135; and
  - (c) The witness has failed and refused to attend or produce the papers required by subpoena before the Board in the hearing named in the subpoena, or has refused to answer questions propounded to him or her in the course of that hearing,
  - → and asking an order of the court compelling the witness to attend and testify or produce the books or papers before the Board.

- 3. The court, upon petition of the Board, shall enter an order directing the witness to appear before the court at a time and place to be fixed by the court in the order, the time to be not more than 10 days after the date of the order, and then and there show cause why the witness has not attended or testified or produced the books or papers before the Board. A certified copy of the order must be served upon the witness.
- 4. If it appears to the court that the subpoena was regularly issued by the Board, the court may thereupon enter an order that the witness appear before the Board at the time and place fixed in the order and testify or produce the required books or papers, and upon failure to obey the order, the witness must be dealt with as for contempt of court.

NRS 637B.140 Fiscal year. The Board shall operate on the basis of a fiscal year commencing on July 1 and ending on June 30.

## NRS 637B.145 Deposit and use of fees; delegation of authority to take disciplinary action; deposit of fines; claims for attorney's fees and costs of investigation.

- 1. All fees collected under the provisions of this chapter must be paid to the Board to be used to defray the necessary expenses of the Board. The Board shall deposit the fees in qualified banks, credit unions, savings and loan associations or savings banks in this State.
- 2. In a manner consistent with the provisions of <u>chapter 622A</u> of NRS, the Board may delegate to a hearing officer or panel its authority to take any disciplinary action pursuant to this chapter, impose and collect civil penalties therefor and deposit the money therefrom in banks, credit unions, savings and loan associations or savings banks in this State.
- 3. If a hearing officer or panel is not authorized to take disciplinary action pursuant to subsection 2 and the Board deposits the money collected from the imposition of civil penalties with the State Treasurer for credit to the State General Fund, it may present a claim to the State Board of Examiners for recommendation to the Interim Finance Committee if money is needed to pay attorney's fees or the costs of an investigation, or both.

NRS 637B.160 Qualifications of applicants. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 637B.195, 637B.200, 637B.201, 637B.203 and 637B.204, to be eligible for licensing by the Board, an applicant for a license to engage in the practice of audiology, speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids must:

- 1. Be a natural person of good moral character;
- 2. Pass an examination prescribed by the Board pursuant to NRS 637B.191 or 637B.194, as applicable;
- 3. Pay the fees provided for in this chapter; and
- 4. Submit all information required to complete an application for a license.

NRS 637B.166 Payment of child support: Submission of certain information by applicant; grounds for denial of license; duty of Board. [Effective until the date of the repeal of 42 U.S.C. § 666, the federal law requiring each state to establish procedures for withholding, suspending and restricting the professional, occupational and recreational licenses for child support arrearages and for noncompliance with certain processes relating to paternity or child support proceedings.]

- 1. In addition to any other requirements set forth in this chapter:
  - (a) An applicant for the issuance of a license to engage in the practice of audiology, speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids shall include the social security number of the applicant in the application submitted to the Board.
  - (b) An applicant for the issuance or renewal of a license to engage in the practice of audiology, speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids shall submit to the Board the statement prescribed by the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services of the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to NRS 425.520. The statement must be completed and signed by the applicant.
- 2. The Board shall include the statement required pursuant to subsection 1 in:
  - (a) The application or any other forms that must be submitted for the issuance or renewal of the license; or
  - (b) A separate form prescribed by the Board.

- 3. A license to engage in the practice of audiology, speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids may not be issued or renewed by the Board if the applicant:
  - (a) Fails to submit the statement required pursuant to subsection 1; or
  - (b) Indicates on the statement submitted pursuant to subsection 1 that the applicant is subject to a court order for the support of a child and is not in compliance with the order or a plan approved by the district attorney or other public agency enforcing the order for the repayment of the amount owed pursuant to the order.
- 4. If an applicant indicates on the statement submitted pursuant to subsection 1 that the applicant is subject to a court order for the support of a child and is not in compliance with the order or a plan approved by the district attorney or other public agency enforcing the order for the repayment of the amount owed pursuant to the order, the Board shall advise the applicant to contact the district attorney or other public agency enforcing the order to determine the actions that the applicant may take to satisfy the arrearage.

NRS 637B.166 Payment of child support: Submission of certain information by applicant; grounds for denial of license; duty of Board. [Effective on the date of the repeal of 42 U.S.C. § 666, the federal law requiring each state to establish procedures for withholding, suspending and restricting the professional, occupational and recreational licenses for child support arrearages and for noncompliance with certain processes relating to paternity or child support proceedings and expires by limitation 2 years after that date.]

- 1. In addition to any other requirements set forth in this chapter, an applicant for the issuance or renewal of a license to engage in the practice of audiology, speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids shall submit to the Board the statement prescribed by the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services of the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to NRS 425.520. The statement must be completed and signed by the applicant.
- 2. The Board shall include the statement required pursuant to subsection 1 in:
  - (a) The application or any other forms that must be submitted for the issuance or renewal of the license; or
  - (b) A separate form prescribed by the Board.
- 3. A license to engage in the practice of audiology, speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids may not be issued or renewed by the Board if the applicant:
  - (a) Fails to submit the statement required pursuant to subsection 1; or
  - (b) Indicates on the statement submitted pursuant to subsection 1 that the applicant is subject to a court order for the support of a child and is not in compliance with the order or a plan approved by the district attorney or other public agency enforcing the order for the repayment of the amount owed pursuant to the order.
- 4. If an applicant indicates on the statement submitted pursuant to subsection 1 that the applicant is subject to a court order for the support of a child and is not in compliance with the order or a plan approved by the district attorney or other public agency enforcing the order for the repayment of the amount owed pursuant to the order, the Board shall advise the applicant to contact the district attorney or other public agency enforcing the order to determine the actions that the applicant may take to satisfy the arrearage.

NRS 637B.190 Issuance of license without examination. The Board may issue a license without examination to a person who holds:

- 1. A current certificate of clinical competence issued by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association in the field of practice for which the person is applying for a license; or
- 2. Current certification from the American Board of Audiology.

NRS 637B.192 Renewal of license: Authority of Board to make data request concerning demographic and practice information available to applicants for voluntary completion and electronic submission; confidentiality of information provided.

- 1. The Board may:
  - (a) Make the data request developed by the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to NRS 439A.116 available to applicants for the renewal of a license pursuant to this chapter through a link on the electronic application for the renewal of a license; and
  - (b) Request each applicant to complete and electronically submit the data request to the Director.
- 2. The information provided by an applicant for the renewal of a license pursuant to subsection 1 is confidential and, except as required by subsection 1, must not be disclosed to any person or entity.
- 3. An applicant for the renewal of a license is not required to complete a data request pursuant to subsection 1 and is not subject to disciplinary action, including, without limitation, refusal to renew the license, for failure to do so.

NRS 637B.194 Hearing aid specialists and apprentices: Regulations. The Board shall adopt regulations regarding the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids, including, without limitation:

- 1. The licensing of hearing aid specialists and apprentices;
- 2. The educational and training requirements for hearing aid specialists and apprentices;
- 3. The examination required pursuant to NRS 637B.160, 637B.193, 637B.205 and 637B.238 concerning the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids; and
- 4. A program of in-service training for apprentices.

#### NRS 637B.195 Apprentices: Issuance of license; proof of sponsor.

- 1. The Board may issue an apprentice license to an applicant who has not yet completed a program of education or training approved by the Board pursuant to NRS 637B.193 or passed the examination prescribed pursuant to NRS 637B.194.
- 2. An applicant for an apprentice license must provide proof satisfactory to the Board that a sponsor has agreed to assume responsibility for the direct supervision and in-service training of the applicant.

#### NRS 637B.196 Speech-language pathologists and audiologists: Educational requirements.

- 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2:
  - (a) An applicant for a license to engage in the practice of speech-language pathology must satisfy the academic requirements of an educational program accredited by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association or its successor organization approved by the Board.
  - (b) An applicant for a license to engage in the practice of audiology must satisfy the academic requirements of an educational program accredited by the:
    - (1) American Speech-Language-Hearing Association or its successor organization approved by the Board; or
    - (2) Accreditation Commission for Audiology Education or its successor organization approved by the Board.
- 2. An applicant for a license to engage in the practice of audiology or speech-language pathology who receives an education in audiology or speech-language pathology from a foreign school must prove to the satisfaction of the Board that his or her educational program:
  - (a) Is substantially equivalent to the requirements set forth in subsection 1, as applicable; and
  - (b) Is accredited by an accrediting agency approved by the Board.

NRS 637B.197 Speech-language pathologists: Certificate of clinical competence required; exception. Except for the holder of a provisional license issued pursuant to NRS 637B.201 and in addition to the requirements set forth in NRS 637B.196, a speech-language pathologist must hold a current certificate of clinical competence issued by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association or its successor organization approved by the Board.

NRS 637B.202 Limited license to practice audiology or speech-language pathology for demonstration, instructional or educational purposes.

- 1. Upon application and payment of the application fee required pursuant to <u>NRS 637B.175</u>, the Board may issue a limited license to engage in the practice of audiology or speech-language pathology to a person who:
  - (a) Holds a current license to engage in the practice of audiology or speech-language pathology in another state; and
  - (b) Engages in the practice of audiology or speech-language pathology in this State for demonstration, instructional or educational purposes.
- 2. A limited license issued pursuant to this section is valid for not more than 15 days.

NRS 637B.235 Apprentices: Regulations. The Board shall adopt regulations setting forth requirements for the supervision of a licensed apprentice and the responsibilities of the sponsor and the apprentice.

#### NRS 637B.237 Apprentices: Identification; use of title in advertisements or promotional materials.

- 1. A licensed apprentice shall, while engaged in the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids, identify himself or herself as an apprentice.
- 2. Any advertisement or promotional materials that refer to an apprentice must identify the apprentice as an apprentice.

NRS 637B.238 Apprentices: Limitation on period of apprenticeship. A person may not serve as a licensed apprentice for more than 3 years without passing the examination prescribed pursuant to NRS 637B.194.

NRS 637B.239 Hearing aid specialists and apprentices: Display of license. Every hearing aid specialist and licensed apprentice shall display his or her license conspicuously in each place where the licensee conducts business as a hearing aid specialist or a licensed apprentice.

NRS 637B.241 Hearing aid specialists and apprentices: Notice to Board of change of address. Every hearing aid specialist and licensed apprentice shall, within 10 days after changing the address of his or her place of business, notify the Board of the new address of his or her place of business.

NRS 637B.255 Suspension of license for failure to pay child support or comply with certain subpoenas or warrants; reinstatement of license. [Effective until 2 years after the date of the repeal of 42 U.S.C. § 666, the federal law requiring each state to establish procedures for withholding, suspending and restricting the professional, occupational and recreational licenses for child support arrearages and for noncompliance with certain processes relating to paternity or child support proceedings.]

- 1. If the Board receives a copy of a court order issued pursuant to NRS 425.540 that provides for the suspension of all professional, occupational and recreational licenses, certificates and permits issued to a person who is the holder of a license to engage in the practice of audiology, speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids, the Board shall deem the license issued to that person to be suspended at the end of the 30th day after the date on which the court order was issued unless the Board receives a letter issued to the holder of the license by the district attorney or other public agency pursuant to NRS 425.550 stating that the holder of the license has complied with the subpoena or warrant or has satisfied the arrearage pursuant to NRS 425.560.
- 2. The Board shall reinstate a license to engage in the practice of audiology, speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids that has been suspended by a district court pursuant to NRS 425.540 if:
  - (a) The Board receives a letter issued by the district attorney or other public agency pursuant to NRS 425.550 to the person whose license was suspended stating that the person whose license was suspended has complied with the subpoena or warrant or has satisfied the arrearage pursuant to NRS 425.560; and
  - (b) The person whose license was suspended pays any fees imposed by the Board pursuant to NRS 637B.175 for the reinstatement of a license.

NRS 637B.260 Complaint against applicant or licensee; retention of complaints.

- 1. A complaint may be made against any applicant for a license or any licensee charging one or more of the grounds for disciplinary action with such particularity as to enable the defendant to prepare a defense.
- 2. The complaint must be in writing and may be filed anonymously. If a complaint is filed anonymously, the Board may accept the complaint but may refuse to consider the complaint if anonymity of the complaint makes processing the complaint impossible or unfair to the person who is the subject of the complaint.
- 3. The Board shall retain all complaints made pursuant to this section for at least 10 years, including, without limitation, any complaints not acted upon.

## NRS 637B.280 Authority of Board to take disciplinary or other action; private reprimands prohibited; orders imposing discipline deemed public records.

- 1. If, after notice and a hearing as required by law, the Board determines that the applicant or licensee has committed any act which constitutes grounds for disciplinary action, the Board may, in the case of the applicant, refuse to issue a license, and in all other cases:
  - (a) Refuse to renew a license;
  - (b) Revoke a license;
  - (c) Suspend a license;
  - (d) Administer to the licensee a public reprimand;
  - (e) Impose conditions on the practice of the licensee;
  - (f) Impose a civil penalty not to exceed \$5,000 for each act constituting grounds for disciplinary action; or
  - (g) Impose any combination of the disciplinary actions described in paragraphs (a) to (f), inclusive.
- 2. The Board shall not administer a private reprimand.
- 3. An order that imposes discipline and the findings of fact and conclusions of law supporting that order are public records.

#### NRS 637B.288 Confidentiality of certain records of Board; exceptions.

- 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section and <u>NRS 239.0115</u>, a complaint filed with the Board, all documents and other information filed with the complaint and all documents and other information compiled as a result of an investigation conducted to determine whether to initiate disciplinary action against a person are confidential, unless the person submits a written statement to the Board requesting that such documents and information be made public records.
- 2. The charging documents filed with the Board to initiate disciplinary action pursuant to <u>chapter 622A</u> of NRS and all documents and information considered by the Board when determining whether to impose discipline are public records.
- 3. The Board shall, to the extent feasible, communicate or cooperate with or provide any documents or other information to any other licensing board or any other agency that is investigating a person, including, without limitation, a law enforcement agency.

## NRS 637B.290 Practice without license: Prohibition; penalties.

- 1. A person shall not engage in the practice of audiology, speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids in this State without holding a valid license issued pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.
- 2. In addition to any other penalty prescribed by law, if the Board determines that a person has engaged in the practice of audiology, speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids in this State without holding a valid license issued pursuant to the provisions of this chapter, the Board may:
  - (a) Issue and serve on the person an order to cease and desist until the person obtains from the Board the proper license or otherwise demonstrates that he or she is no longer in violation of subsection 1. An order to cease and desist must include a telephone number with which the person may contact the Board.
  - (b) Issue a citation to the person. A citation issued pursuant to this paragraph must be in writing, describe with particularity the nature of the violation and inform the person of the provisions of this paragraph. Each activity in which the person is engaged constitutes a separate offense for which a separate

- citation may be issued. To appeal a citation, the person must submit a written request for a hearing to the Board not later than 30 days after the date of issuance of the citation.
- (c) Assess against the person an administrative fine of not more than \$5,000.
- (d) Impose any combination of the penalties set forth in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c).

NRS 637B.291 Practice or offering to practice without license: Reporting requirements of Board. Unless the Board determines that extenuating circumstances exist, the Board shall forward to the appropriate law enforcement agency any substantiated information submitted to the Board concerning a person who engages in the practice of or offers to engage in the practice of audiology, speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids without the appropriate license issued pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.

NRS 637B.295 Inspection of premises by Board. A member or any agent of the Board may enter any premises in this State where a person who holds a license issued pursuant to the provisions of this chapter engages in the practice of audiology, speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids and inspect it to determine whether a violation of any provision of this chapter has occurred, including, without limitation, an inspection to determine whether any person at the premises is engaging in the practice of audiology, speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids without the appropriate license issued pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.

#### NRS 637B.310 Injunctive relief against person practicing without license.

- 1. The Board through its Chair or Vice Chair may maintain in any court of competent jurisdiction a suit for an injunction against any person engaging in the practice of audiology, speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids without a license valid under this chapter.
- 2. Such an injunction:
  - (a) May be issued without proof of actual damage sustained by any person, this provision being a preventive as well as a punitive measure.
  - (b) Shall not relieve such person from criminal prosecution for practicing without a license

NRS 637B.320 Penalty. Any person who violates any of the provisions of this chapter is guilty of a misdemeanor.



Consideration to Approve Recommendations from Advisory
Committee on Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids to Revise "Board
Policy 03 – Dispensing Examinations" to Expand Waiver of Exams for
Prior Licensee and Issue Guidance on Audiometry Outside a SoundTreated Room

a. Revision to Board Policy 03 – Dispensing Examinations to Expand Waiver of Exams for Prior Licensee
The Committee has considered several options to allow reciprocity/waiver of the dispensing exams for a HAS applicant licensed in good standing in another state. While no recommendation has been made regarding NRS or NAC revisions, the Committee recommended at its July 17, 2024 meeting that the Board consider a revision to Board Policy 03 – Dispensing Examinations to allow expand reciprocity/waiver of the exams for those who have been previously licensed in Nevada but are outside the 3 year time limit to reinstate their license.

Attachment on next page: Policy 03 - Dispensing Examinations\_V5\_7 31 2024 D R A F T

Action: Approve, Table, or Take No Action on the Matter

b. Consideration to Issue Formal Guidance Regarding Audiometry Outside a Separate Sound-Treated Room
The Board office received a request for guidance on the practice of audiometry outside a separate soundtreated room and whether it is allowable under NAC 637B.0446(1)(b) below. The Committee recommended
that the Board issue formal guidance on the interpretation of NAC 637B to state that audiometry outside a
separate sound-treated room is allowable under NAC 637B but only when using recorded voice, and with
the recommendation that the practitioner clearly document that a separate sound-treated room was not
used and why.

# NAC 637B.0446 Case history and minimum procedures required for prospective candidate for hearing aid; exception. (NRS 637B.132)

- 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, a hearing aid specialist or dispensing audiologist shall take the pertinent case history of, and perform personally the following minimum procedures bilaterally on, each prospective candidate for a hearing aid:
  - (a) Pure-tone audiometry, including air-conduction testing and bone-conduction testing through an annually calibrated system.
  - (b) Live voice audiometry, only if a separate sound-treated room is available, or recorded voice audiometry, including speech-reception threshold testing, most comfortable and uncomfortable level testing, and speech discrimination testing presented through a speech audiometer.
  - (c) When applicable, effective masking.
  - (d) Before a hearing test and an ear impression is performed, an otoscopic examination of the ear canal in which the tympanic membrane is visualized.
  - (e) After an ear impression is performed, an otoscopic examination in which the tympanic membrane is visualized.
- 2. A hearing aid specialist or dispensing audiologist shall perform each procedure set forth in subsection 1 in a proper environment to obtain accurate results.
- 3. The minimum procedures set forth in subsection 1 are not required if the person supplies the hearing aid specialist or dispensing audiologist with complete results of the required tests which have been given within the immediately preceding 6 months by a qualified tester who is licensed pursuant to the provisions of this chapter and chapter 637B of NRS.

Action: Approve, Table, or Take No Action on the Matter



# State of Nevada Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology & Hearing Aid Dispensing Board

Dispensing Examinations & Scores

V4: Revised 10.19.2022 V3: Revised 4.22.2020 V2: Revised July 2018 V1: Initiated July 2016

V5: Revised 7.31.2024

#### Background

Policy 03

NRS 637B.194(3) and NRS 637B.205(2) establish the requirement for passing an examination approved by the Board to practice the fitting and dispensing of hearing aids. NAC 637B.0373 establishes the examination as having a written and practical portion, establishes application eligibility requirements to sit for the examination, addresses retakes following failed examination attempts, and authorizes the Board to establish the passing scores.

#### **Policy**

It is the policy of the Board to evaluate the qualifications and determine the eligibility of any applicant or potential applicant for any license or endorsement of a license issued pursuant to NRS 637B.

The Board has delegated to the Executive Director the authority to evaluate the qualifications of and determine the eligibility of an applicant for any license, in accordance with the requirements established by the Board.

#### Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish the Board approved examinations, the passing score required to be achieved for an applicant as a Hearing Aid Specialist or Dispensing Audiologist and establish the process and timeline for examinations.

#### **Procedure**

Applicants must pass both the written and practical examinations as prescribed by the Board:

#### 1. Written Examination

- a. Upon receipt of application for licensure, Board staff will submit an *ILE Candidate Authorization Form* to the IHS.
- b. Candidates will receive an email from the IHS with instructions for scheduling the examination and payment of fees.
- c. The Board will accept a score of 71% or above as PASSING on the written examination.
- d. The Board may accept a passing score obtained on the ILE Examination taken within the immediately preceding 12 months per NAC 637B.0373(5).

#### 2. Practical Examination

a. Board staff will contact the practitioner to schedule the Practical Exam upon receipt of a passing score report on the ILE Written Examination from IHS.

- b. An examination will be scheduled on an individual basis in either Reno or Las Vegas with a Board-appointed proctor. Board staff will make every effort to schedule the examination in a timely manner but may be limited or delayed by proctor and/or candidate availability.
- c. Once scheduled, the candidate must pay the Practical Examination Fee prior to the scheduled exam
- d. Candidates are required to bring the following to the examination, with a more detailed list of requirements provided once the exam is scheduled:
  - 1) An audiometer; and
  - 2) An adult test subject. This individual may not be a person who would be a candidate for this examination in the foreseeable future.
- e. At the time of the examination, the proctor, candidate, and test subject must complete an *Informed Consent and Waiver of Liability* form.
- f. The Board has established a 3-hour time limit for completion of the exam.
- g. Under the authority granted in NAC 637B.0373(3) and in accordance with NRS 622.090, the Board has established a comprehensive score of 75% or above as PASSING on the Practical Examination as follows:
  - 1) Each section of the Practical Examination must be scored at 75% or higher.
  - 2) If a section is scored below 75%, the examination will be discontinued with a FAIL.
- h. An applicant who fails an examination is eligible to re-take the examination upon payment of the fee but no sooner than 30 days after the date of the previous examination, per NAC 637B.0373 and Adopted Revision LCB File R095-19 effective June 8, 2020.

#### 3. Special Circumstances

#### a. Apprentice Candidates

- 1) A HAS Apprentice may apply to convert their Apprentice license upon completion of 18 months of their apprenticeship period for purposes of scheduling and taking the written and/or practical examinations.
- 2) The written examination must be completed with a passing score prior to the scheduling of the practical examination.
- 3) The written examination must be completed with a passing score prior to the Apprentice scheduling the NBC-HIS certification examination.

#### b. Audiology Graduate Student Candidates

A graduate student in audiology may apply for licensure up to six (6) months in advance of completion of their fourth-year audiology externship in order to facilitate the scheduling of the written and practical dispensing examinations required for licensure in Nevada.

- c. Reinstatement of License or Application for Re-Licensure After Expiration of Reinstatement Period
  A Dispensing Audiologist or Hearing Aid Specialist requesting license reinstatement or applying for relicensure (having previously held a license in Nevada but past the 3 year reinstatement period) must
  retake both the written and practical examinations unless one (1) of the conditions below applies:
  - 1) They passed the examinations within the past five (5) years; OR
  - 2) They did not pass the examinations within the past five (5) years but are currently licensed and actively practicing in another state.

# Disciplinary and Administrative Matters

#### a. Case #S24-01

The Complaint alleged unprofessional conduct, practice outside the scope of a Speech-Language Pathologist, and conduct that is harmful to the public health and safety. After investigation and review of all documentation received on this complaint, it has been determined that there is insufficient evidence to file a formal complaint for hearing before the Board and the facts set forth in the accusations are insufficient to establish a violation of Chapter 637B of the Nevada Revised Statutes or the Nevada Administrative Code. This case is recommended for dismissal.

b. Case #UP24-01: Administrative Unlicensed Practice Case and License Reinstatement Application: Shelby Sands, SLP Provisional License #SP-3633 Provisional, Expired June 13, 2024

On July 24, 2024 the Board office received a Reinstatement Application from Ms. Sands for license #SP-3633 Provisional, issued 6/14/2023 and expired 6/13/2024. Ms. Sands' application affirmed that she has continued to engage in SLP practice in her employment at Summit Voice and Swallowing since her license expired, approximately 1 month 11 days.

Ms. Sands was sent license reminders directly from Board staff to an email address in her profile, since changed, on 5/1/2024, 5/30/2024, and 7/1/2024. A system-generated email reminder was also sent from the licensing database on 4/14/2024.

A Cease & Desist letter and notice of this hearing was sent to Ms. Sands via email and U.S. Postal Mail and she executed a Waiver of Notice for this meeting on 7/25/2024 per the notice requirement in the Nevada Open Meeting Law.

#### **Action:**

- 1. Take one of the following actions regarding the reinstatement application: 1) Approve; 2) Deny.
- 2. The Board may also consider a civil penalty (fine) not to exceed \$5,000 per NRS 637B.280. Our 2020 adopted revision to NAC 637B allows for the following:
  - If unauthorized practice occurred over a period of 30 days or less, not less than \$50 or more than \$200;
  - If the unauthorized practice occurred over a period of 30 days or more, not less than \$200 or more than \$5,000.

For reference, the Board heard 8 similar cases between 2020-2023 and imposed the following:

DURATION	ACTION	ADMINISTRATIVE FINE
< 30 DAYS	Reinstated without conditions	\$50
30 DAYS	Reinstated without conditions	\$200
2 MONTHS (2 cases)	Reinstated without conditions	\$200
4 MONTHS	Reinstated without conditions	\$200
6 MONTHS	Reinstated without conditions	\$300
14 MONTHS	Reinstated without conditions	\$700
2 YEARS	Reinstated with conditions: notify former employer of	\$200
	unlicensed status while practicing/billing.	\$300

#### ATTACHMENT(S):

1. License Reinstatement Packet - Sands



#### State of Nevada

#### Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology & Hearing Aid Dispensing Board

6170 Mae Anne Avenue, Suite 1, Reno, NV 89523 (775) 787-3421 / Fax (775) 746-4105 www.nvspeechhearing.org Email board@nvspeechhearing.org

July 25, 2024

Shelby Sands 326 Claremont Street Reno, NV 89523 CERTIFIED MAIL

Via Email: shelby@summitvoiceandswallowing.com

RE: License #SP-3633 Provisional (Expired)

**Notice to Cease and Desist** 

Dear Ms. Sands,

On July 24, 2024 this office received a Reinstatement Application from you for license #SP-3633 Provisional, issued 6/14/23 and expired 6/13/2024. Your reinstatement application lists your current employment at Summit Voice and Swallowing since July 2023 and affirms that you continued to practice as a Speech-Language Pathologist after your license expired.

Our records indicate that you were sent license reminders directly from Board staff to an email address in your profile, since changed, on 5/1/2024, 5/30/2024, and 7/1/2024. A system-generated email reminder was also sent to you from our licensing database on 4/14/2024.

Failing to renew your license on time and continuing to engage in private practice as an unlicensed Speech-Language Pathologist suggests violation of the following Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing laws and regulations:

#### Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS)

#### NRS 637B.290 Practice without license: Prohibition; penalties.

- A person shall not engage in the practice of audiology, speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids in this State without holding a valid license issued pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.
- 2. In addition to any other penalty prescribed by law, if the Board determines that a person has engaged in the practice of audiology, speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids in this State without holding a valid license issued pursuant to the provisions of this chapter, the Board may: (a) Issue and serve on the person an order to cease and desist until the person obtains from the Board the proper license or otherwise demonstrates that he or she is no longer in violation.

#### NRS 637B.310 Injunctive relief against person practicing without license.

- 1. The Board through its Chair or Vice Chair may maintain in any court of competent jurisdiction a suit for an injunction against any person engaging in the practice of audiology, speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids without a license valid under this chapter.
- 2. Such an injunction:
  - (a) May be issued without proof of actual damage sustained by any person, this provision

being a preventive as well as a punitive measure.

(b) Shall not relieve such person from criminal prosecution for practicing without a license.

#### NRS 637B.320 Penalty.

Any person who violates any of the provisions of this chapter is guilty of a misdemeanor.

You are hereby ordered to Cease and Desist the private practice of Speech-Language Pathology until the Board considers your License Reinstatement Application.

You are hereby given notice of the Board's intent to consider your character, alleged misconduct, professional competence, or health at its next meeting on Wednesday, July 31, 2024 at 4:30pm Pacific.

The meeting is a public meeting, and you are welcome to attend. The Board may go into closed session to consider the following general topics: your License Reinstatement Application and any alleged unlicensed practice you engaged in between June 2024 and July 2024.

You are welcome to attend the closed session, have an attorney or other representative of your choosing present during the closed meeting, present written evidence, provide testimony, and present witnesses relating to your character, alleged misconduct, professional competence, or physical or mental health.

You may appear at the meeting in person or via teleconference, but your attendance is not required for the Board to consider the matter. The meeting will be physically hosted from the Board office at 6170 Mae Anne Avenue, Suite 1, Reno, NV 89523, and accessible live via Zoom teleconference.

A copy of the meeting agenda will be sent to you no less than three days prior to the meeting with the teleconference details.

A copy of this letter is being mailed to you via U.S. Postal Mail and electronic mail with a Waiver of Notice enclosed for you to sign and return immediately in order for your case to be placed on the Board's agenda, in accordance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law (NRS 241.033(1), which requires that a "public body shall not hold a meeting to consider the character, alleged misconduct, professional competence, or physical or mental health of any person, unless it has given written notice to that person of the time and place of the meeting." Such written notice must either be (a) delivered personally to that person at least seven (7) calendar days before the meeting, or (b) sent by certified mail to the last known address of that person at least fourteen (14) working days before the meeting."

Should the Board not receive your *Waiver of Notice* your Reinstatement Application may not be included on the July 31, 2024 meeting agenda.

Pursuant to NRS 637B.290, the Board may take any of the following actions in consideration of your application:

# NRS 637B.280 Authority of Board to take disciplinary or other action; private reprimands prohibited; orders imposing discipline deemed public records.

- 1. If, after notice and a hearing as required by law, the Board determines that the applicant or licensee has committed any act which constitutes grounds for disciplinary action, the Board may, in the case of the applicant, refuse to issue a license, and in all other cases:
  - (a) Refuse to renew a license;
  - (b) Revoke a license;
  - (c) Suspend a license;

- (d) Administer to the licensee a public reprimand;
- (e) Impose conditions on the practice of the licensee;
- (f) Impose a civil penalty not to exceed \$5,000 for each act constituting grounds for disciplinary action; or
- (g) Impose any combination of the disciplinary actions described in paragraphs (a) to (f), inclusive.
- 2. The Board shall not administer a private reprimand.
- 3. An order that imposes discipline and the findings of fact and conclusions of law supporting that order are public records.
  - (Added to NRS by 1979, 1257; A 2003, 3453; 2005, 776; 2015, 2309)

#### NRS 637B.290 Practice without license: Prohibition; penalties.

- 1. A person shall not engage in the practice of audiology, speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids in this State without holding a valid license issued pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.
- 2. In addition to any other penalty prescribed by law, if the Board determines that a person has engaged in the practice of audiology, speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids in this State without holding a valid license issued pursuant to the provisions of this chapter, the Board may:
  - (a) Issue and serve on the person an order to cease and desist until the person obtains from the Board the proper license or otherwise demonstrates that he or she is no longer in violation of subsection 1. An order to cease and desist must include a telephone number with which the person may contact the Board.
  - (b) Issue a citation to the person. A citation issued pursuant to this paragraph must be in writing, describe with particularity the nature of the violation and inform the person of the provisions of this paragraph. Each activity in which the person is engaged constitutes a separate offense for which a separate citation may be issued. To appeal a citation, the person must submit a written request for a hearing to the Board not later than 30 days after the date of issuance of the citation.
  - (c) Assess against the person an administrative fine of not more than \$5,000.
  - (d) Impose any combination of the penalties set forth in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c).

If you have any questions regarding this process, please feel free to contact the Board office at (775) 787-3421 or board@nvspeechhearing.org.

Your prompt attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

JeWnifer R. Pierce, Executive Director

Nevada Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Board

cc: Henna Rasul, State of Nevada, Senior Deputy Attorney General; Counsel to the Board



#### State of Nevada

### Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology & Hearing Aid Dispensing Board

6170 Mae Anne Avenue, Suite 1, Reno, NV 89523 (775) 787-3421 / Fax (775) 746-4105 www.nvspeechhearing.org Email board@nvspeechhearing.org

License Reinstate	ment Application
License Number: SP-3633 Provisional	Date Expired: 6/13/2024
Speech-Language Pathologist A	udiologist Dispensing Audiologist
	earing Aid Specialist Apprentice
Applicant Information	
Legal Name: Shelby Jeanne Sands	
	· \
Former name (if applicable):	(Please attach legal proof of name change)
	il Address: shelby@summitvoiceandswallowing.com
Mailing Address: 326 Claremont Street Rer	10 Nevada 89502
Primary Phone: (775 )815-0883 Se	condary Phone: ()
<b>Explanation of Reinstatement Request</b>	
Have you practiced in Nevada or treated a person res	iding in Nevada since your license expired?
Prince Control	explanation of the reasons and/or circumstances
your license was not renewed	on time. Please note that your application may
require further review by the	Board.
Employment Information Update (last 3 years)	
Employer: Summit Voice and Swallowing	
Address: 6630 S McCarran Blvd Building	And the second s
Start Date: July 2023 End Date: Prese	
Title: Speech Language Pathologist	Employee Self-Employed Contractor Other
	Other
Employer: Rosewood Rehabilitation Cent	er
Address: 2045 Silverada Blvd, Reno, NV	89512
Start Date: June 2023 End Date: Prese	nt
Dor Diem Chasal Dellada	Employee Self-Employed Contractor Other
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
Employer:	
Address:	
Start Date: End Date:	Full Time Part Time Other
Title:	mployee Self-Employed Contractor Cother

■ ASHA □ ABA □ NBC-	HIS	Number: <u>14481098</u>		Expiration: 12/3	1/2025
Licensing History Update			Please list ALL cu	rrent/expired licer	nses held
License Type	State	License #	Date Issued	Date Exp	oired
Speech Language Pathologist	NV (	SP-3633 Provisional	6/14/2023	6/13/2	024
				<u> </u>	
Name on business lice Business License #:  I do NOT have a Neva  Child Support Information  I am not subject to a court o order or am in complian enforcing the order for t	da busines urt order fo rder for th ce with a p	Require or the support of a child ne support of one or mo	ore children and a strict attorney or	m in compliance other public age	with tl
I am subject to a court o with the order or a plan for the repayment of the	approved	by the district attorney	or other public a		
Legal Information		Requir	es a response to the	most appropriat	e answe
Since the date of your last apples and actions taken against yo				ary actions or	☐ Ye
Are there any pending legal a	ctions, cor	nplaints, investigations	, or hearings in pr	ocess?	☐ Y
Since the date of your last appetration description or registration description descriptio				cense,	☐ Y
Since the date of your last appressigned a position or been fi				sibilities,	Y
Since the date of your last apply nolo contendere to, a violation law of a foreign country? (Exception)	n of ANÝ f	ederal or state statute,	city or county or	linance, or any	Y

If you answered "yes" to any question above, please attach a written explanation of the incident with supporting documentation. Please note that your application may require further review by the Board.

#### **Continuing Education Information**

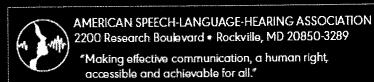
Certification Verification

List dates of completion, course(s), and CE hours completed in the previous 12 months. If dual licensed, check applicable license for CE credit. Requires a minimum of 10 hours for all license types:

- At least 1 of the 10 hours must relate to ethics, cultural competence, cultural humility, culturally responsive practices or diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- If a dispensing audiologist, at least 3 of the 10 annual hours must relate directly to the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids.

	Course	CE Hou
May 2024	Hometown Health Cultural Competency Course 2024	1
6/17/24	SPEAK OUT! Therapy for Parkinson's: SLP licensing Course	10.5
8/21/23	PhoRTE™ Voice Therapy: An On-Demand How-To Workshop for the Speech-Language Pathologist	6.5
***************************************		
		THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NOT THE OWNER.
knowledge	ment and Declaration of Applicant	
tice of Mand	ment and Declaration of Applicant  latory Reporting: Speech-Language Pathologist & Audiologist Only  acknowledge I have been informed of my duty as a mandatory reporter of ab eglect of a child pursuant to NRS 432B. (HAS & HAS-A please enter N/A)	ouse or
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initial neclare, under e, accurate a evant to my	latory Reporting: Speech-Language Pathologist & Audiologist Only acknowledge I have been informed of my duty as a mandatory reporter of ab eglect of a child pursuant to NRS 432B. (HAS & HAS-A please enter N/A)  penalty of perjury, all the information supplied herein is to the best of my kn nd complete and I have not withheld, misrepresented, or falsely stated any in training or experience or my fitness to practice audiology or speech pathology  Date	owledge oformation

☐ License Verification ☐ Continuing Education



**Shelby Sands** 

Affiliation Status: Member Certification Status: CCC-SLP

14481098

12/31/2025

Account Number

Valid Through

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Chief Executive Officer

ASHA Membership offers many benefits including discounts on Annual Convention, Workshops, Seminars, and Subscriptions.

Visit asha.org/members/benefits to access all of your ASHA member benefits including:

- Professional Consultation
- Continuing Education
- . Money Saving Discounts
- Career Building Resources
- Online Professional Communities

For information, call the Action Center 800-498-2071 or Visit the ASHA website www.asha.org

Verify your certification at www.asha.org/certification



#### **ASHA National Office**

2200 Research Boulevard Rockville, MD 20850-3289 800-498-2071

www.asha.org

Email: concerns@asha.org

Shelby J Sands
326 Claremont Street
Reno NV 89502
shelby@summitvoiceandswallowing.com
775-815-0883

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

Dear Members of the Board,

I am writing to request the reinstatement of my Speech Pathologist License for the state of Nevada. Unfortunately, my license has lapsed, and I sincerely apologize for this oversight.

The reason for the lapse is that I began my clinical fellowship at Rosewood Rehabilitation Center in June 2023 and quickly transitioned to Summit Voice and Swallowing to continue my clinical fellowship with a new supervisor in July 2023. This transition led me to mistakenly believe that my license renewal was due in July of this year. I feel absolutely terrible about this oversight, as I love my job as a Speech-Language Pathologist and am dedicated to providing the best care for my patients.

As this was my first year under a provisional license, I was unfamiliar with the exact renewal schedule and inadvertently missed the deadline. I understand the importance of maintaining an active license and assure you that this lapse was unintentional. I have taken immediate steps to ensure that such an oversight does not occur in the future, including setting multiple reminders and closely monitoring my professional requirements.

I kindly ask for your understanding and consideration in this matter and request that my license be reinstated as soon as possible so I can continue to provide care to my patients without interruption.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Shelby J Sands



# **Executive Director's Report**

Please see the Written Executive Director's Report.

#### Attachments on next page:

- 1. ED Report 4 24 2024
- 2. FY24 Q4/End of Year Financial Reports

Action: Approve, Table, or Take No Action on the Matter



# State of Nevada Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology & Hearing Aid Dispensing Board 6170 Mae Anne Avenue, Suite 1, Reno, NV 89523 (775) 787-3421 / Fax (775) 746-4105 www.nvspeechhearing.org Email board@nvspeechhearing.org

#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

July 31, 2024

#### a. Licensure Statistics

The following chart provides licensing statistics for the period April 1, 2024 through June 30, 2024 with a <u>net increase of 70 licenses</u>), a 4.39% increase from the prior quarter. This increase is slightly lower than FY23 Q4 but comparable to most years, when the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter sees the largest increase, likely due to the timing of graduations.

Description	Total Licensees	Speech Pathologists	Audiologists	Dispensing Audiologists	Hearing Aid Specialists	Apprentices
Mar 31, 2024	1,594	1318	69	108	87	12
Issued	118	103	3	3	5	4
Expired	48	40	2	5	1	0
June 30, 2024	1,664	1,381	70	106	91	16
Net Change	+70	+63	+1	-2	+4	+4
	+4.39%	+4.78%	+1%	-2%	+5%	+33%

#### b. FY24 Q4/End of Year3 Financial Report

The FY24 Q4/End of Year Financial Summary is attached for the Board's review, with both income and expenses ending slightly higher than budgeted at 101% and 102% respectively, but only resulting in a net income of -\$1,025.15, a welcome result given the increase in several expenses and the significant cost of legal fees incurred over the year.

#### Profit and Loss Through Q4

• Total Revenue: \$221,203.83 Percent of Budget: 101%

This is an increase of over \$16,000 in revenue from the FY23 total of 204,655.94.

• Deferred Revenue: \$90,523.56

Total Expenses: \$222,228.98 Percent of Budget: 102.03%

Net Income: -\$1,025.15

#### **FY24 Q4 Balance Sheet**

Total Cash Assets: \$230,445.54Total Liabilities: \$121,172.09

Total Equity: \$119,691.71 (Decrease of \$461.53 from last quarter; Decrease of \$1,025.15 from FY23 Q4)

#### **FY24 Q4 Deviations from Budget**

Q4 included \$6,000 in new expenses for lobbying services, an increase in bookkeeping/payroll services, and higher than normal Board compensation expenses due to more frequent meetings of the SLP Subcommittee. In year-end calculations, insurance costs increased, and legal fees were significantly over budget due to complaint cases for which repayment of legal fees is expected per a long-term payment plan.

#### c. Update on NAC 637B Regulation Changes

As reported via email, the Board's most recent revision effort, R108-23: Revision to NAC Chapter 637B, was approved by the Legislative Commission on June 18, 2024, and was filed and took June 20, 2024, making the following changes to NAC 637B:

- Increases the hearing aid dispensing practical examination fee from \$200 to \$250.
- Eliminates the requirement for a Reinstatement Application to include certification by AAA, ASHA, or NBC-HIS.
- Authorizes the Board, to approve and accept a passing score on the written hearing aid dispensing examination taken within the past 24 months (extended from 12).
- Allows the Board to provide by mail or email any notice to a licensee that is required by law or regulation.
- Eliminates the provision that the Board will maintain a list of approved programs of academic training for Hearing Aid Specialist Apprentices.
- Makes a conforming change to refer to an unlicensed assistant rather than an office assistant, aide, or technician.
- Amends/expands the duties that may be delegated by a hearing aid specialist or dispensing audiologist to an unlicensed assistant.
- Eliminates obsolete references to the repealed federal regulation regarding medical evaluation or waiver for hearing aids.
- Repeals the requirement that all formal written communications and documents be addressed to the Board and not to individual members of the Board or its staff.

Additionally, NAC revisions previously approved and in effect from prior years have new been codified into NAC Chapter 637B and are fully integrated as follows:

#### **R064-21.** *Effective June 13, 2022.*

Reduced required continuing education hours for license renewal from 15 hours to 10 hours, with at least 1 of the 10 hours relating to ethics, cultural competence, cultural humility, culturally responsive practices or diversity, equity and inclusion. For Dispensing audiologists at least 3 of the 10 hours must directly relate to the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids.

#### **R095-19.** *Effective June 8, 2020.*

- Clarifies existing NRS language regarding the exemption from licensure by defining "practice within scope of credential" issued by the Department of Education.
- Establishes parameters from NRS for issuing citations to cease and desist and assessing administrative fines for violation of law for practicing without a valid license or endorsement, as well as a waiver of an administrative fine for "good cause".
- Grants the Board authority to consider requiring applicants take and pass a Jurisprudence Examination as a condition for initial license or reinstatement of an expired license.
- Establishes a 30-day waiting period between attempts for the hearing aid dispensing practical examination.
- Allows an individual who wishes to reinstate and Apprentice license credit for up to two (2) years
  of in-service training completed during the initial license period.
- Clarifies existing regulation language to require that a sponsor and an apprentice shall have the same employer.

#### d. Board Member Appointments/Reappointments

Name	Credential/Role	Location	Term	Term Expires	Eligible for Reappointment
Andrea Menicucci	SLP/Board Chair	Reno	2	7/1/2024	No
Timothy Hunsaker	AuD-D/Board Vice Chair	Las Vegas	2	7/1/2025	No
Lynee Anderson	BC-HIS	Reno	1	7/1/2024	Yes
Shawn Binn	SLP	Reno	1	9/30/2026	Yes
Jennifer Joy-Cornejo	AuD-D	Las Vegas	1	9/30/2026	Yes
Branden Murphy	Public Member	Las Vegas	1	11/30/2026	Yes
Adrienne Williams	SLP	Las Vegas	1	7/1/2025	Yes

Andrea Menicucci's second term expired on 7/1/2024 but she has graciously offered to remain on until a new member is appointed. We have been in touch with the Governor's Office who has received and is vetting several applications. Once a new member is appointed, the Board will be tasked with electing a new Chair and Vice Chair and appointing financial signatories. Lynee Anderson's first term also expired 7/1/2024 and she has applied for and is awaiting notice of reappointment.

#### e. Complaints

There were **two** open complaint cases following the April 2024 meeting, and no new complaints have been received. **One open** case is scheduled to be presented in this meeting with a recommendation for dismissal, and if approved, **one open case** will remain.

The Board received no reports of unlicensed practice since the April 2024 meeting.

### **BEASP**

# Profit Loss Budget vs. Actual July 2023 through June 2024

	Approved Budget	Actuals July 23 - June 24	Remaining Balance	% of Budget Spent
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
Fees	41,832.00	37,750.00	4,082.00	90.24%
License Fees	167,122.80	168,311.92	-1,189.12	100.71%
Fines	0.00	7,603.36	-7,603.36	100.00%
Exams, List and Interest	10,050.42	7,538.55	2,511.87	75.01%
Total Income	219,005.22	221,203.83	-2,198.61	101.00%
Expense				
Personnel Cost	162,922.53	162,618.77	303.76	99.81%
Attorney General / Legal Fees	8,000.00	11,032.47	-3,032.47	137.91%
Audit Fees	15,000.00	10,000.00	5,000.00	66.67%
Bank Service Charges	4,600.00	5,267.15	-667.15	114.50%
Board Compensation	2,925.00	3,525.00	-600.00	120.51%
Dues	550.00	552.50	-2.50	100.46%
Equipment Purchase	500.00	331.68	168.32	66.34%
Examinations	4,240.00	2,939.64	1,300.36	69.33%
Insurance	1,350.00	1,618.59	-268.59	119.90%
Licensing Program Subscription	7,650.00	7,491.64	158.36	97.93%
Meeting Expenses	100.00	0.00	100.00	0.00%
Office Lease	3,400.00	2,925.72	474.28	86.05%
Office Supplies	750.00	246.62	503.38	32.88%
Postage	400.00	400.34	-0.34	100.09%
Printing	200.00	0.00	200.00	0.00%
Professional Fees				
Investigation Fees	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00%
Accounting	3,000.00	3,150.00	-150.00	105.00%
Lobbyist	0.00	9,000.00	-9,000.00	100.00%
IT / Technical Support	500.00	265.00	235.00	53.00%
Total Professional Fees	4,500.00	12,415.00	-7,915.00	275.89%
Telephone	525.00	863.86	-338.86	164.55%
Travel				
In-state Travel	200.00	0.00	200.00	0.00%
Out of State Travel	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
Total Travel	200.00	0.00	200.00	0.00%
Total Expense	217,812.53	222,228.98	-4,416.45	102.03%
Net Ordinary Income	1,192.69	-1,025.15	2,217.84	-85.95%
ncome	1,192.69	-1,025.15	2,217.84	-85.95%

### **BEASP**

### Balance Sheet As of June 30, 2024

	June 30, 2024
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Wells Fargo Bank - Checking	127,475.16
Wells Fargo Bank - Savings	102,970.38
Total Checking/Savings	230,445.54
Other Current Assets	
Accounts Receivable	5,739.66
Prepaid Expenses	2,837.62
Total Other Current Assets	8,577.28
Fixed Assets	
Capital Assets	1,840.98
Total Fixed Assets	1,840.98
TOTAL ASSETS	240,863.80
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
Accounts Payable	3,766.30
Total Accounts Payable	3,766.30
Other Current Liabilities	
Deferred Revenue	95,911.64
Paid Time Off	15,352.61
Payroll Liabilities	5,732.59
Payroll Tax Liability	408.95
Total Other Current Liabilities	117,405.79
30000 00000 00000 000000000000000000000	,
Total Current Liabilities	121,172.09
Total Liabilities	121,172.09
Equity	
Invested in Capital Assets	1,840.98
Retained Earnings	118,875.88
Net Income	-1,025.15
Total Equity	119,691.71
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	240,863.80

Туре	Date N	lum	Name	Memo	Amount
Wells Fargo Bank - Che	cking				
Deposit	04/01/2024			Deposit	2,225.00
Check	04/02/2024 183	34	Attorney General	Legal fees	-989.35
Check	04/02/2024 183	35	Numbers, Inc.	Bookkeeping services	-900.00
Deposit	04/02/2024			Deposit	775.00
Deposit	04/03/2024			Deposit	600.00
Check	04/04/2024		AT&T	Telephone expense	-27.87
Deposit	04/04/2024			Deposit	425.00
Deposit	04/05/2024			Deposit	300.00
Deposit	04/06/2024			Deposit	350.00
Deposit	04/07/2024			Deposit	100.00
Check	04/08/2024 183	36	International Hearing Society	Exam materials	-621.14
Check	04/08/2024 183	37	Board of Occupational Therapy	Postage reimbursement	-44.60
Check	04/08/2024		Wells Fargo	Postage	-17.46
Deposit	04/08/2024			Deposit	400.00
Deposit	04/08/2024			Deposit	306.85
Deposit	04/09/2024			Deposit	575.00
Liability Check	04/10/2024		QuickBooks Payroll Service	Payroll expense	-4,361.32
Check	04/10/2024			Merchant fees	-293.35
Deposit	04/10/2024			Deposit	1,150.00
Paycheck	04/11/2024 DD	1326	Jennifer Pierce	Direct Deposit	0.00
Paycheck	04/11/2024 DD	1327	Stacey Whittaker	Direct Deposit	0.00
Paycheck	04/11/2024 DD	1328	Thomas D Sharkey	Direct Deposit	0.00
Check	04/11/2024 AC	Н	Voya	Payroll expense	-401.60
Deposit	04/11/2024			Deposit	275.00
Check	04/11/2024 AC	Н	Tim Hunsaker	Board compensation	-75.00
Check	04/11/2024 AC	Н	Lynee Anderson V	Board compensation	-75.00
Check	04/11/2024 AC	Н	Jennifer Joy-Cornejo	Board compensation	-75.00
Deposit	04/12/2024			Deposit	700.00
Deposit	04/13/2024			Deposit	100.00
Deposit	04/14/2024			Deposit	400.00
Deposit	04/15/2024			Deposit	1,025.00
Deposit	04/17/2024			Deposit	500.00
Deposit	04/18/2024			Deposit	250.00
Deposit	04/19/2024			Deposit	250.00
Deposit	04/20/2024			Deposit	325.00
Deposit	04/21/2024			Deposit	100.00
Deposit	04/22/2024			Deposit	575.00
Deposit	04/23/2024			Deposit	700.00
Liability Check	04/24/2024		QuickBooks Payroll Service	Payroll expense	-4,283.44
Deposit	04/24/2024			Deposit	425.00
Paycheck	04/25/2024 DD	1329	Jennifer Pierce	Direct Deposit	0.00
Paycheck	04/25/2024 DD	1330	Stacey Whittaker	Direct Deposit	0.00
Liability Check	04/25/2024 E-p	ay	US Treasury	Payroll expense	-3,000.40

Check	04/25/2024 ACH	Voya	Payroll expense	-401.60
Deposit	04/25/2024		Deposit	1,050.00
Check	04/25/2024 ACH	Lynee Anderson V	Board compensation	-75.00
Check	04/25/2024 ACH	Adrienne Williams V	Board compensation	<b>-</b> 75.00
Check	04/25/2024 ACH	Branden Murphy	Board compensation	-75.00
Check	04/25/2024 ACH	Tim Hunsaker	Board compensation	-75.00
Check	04/25/2024 ACH	Jennifer Joy-Cornejo	Board compensation	-75.00
Check	04/25/2024 ACH	Shawn Binn V	Board compensation	<b>-</b> 75.00
Deposit	04/26/2024		Deposit	725.00
Deposit	04/27/2024		Deposit	700.00
Deposit	04/28/2024		Deposit	250.00
Deposit	04/29/2024		Deposit	750.00
Deposit	04/30/2024		Deposit	925.00
Deposit	04/30/2024		Interest	0.92
Check	04/30/2024	Wells Fargo	Merchant fees	-378.29
Deposit	05/01/2024		Deposit	550.00
Deposit	05/02/2024		Deposit	1,625.00
Check	05/02/2024 1838	Attorney General	Legal fees	-439.71
Check	05/02/2024 1839	Strategies 360	Lobbyist	-3,000.00
Deposit	05/03/2024		Deposit	1,200.00
Deposit	05/04/2024		Deposit	400.00
Deposit	05/05/2024		Deposit	450.00
Deposit	05/06/2024		Deposit	1,025.00
Check	05/06/2024	AT&T	Telephone expense	-27.87
Check	05/06/2024	Tim Hunsaker	Exam proctor	-200.00
Deposit	05/07/2024		Deposit	1,025.00
Check	05/07/2024 1840	Greenbrae Trophy	Service award	-85.00
Liability Check	05/08/2024	QuickBooks Payroll Service	Payroll expense	-4,283.44
Deposit	05/08/2024		Deposit	1,650.00
Paycheck	05/09/2024 DD1332	Stacey Whittaker	Direct Deposit	0.00
Paycheck	05/09/2024 DD1331	Jennifer Pierce	Direct Deposit	0.00
Check	05/09/2024 ACH	Voya	Payroll expense	-401.60
Deposit	05/09/2024		Deposit	875.00
Deposit	05/10/2024		Deposit	1,900.00
Check	05/10/2024	Wells Fargo	SSL certificate, postage, backg	-248.50
Deposit	05/11/2024		Deposit	600.00
Deposit	05/12/2024		Deposit	400.00
Deposit	05/13/2024		Deposit	975.00
Deposit	05/14/2024		Deposit	1,750.00
Deposit	05/15/2024		Deposit	1,200.00
Deposit	05/16/2024		Deposit	600.00
Deposit	05/17/2024		Deposit	325.00
Deposit	05/18/2024		Deposit	200.00
Deposit	05/19/2024		Deposit	725.00
Deposit	05/20/2024		Deposit	700.00

Deposit	05/21/2024		Deposit	1,475.00
Check	05/21/2024	Andrea Menicucci V	Board compensation	-75.00
Check	05/21/2024	Adrienne Williams	Board compensation	-75.00
Check	05/21/2024	Shawn Binn	Board compensation	-75.00
Check	05/21/2024	Branden Murphy	Board compensation	-75.00
Liability Check	05/22/2024	QuickBooks Payroll Service	Payroll expense	-4,283.43
Deposit	05/22/2024		Deposit	1,525.00
Paycheck	05/23/2024 DD1334	Stacey Whittaker	Direct Deposit	0.00
Paycheck	05/23/2024 DD1333	Jennifer Pierce	Direct Deposit	0.00
Liability Check	05/23/2024 E-pay	US Treasury	Payroll expense	-2,988.18
Check	05/23/2024	Voya	Payroll expense	-401.60
Deposit	05/23/2024		Deposit	650.00
Deposit	05/24/2024		Deposit	1,250.00
Deposit	05/25/2024		Deposit	950.00
Deposit	05/26/2024		Deposit	100.00
Deposit	05/27/2024		Deposit	300.00
Deposit	05/28/2024		Deposit	850.00
Check	05/28/2024 1841	Legislative Counsel Bureau	Envelopes	-62.40
Deposit	05/29/2024		Deposit	975.00
Deposit	05/29/2024		Deposit	2,575.00
Check	05/30/2024	Tim Hunsaker	Exam Proctor	-100.00
Deposit	05/31/2024		Deposit	1,475.00
Check	05/31/2024	Wells Fargo	Merchant fees	-638.65
Deposit	05/31/2024		Interest	0.99
Deposit	06/01/2024		Deposit	200.00
Deposit	06/02/2024		Deposit	400.00
Deposit	06/03/2024		Deposit	1,200.00
Check	06/03/2024		Service Charge	-0.06
Deposit	06/04/2024		Deposit	700.00
Check	06/04/2024 1842	Attorney General	Legal fees	-785.20
Check	06/04/2024 1843	Strategies 360	Lobbyist	-3,000.00
Liability Check	06/05/2024	QuickBooks Payroll Service	Payroll expense	-4,283.44
Deposit	06/05/2024		Deposit	1,050.00
Paycheck	06/06/2024 DD1336	Stacey Whittaker	Direct Deposit	0.00
Paycheck	06/06/2024 DD1335	Jennifer Pierce	Direct Deposit	0.00
Check	06/06/2024	Voya	Payroll expense	-401.60
Deposit	06/06/2024		Deposit	1,375.00
Check	06/06/2024	AT&T	Telephone expense	-27.87
Deposit	06/07/2024		Deposit	275.00
Deposit	06/08/2024		Deposit	25.00
Deposit	06/09/2024		Deposit	200.00
Deposit	06/10/2024		Deposit	750.00
Deposit	06/11/2024		Deposit	475.00
Deposit	06/12/2024		Deposit	2,100.00
Deposit	06/13/2024		Deposit	650.00

	Deposit	06/14/2024		Deposit	550.00
	Deposit	06/15/2024		Deposit	25.00
	Deposit	06/16/2024		Deposit	200.00
	Deposit	06/17/2024		Deposit	1,100.00
	Deposit	06/18/2024		Deposit	1,200.00
	Deposit	06/19/2024		Deposit	600.00
	Paycheck	06/20/2024 DD1338	Stacey Whittaker	Direct Deposit	0.00
	Paycheck	06/20/2024 DD1337	Jennifer Pierce	Direct Deposit	0.00
	Paycheck	06/20/2024 DD1339	Thomas D Sharkey	Direct Deposit	0.00
	Liability Check	06/20/2024	QuickBooks Payroll Service	Payroll expense	-4,361.32
	Liability Check	06/20/2024 E-pay	US Treasury	Payroll expense	-3,000.40
	Check	06/20/2024	Voya	Payroll expense	-401.60
	Deposit	06/20/2024		Deposit	1,150.00
	Check	06/20/2024	Tim Hunsaker	Exam proctor	-100.00
	Deposit	06/21/2024		Deposit	1,650.00
	Deposit	06/21/2024		Deposit	50.00
	Deposit	06/23/2024		Deposit	300.00
	Deposit	06/24/2024		Deposit	1,050.00
	Deposit	06/25/2024		Deposit	1,075.00
	Check	06/25/2024	Andrea Menicucci	Board compensation	-75.00
	Check	06/25/2024	Adrienne Williams	Board compensation	-75.00
	Check	06/25/2024	Shawn Binn	Board compensation	-75.00
	Check	06/25/2024	Branden Murphy	Board compensation	-75.00
	Deposit	06/26/2024		Deposit	850.00
	Check	06/26/2024 1844	Rita Flores	Refund - app withdrawn	-75.00
	Deposit	06/27/2024		Deposit	350.00
	Deposit	06/28/2024		Deposit	975.00
	Deposit	06/29/2024		Deposit	100.00
	Deposit	06/30/2024		Deposit	250.00
	General Journal	06/30/2024 Merch		June merchant fees	-488.40
	Deposit	06/30/2024		Interest	1.02
Total We	ells Fargo Bank - (	Checking			17,329.09



# FY24 LCB Audit Election Form and Review & Approval as Needed of FY25 Budget

NRS 218G.400 requires the Board to be audited annually or biennially by a certified public accountant or public accountant, or alternative submission of a balance sheet if revenue from all sources is less than \$200,000 for any fiscal year. These reports are due by December 1 each year. The Board's revenue for FY24 exceeded \$221,000, requiring an audit.

For its FY23 audit, the Board contracted with Coulson & Associates, though they are no longer taking on audit work. Purchasing rules allow the Board to hire a CPA firm for this purpose without an RFP/competitive process, and we have been in contact with Connie Christiansen, CPA, CFE of Christiansen Accounting Network, who provided an estimated quote for single year audit to cost \$10,500 and a biennial audit to cost \$12,750.

Given the small difference in the two and resulting cost savings for FY25, it would benefit the Board to pursue a biennial audit for FY25 & FY25. LCB has confirmed that the Board is eligible to elect this option with the audit not due until December 2025. Should the Board approve this option, a draft contract will be brought to a future meeting for review and approval.

The FY25 budget last approved 4/24/2024 is also presented to provide the Board with a picture of the impact of a biennial audit in the FY25 budget and anticipated FY26 budget. No changes are currently requested, but the item was agendized to include approval revisions if needed.

#### Attachments on next page:

- 1. LCB Audit Election Form
- 2. FY25 Budget\_ Adjusted for Review 7/31/2024

Action: Approve, Table, or Take No Action on the Matter

# LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL BUREAU AUDIT DIVISION

# AUDITS OF CERTAIN BOARDS FINANCIAL REPORTING ELECTION FORM

	Please indicate to us by checking the box below	if your board plans to have an audit or	
will be	e submitting a balance sheet on a form provided by	the Legislative Auditor. Please	
respond	nd by <b>8/1/2024</b> .		
	Annual audit.		
X	Biennial audit.		
	Annual balance sheet on a form provided by Leg	sislative Auditor (Revenues less than	
	\$200,000).		
	Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology name. & Hearing Aid Dispensing Board		
Board 1	name: & Hearing Aid Dispensing Board	Date:	
Form c	completed by:	Title:	
Signatu	ure:		
-			
For all	udit staff only:		
	•		
	Board is compliant with NRS 218G.400.		
	Board is compliant with NRS 622.100.		
	Received evidence (minutes, etc) that the decisio	n to change the financial reporting	
	was approved by the Board of Directors. Request	t from the Executive Director is not	
	sufficient.		

				St	ate of	f Nevada			
		Speech-Languag	p Pat				ring	Aid Disnens	sing Roard
		FY25 BUDGET [				· ·			
		F123 BODGET [A	APPROVI	D 1/24/2024	NE VISE	D/APPROVED 4/	24/202	24   FUR REVIEW	1/51/2024  
REVENUE			FY25	APPROVED	FY2	5 ADJUSTED	FY26	ANTICIPATED	
Fees	New apps; late renewals		\$	41,832.00	\$	41,832.00	\$	41,832.00	Same as FY24 Estimate
License Fees	New; renewals; reinstate; conversions		\$ 167,122.80		\$	167,122.80	\$	167,122.80	Same as FY24 Estimate
Exams, List, Interest Exams; lists; verifications; interest			\$	10,050.42	\$	10,050.42	\$	10,050.42	Same as FY24 Estimate
Total Revenue				219,005.22	\$	219,005.22	\$	219,005.22	
EXPENSES	FY25 CURR			ROVED	FY2	5 ADJUSTED	FY26	ANTICIPATED	Expense Narrative
Personnel/Payroll			\$	164,602.96	\$	164,602.96	\$	164,602.96	
	Executive Director	\$ 101,012.91			\$	-	\$	-	No change; remain at full-time hours in lieu of COLA increase.
	Licensing Coordinator	\$ 40,448.38			\$	-	\$	-	4% COLA increase (\$1,555.71) per AB522, effective 7/1/2024.
	Investigator	\$ 3,000.00			\$	-	\$	-	
	Payroll Taxes	\$ 11,000.00			\$	-	\$	-	Change per COLA increase.
	Deferred Comp	\$ 9,141.67			\$	-	\$	-	ED Salary @ 9.05%. No change.
	Direct Deposit Fees	\$ -			\$	-	\$	-	Previously \$328 annually (\$4.00 per DD (JP/SW @ 52 = \$208; Investigator @ 30 = \$120)
Legal Fees	Attorney General		\$	8,000.00	\$	8,000.00	\$	8,000.00	Est \$154.36/hr: 9 mtgs @ 2 hrs ea= \$2,778.48 + \$5,221.52 complaints
Audit Fees	TBD		\$	10,000.00	\$	-	\$	12,750.00	Anticipated FY24 Audit
Bank Fees	Merchant Svcs/Checking		\$	4,600.00	\$	4,600.00	\$	4,600.00	
Board Compensation	Salary		\$	3,525.00	\$	3,525.00	\$	3,525.00	Board: 5 mtg @ 7 members x \$75 each = \$2,625; AC: 4 mtg @ 3 members x \$75 each = \$900
Dues	NCSB; RAN		\$	550.00	\$	550.00	\$	550.00	NCSB \$450; RAN \$100
Equipment			\$	500.00	\$	500.00	\$	500.00	No equipment anticipated.
Examinations			\$	4,840.00	\$	4,840.00	\$	4,840.00	
Exam Proctors	Various	\$ 2,400.00		\$	-	\$	-	24 exams @ \$100/proctor (Avg FY20-FY23 = 19)	
Exam Materials	IHS	\$ 2,440.00			\$	-	\$	-	24 exams @ \$100 each + \$40 shipping (Avg FY20-FY23 = 19)
Insurance	Tort & Liability/Worker's Comp		\$	1,700.00	\$	1,700.00	\$	1,700.00	Tort Liability \$1,000 per FY24 increase; Worker's Comp \$600
Database/Website	Albertson Consulting		\$	8,855.00	\$	8,855.00	\$	8,855.00	Annual \$8,000; SSL Certs \$450; Support Overage \$405 (3 hrs @ \$135/hr)
Meeting Expense	Rooms/lunches		\$	100.00	\$	100.00	\$	100.00	Recommend no-cost in-person meetings if held.
Ofc Lease/Cost Share	OT Board		\$	3,400.00	\$	3,400.00	\$	3,400.00	Shared office, supplies, equipment, & internet.
Office Supplies	ZOOM, Office365, Staples, QBO		\$	2,586.00	\$	2,586.00	\$	2,586.00	Zoom \$150; Office365 \$400; Misc \$200; Quickbooks Online \$1,836
Postage	USPS/OT Board		\$	400.00	\$	400.00	\$	400.00	
Printing	State Printer		\$	200.00	\$	200.00	\$	200.00	Envelopes, misc.
Professional Fees			\$	41,100.00	\$	41,100.00	\$	5,100.00	
Accounting	Numbers Inc.	\$ 3,600.00			\$	-	\$	-	\$900/quarter
Investigation Fees	Various	\$ 1,000.00			\$	-	\$	-	Expert reviewer services as needed.
Leg Services	Strategies 360	\$ 36,000.00			\$	-	\$	-	2025 Legislative Session Support
IT/Tech Support	Various	\$ 500.00			\$	-	\$	-	None used in FY21/FY22
Telephone/Tech	AT&T State of NV IT		\$	525.00	\$	525.00	\$	525.00	Local \$300 (\$25/mo). LD \$25 (\$2/month). Teleconference (if needed) \$200.
Travel									
	Travel - In State	\$ 200.00	\$	200.00	\$	200.00	\$	200.00	Local mileage. Reduce & hold all meetings via Zoom.
	Travel - Out of State	\$ -	· ·		\$	-	\$		None planned.
Total Operating Expenses				255,683.96		245,683.96	\$	222,433.96	
	\$	(36,678.74)	ć	(26,678.74)	ė	(3,428.74)			
	Ş	(30,0/8./4)	Þ	(20,6/8./4)	Ş	(3,428.74)			

# Report from Legal Counsel

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

Action: None – Informational Only



# Reports from Board Chair and Board Members

#### a. Report from Board Chair and Board Members

#### b. 2024 Proposed Meeting Schedule

Next meeting proposed: <u>Wednesday, October 23, 2024 at 4:30pm</u>. Teleconference hosted via Zoom and inperson at the Reno Board Office

#### c. Future Agenda Items

- 1) Update and Report Out from Strategies 360 on Board BDR and Legislative Activities for 2024 Interim and 2025 Legislative Session
- 2) Other Items As Proposed

Action: Approve, Table, or Take No Action on the Matter



### **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



# Adjournment

**Action:** Meeting Adjourned