

OHIO BOARD OF SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY

Emerging Trends in Audiology Licensure

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PRESENTED BY:

- **Valenta Ward-Gravelly, Au.D.,**
Board Chairperson
- **Gregg B. Thornton, Esq.,**
Executive Director

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PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- I. Overview of board
 - Board history
 - Organization
 - Role of the board
 - Role of audiology board members
- II. Emerging Trends In Audiology Licensure
 - Education and training
 - Continuing education
 - Telemedicine/telepractice
 - Business Filing
 - Use of the term "Audioprosthologist"
 - AUD-Aides use of Otoscope
 - Updates to licensure laws and rules
- III. Questions

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Section I - BOARD HISTORY

- The Board was created in 1975 with passage of House Bill 79 which became Chapter 4753 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- Over the years, the law has been amended to add board members, change licensing requirements, and incorporate legislative dictates of the legislature.

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I. BOARD ORGANIZATION

- Eight members appointed by the Governor
- Three Audiologists
- Three Speech-Language Pathologists
- Two Public Members
- Three year term with optional second term
- Usually meets 7 times a year
- Usually meets in the Riffe Center in Columbus from 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM on meeting dates

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I. Board History - Chapter 4753 Ohio Revised Code

- Rules (Administrative Code 4753) are detailed procedures for administering Chapter 4753.
- Rules are generally amended on a yearly basis, or with a change in Chapter 4753.
- All rules are reviewed at least every five years.

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I. BOARD ORGANIZATION AuD - Board Members

- Valenta Ward-Gravelly, Au.D.
Chairperson
Shaker Heights, Ohio
Term Expires - 9/26/10
- Helene Leventus, Au.D.
Vice-Chairperson
Lyndhurst, Ohio
Term Expires - 9/26/10
- Jane M. Kukula, Au.D.
Mentor, Ohio
Term Expires - 9/26/11

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I. BOARD ORGANIZATION SLP - Board Members

- Loretta T. Embry, M.A., SLP
Euclid, Ohio
Term Expires - 9/26/10
- Patricia L. Leppia, M.A., SLP
Dayton, Ohio
Term Expires 9/26/12
- Amy K. Thorpe, M.Ed., SLP
Maumee, Ohio
Term Expires 9/26/2012

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I. BOARD ORGANIZATION Public Board Members

- J. Paul Good,
North Lima, Ohio
Term Expires - 9/26/10
- Malcolm J. Porter
Columbus, Ohio
Term Expires - 9/26/10

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I. BOARD ORGANIZATION Board Staff

- Executive Director: Gregg Thornton
■ March 2, 2009
- Primary Duties
 - Oversees all board operations and represents the Board

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I. BOARD ORGANIZATION Board Staff

- Licensing Administrator: Michelle Cunningham
■ December 21, 2009
- Primary Duties
 - Manages licensing for the Board

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I. BOARD ORGANIZATION Board Staff

- Investigator: Connie Stansberry
■ February 2006
- Primary Duties
 - Investigates complaints, reviews continuing education requirements and business filings

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I. BOARD ORGANIZATION Board Staff

- Administrative Assistant: Deborah Howard
 - January 2000
- Primary Duties
 - Manages business functions and files of the Board

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I. BOARD ORGANIZATION Board Budget

- Operating funds derived from application and licensing fees
- Legislature approves budget
- Operating budget about \$435,000/year
- Reduced renewal fee from \$150 to \$100 in 2006
- Operating budget cut for FY2010-11
- Provide the highest level of service to our licensees, applicants and the public

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I. BOARD ORGANIZATION Licensees

- As of March 8, 2010
- Speech-Language Pathologist 5924
 - Audiologist 931
 - Conditional SLP 303
 - Permit Holders 48
 - SLP-Aide 18
 - AUD-Aides 70
 - **TOTAL 7294**

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I. BOARD ORGANIZATION Licensure Trends

License	2008	2009
Audiology	950	931
SLP	5870	5884
Cond. SLP	225	300
Student Permits	35	50
Audiology Aide	75	66
SLP Aide	23	17
TOTAL	7178	7248

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I. ROLE OF BOARD

Important differences between role of licensure board and professional organizations

- Audiology Licensure – mandatory
- Professional membership – voluntary
- Different mission and focus

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I. ROLE OF BOARD

- Law establishes statutory authority to regulate audiology and speech pathology professions.
- Focus is consumer protection.
- Requirements for licensure are met;
- Professional competency is maintained; and
- Complaints investigated.

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I. ROLE OF BOARD

OBSLPA's Mission Statement

The mission of the Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology is to protect the health and promote the welfare of the citizens of Ohio by licensing and regulating the practice of speech-language pathology and audiology pursuant to Chapter 4753 of the Ohio Revised Code and Ohio Administrative Code.

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I. ROLE OF BOARD

ASHA's Mission Statement

Empowering and supporting speech-language pathologists, audiologists, and speech, language, and hearing scientists by:

- Advocating on behalf of persons with communication and related disorders.
- Advancing communication science.
- Promoting effective human communication.

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I. ROLE OF BOARD

AAA's Mission Statement

The American Academy of Audiology promotes quality hearing and balance care by advancing the profession of audiology through leadership, advocacy, education, public awareness, and support of research.

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I. ROLE OF BOARD Powers and Duties

Key Powers & Duties of Board R.C. section 4753.05

- Make reasonable rules to ensure administration of Chapter 4753
- Make reasonable rules to ensure ethical standards of practice by speech-language pathologists and audiologists
- Determine and publish standards
- Evaluate qualifications of applicants
- Investigate all alleged irregularities in the practices of both professions
- Annually report to the Governor
- Conduct hearings and keep records

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I. ROLE OF BOARD Typical Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Open Forum for Public and Professional Organization
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Minutes
5. Chairperson's Comments
6. Assistant Attorney General's Report
7. Executive Session for Discussion of Possible Litigation

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I. ROLE OF BOARD Typical Agenda

8. Executive Director's Report
9. Investigations
10. Licensure
11. Board Business
12. Correspondence
13. Member Concerns
14. Adjournment

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I. ROLE OF BOARD Committees

- Committee Chairperson and members are appointed by the Board Chair
- Work toward achieving board's goals and strategic plan
- May establish other committee goals
- Makes recommendations to the Board
- Meet independently of regular board meetings
- Works under Sunshine Law

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I. ROLE OF BOARD Committees

Standing Committees

- Investigations
- Policy and Procedure Committee
- Professional Competency Committee
- Rules Committee
- Review Group (Jan-Jun; Jun-Dec)

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I. ROLE OF BOARD Committees

Investigations Committee (Complaint Process)

- Investigative Review Group (IRG) considers merit of all complaints
- IRG gathers documentation and makes a recommendation to the Board
- Board decides to pursue
- Hearing
- Board Adjudicates
- Board Disciplines

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I. ROLE OF BOARD Committees

Professional Competency Committee

- Research, develops and recommends tools to establish competency based requirements and continued competency
- Established outcomes based tool for use with conditional licensees
- Recently proposed changes to the supervised professional experience

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I. ROLE OF BOARD Committees

Policy and Procedure Committee

- Reviews Procedure Manual to maintain the procedure manual's relevance to board function.
- Makes recommendations to the Board on new policies and amendments to existing policies.

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I. ROLE OF BOARD Committees

Rules Committee

- Reviews rules based on a five year review cycle
- Draft rule changes/amendments as directed by the Board
- Recommends rule changes to the board

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I. ROLE OF BOARD Committees

Review Committee

- Reviews all licensure applications that cannot be approved by Executive Director
- Education completed in another country
- Student Permit Applications
- AIDE Applications
- Any application that requires additional review

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I. ROLE OF BOARD Committees

Other Committees

- Established at the direction of the Chair for a specific goal
- Ad Hoc Committees serve for specific term or until work is completed.

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I. ROLE OF BOARD Disciplinary Actions

- Result from complaints or from internal board review
- Investigations are confidential
- Disciplinary actions are public information
- Board can reprimand, suspend or revoke a license
- Most complaints involve late renewal or CEU violations
- Most disciplinary actions are for unlicensed practice due to late renewal
- Disciplinary action of Conditional Licensee
 - Not submitting a SPE Plan
 - Not submitting Report and Contacts Log

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What is the role of the Audiology Board Member?

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I. ROLE OF AUDIOLOGY BOARD MEMBERS

- Act in an ethical and responsible manner holding tantamount the interests of the health and welfare of the public
- Read and understand Chapter 4753 ORC and OAC
- Be familiar with other laws affecting board operations and procedures

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I. ROLE OF AUDIOLOGY BOARD MEMBERS

- Maintains Confidentiality involving
 - Executive Session
 - Litigation, Personnel
 - Investigation
- Participate on Committees as directed by the Chair
- Abstains on issues involving conflict of interest.

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I. ROLE OF AUDIOLOGY BOARD MEMBERS

- Civil immunity is granted by the state to Board members in the performance of their duties [Revised Code 9.86]
- The State of Ohio indemnifies Board members for their actions by defending such actions in court and paying any judgments in any civil action [Revised Code 9.87]

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II. EMERGING TRENDS IN Audiology Licensure

Education and Training

- Recent Audiology Amendments
 - In 2006 Chapter 4753 was amended to require Au.D. for audiology license.
 - National trend: Twenty-two states have promulgated revised laws and/or rules that mandate a doctoral degree in audiology as the minimum standard to engage in the practice of audiology in that particular state. A number of other states have passed legislation with date-certain mandates for change.
- Source: National Council of State Boards of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology – Nov. 2009

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II. EMERGING TRENDS IN Audiology Licensure

Discussion

Education and Training

- Do you think a doctoral degree in audiology should be required for licensure?
- How will the Au.D. educational requirements impact the profession?

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II. EMERGING TRENDS IN Audiology Licensure

Continuing Education

Emerging Trends

- The possibility of requiring an ethics component (1 – 3 hrs.) as part of the 20 hours of continuing education required under OAC 4753-4-01 every two years.
- More emphasis on demonstrating competency rather than solely demonstrating number of hours completed.

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II. EMERGING TRENDS IN Audiology Licensure

Continuing Education Trends By States Ten Clock Hours Per Year

Arkansas
Idaho
Louisiana
New Mexico
North Dakota
Tennessee
Texas

- Source: National Council of State Boards of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology

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II. EMERGING TRENDS IN Audiology Licensure

Continuing Education Trends By States 20 Clock Hours Per Two-Year Renewal Period

Delaware
Georgia
Illinois
Kansas
Maryland
Massachusetts
Michigan (AUD)
Mississippi
Nebraska
New Hampshire (AUD)
New Jersey
Ohio
Oklahoma
Pennsylvania
Rhode Island
Utah
West Virginia
Wisconsin

- Source: National Council of State Boards of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology

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II. EMERGING TRENDS IN Audiology Licensure

Continuing Education Trends By States 30 Clock Hours Per Two-Year Renewal Period

- Florida
- Iowa
- Minnesota
- Missouri
- New Hampshire (SLP)
- Oregon
- Virginia

- Source: National Council of State Boards of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology

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II. EMERGING TRENDS IN Audiology Licensure

Continuing Education Trends By States Other Categories

- Alabama - 12 hours per year
- Arizona - 8 hours per year
- California - 24 hours per two-year renewal period
- Indiana - 36 hours per biennial renewal period
- Kentucky - 15 hours per year
- Maine - 25 hours per two-year renewal period
- Michigan (SLP) - Guidelines and criteria to be developed
- Montana - 40 hours per two-year renewal period

- Source: National Council of State Boards of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology

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II. EMERGING TRENDS IN Audiology Licensure

Continuing Education Trends By States Other Categories

- Nevada - 15 hours per year
 - New York - 30 hours per triennial renewal period
 - North Carolina - 30 hours per triennial renewal period
 - South Carolina - 16 hours per biennial renewal period
 - South Dakota - 12 hours per year
 - Vermont - 30 credits per every three years
 - Washington - 10 hours per year (for hearing aid fitters only)
 - Wyoming - 20 hours per year
- Source: National Council of State Boards of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology

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II. EMERGING TRENDS IN Audiology Licensure

Continuing Education Trends By States

STATES WITHOUT CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS:

- Alaska
- Colorado
- Connecticut
- Hawaii

- Source: National Council of State Boards of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology

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II. EMERGING TRENDS IN Audiology Licensure

Continuing Education Trends By States

STATES REQUIRING ETHICS FOR LICENSURE RENEWAL:

- Texas – 2 hrs. per year for SLPs and AUDs.
- Other states are considering adding this requirement.

- Source: National Council of State Boards of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology

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II. EMERGING TRENDS IN Audiology Licensure

Continuing Education Discussion

- Do you think there should be a requirement to complete a certain number of continuing education hours in ethics every two years?
- Do you think continuing education seminars should include a test at the conclusion to receive credit?

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II. EMERGING TRENDS IN Audiology Licensure

Telemedicine/Telepractice

- Telemedicine, a practice that's taken off in recent years as technology has advanced and more doctors have embraced the possibilities of providing health care in new ways.
- For practitioners, telemedicine presents possibilities and challenges.

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II. EMERGING TRENDS IN Audiology Licensure

Telemedicine/Telepractice

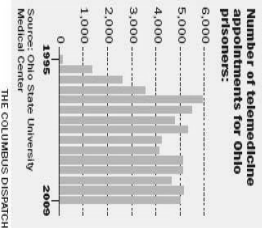
- Possibilities
 - Access to more patients requiring audiological services and care, both in urban and rural areas
 - Lower health care costs
 - Convenience for patients
- Challenges
 - Technology glitches
 - Confidentiality
 - Diminished rapport

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II. EMERGING TRENDS IN Audiology Licensure

Telemedicine appointments

Ohio State University
Specialists have been seeing
patients via telemedicine since
1995. Telemedicine, including
these types of remote
appointments, is becoming
more popular throughout
the country.



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II. EMERGING TRENDS IN Audiology Licensure

Discussion

Telemedicine/Telepractice

- How will telemedicine/telepractice affect you, as an audiologist?

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II. EMERGING TRENDS IN Audiology Licensure

Business Filing (OAC 4753-1-03)

- Pursuant to division (A) of section 4753.12 of the Revised Code, an entity may provide speech-language pathology or audiology services without licensure if it employs or contracts individuals in the direct practice of speech-language pathology or audiology, in accordance with Chapter 4753.

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II. EMERGING TRENDS IN Audiology Licensure

Business Filing

Also requires:

- a statement swearing that it submits itself to the rules of the board and the provisions of Chapter 4753. of the Revised Code and the Administrative Code;
- a list of all names, and addresses under which the entity provides speech-language pathology and audiology services;

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II. EMERGING TRENDS IN Audiology Licensure

Business Filing

Also requires:

- The names, license numbers, and home addresses of all individuals engaging in the direct practice of speech-language pathology and audiology as officers, agents or employees of the entity during the previous calendar year.
- Medical entities, including but not limited to, hospitals, clinics, medical partnerships, medical corporations, speech-language pathology and audiology contracting agencies, which employ or contract individuals in the direct practice of speech-language pathology or audiology, are required to submit a business filing.

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II. EMERGING TRENDS IN Audiology Licensure

Business Filing

Exempts:

- An individual licensed pursuant to Chapter 4731 . of the Revised Code who employs or contracts individuals in the direct practice of speech-language pathology or audiology is not required to submit a business filing.

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II. EMERGING TRENDS IN Audiology Licensure

Business Filing

- Forms were due March 1, 2010, but late filings will be accepted.
- Forms available on the board's website at <http://slpaud.ohio.gov/bus.stm>

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II. EMERGING TRENDS IN Audiology Licensure

Discussion Business Filing

- Are there any questions regarding the requirements for the business filing?

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II. EMERGING TRENDS IN Audiology Licensure

Use of the term “Audioprosthologist”

- Board recognizes that use of this term is confusing to the consumer.
- Board has requested a formal opinion from the Ohio Attorney General's Office on whether use of the term “Audioprosthologist” by someone unlicensed as an audiologist is a violation of R.C. Chapter 4753.

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II. EMERGING TRENDS IN Audiology Licensure

Discussion

Use of the term “Audioprosthologist”

- What is your opinion about the use of this term by someone, other than a licensed Audiologist?

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II. EMERGING TRENDS IN Audiology Licensure

AUD-Aides use of Otoscope

- Board currently reviewing rules to clarify the duties for AUD-Aides using an otoscope to determine if the ear canal is clear.
- Issues:
- Adequate training and supervision by the audiologist.
 - Aide makes no determination about blockage; audiologist must exam the ear canal.

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II. EMERGING TRENDS IN Audiology Licensure

Discussion

AUD-Aides use of Otoscope

- What is your opinion about Aides who are properly trained and supervised using an otoscope to determine if the ear canal is clear?

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II. EMERGING TRENDS IN Audiology Licensure

Updates to licensure laws and rules

Ohio Revised Code Chapter 4753

In 2010 Chapter 4753 – Board will be seeking amendment to allow escrow licensure.

Escrow licensure will allow practitioner to:

- Place license in escrow for specified period of time when they have to temporarily step away from practice;
- Renewal fee not required (Escrow maintenance fee);
- Meeting full licensure requirements currently in effect for expired license not applicable;
- Continuing education will still be required.

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II. EMERGING TRENDS IN Audiology Licensure

Updates to licensure laws and rules

Ohio Revised Code Chapter 4753

Discussion

Would you be in favor of the Board pursuing Escrow licensure?

Should there be any limitations on how long the license may be kept in escrow?

Should Continuing Education be required while the license is in escrow?

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II. EMERGING TRENDS IN Audiology Licensure

Updates to licensure laws and rules

Ohio Revised Code Chapter 4753

- In 2011 Chapter 4753 – Board will be seeking amendment to allow practice of speech-language pathology & audiology via telemedicine/telepractice.
- Board has proposed rules for web-based supervision for Conditional SLPs

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II. EMERGING TRENDS IN Audiology Licensure

Updates to licensure laws and rules

Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 4753

(aka – Board Rules)

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Section II - LAWS AND RULES

Proposed Rule Changes

- **Proposed changes to OAC section 4753-3-04 to be more consistent with Ohio Revised Code section 4753.06**
- OAC 4753-3-04(A)(2), (A)(2)(a), and (A)(2)(d)
- (A)(2) For licensure as an audiologist applicants shall have obtained at least a doctor of audiology degree before or after January 1, 2006 or the equivalent from an audiology program accredited by an organization recognized by the "United States Department of Education" or at least a masters degree in audiology or equivalent if all requirements under Revised Code section 4753.06(F) were met prior to January 1, 2006 and if the application was submitted prior to January 1, 2006.

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Section II - LAWS AND RULES

Proposed Rule Changes

- **Proposed changes to OAC section 4753-3-04 to be more consistent with Ohio Revised Code section 4753.06**
- OAC 4753-3-04(A)(2), (A)(2)(a), and (A)(2)(d)
- (A)(2)(a) The educational requirements shall be deemed met when the applicant is certified by the "American Speech-Language-Hearing Association" and/or the "American Board of Audiology".

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Section II - LAWS AND RULES

Proposed Rule Changes

- **Proposed changes to OAC section 4753-3-04 to be more consistent with Ohio Revised Code section 4753.06**
- OAC 4753-3-04(A)(2), (A)(2)(a), and (A)(2)(d)
- (A)(2)(d) Applicants applying based on at least a master's degree in audiology obtained prior to January 1, 2006 shall meet the requirements of 4753-3-04(A)(3), 4753-3-05, 4753-3-06 and 4753-3-07 as stated on October 1, 2005, and has submitted the application prior to January 1, 2006.

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Section II - LAWS AND RULES

Proposed Rule Changes

- **Proposed breakdown of OAC section 4753-3-10(E)(2) for exempt practice and renewal procedures.**
- OAC 4753-3-10(E)(2)(a)
- (E) Expired license:
- (2) The board shall not renew the license of a speech-language pathologist or audiologist who fails to apply for renewal of the license within one year after the license expires. A speech-language pathologist or audiologist whose license has been expired for more than one year may become licensed by: it;he/she:
- (a) Presents proof of a current certificate of clinical competence in speech-language pathology or audiology that is in good standing and received from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, and/or proof of a current certificate from the American Board of Audiology stating "Board Certified in Audiology" in the area in which licensure is sought; or

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Section II - LAWS AND RULES

Proposed Rule Changes

- **Proposed breakdown of OAC section 4753-3-10(E)(2) for exempt practice and renewal procedures.**
- OAC 4753-3-10(E)(2)(b)
- (E) Expired license:
- (2) The board shall not renew the license of a speech-language pathologist or audiologist who fails to apply for renewal of the license within one year after the license expires. A speech-language pathologist or audiologist whose license has been expired for more than one year may become licensed by: it;he/she:
- (b) Presents proof of current certification or licensure in good standing in the area in which licensure is sought in a state that has standards at least equal to the standards for licensure that are in effect in this state at the time the applicant applies for the license; or

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Section II - LAWS AND RULES

Proposed Rule Changes

- **Proposed breakdown of OAC section 4753-3-10(E)(2) for exempt practice and renewal procedures.**
- OAC 4753-3-10(E)(2)(c)
- (E) Expired license:
- (2) The board shall not renew the license of a speech-language pathologist or audiologist who fails to apply for renewal of the license within one year after the license expires. A speech-language pathologist or audiologist whose license has been expired for more than one year may become licensed by: it;he/she:
- (c) Submitting Submits to the board documentation of completion of continuing education hours required of a licensee during the period prior to expiration of the license and for each renewal period of expiration, or forty hours within the two years prior to the application or as approved by the board; and

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Section II - LAWS AND RULES

Proposed Rule Changes

- Proposed breakdown of OAC section 4753-3-10(E)(2) for exempt practice and renewal procedures.
- OAC 4753-3-10(E)(2)(d)
- (E) Expired license:
- (2) The board shall not renew the license of a speech-language pathologist or audiologist who fails to apply for renewal of the license within one year after the license expires. A speech-language pathologist or audiologist whose license has been expired for more than one year may become licensed by: if he/she:
- (d) Paying Pays to the board the application fee set by the board.

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Section II - LAWS AND RULES

Rule changes help:

- Reduce confusion
- Improve compliance with licensure requirements

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II. EMERGING TRENDS IN Audiology Licensure

- Laws and Rules are available on board website at: www.slpaud.ohio.gov
- Board invites public comment on proposed rules before filing rules with Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review.

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II. EMERGING TRENDS IN Audiology Licensure

Other Updates 2010 Licensure Renewal

- Licensees will receive their first notification by mail in July.
- Online renewal is highly recommended.
- Renewal fee is \$100.00.
- Complete 20 hours of continuing education. Ten of those hours must be in area specific to clinical practice. Other ten hours may be acquired in areas related to speech-language pathology or audiology or both.

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II. EMERGING TRENDS IN Audiology Licensure

Other Updates 2010 Licensure Renewal

- Notify the board in writing at board@slpaud.ohio.gov of any change to your contact information, i.e., home, business or e-mail addresses and/or name change.

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Section III

QUESTIONS

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BOARD CONTACT

■ **Contact Information:**

Executive Director

Gregg.Thornton@slpaud.ohio.gov

Telephone: 614-644-9046

Licensing Administrator

Michelle.Cunningham@slpaud.ohio.gov

Telephone: 614-644-9073

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BOARD ADDRESS

■ **Contact Information:**

Mailing Address

Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology
77 South High Street, 16th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215-6108

Telephone Numbers

(614) 466-3145 – Main office number
(614) 995-2286 – Facsimile

Board E-mail Address

Board@slpaud.ohio.gov

Board Website

<http://slpaud.ohio.gov/>

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