

OHIO BOARD OF SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY

Update of Speech-Language Pathology and
Audiology Licensure Laws and Regulations, and
Overview of the Board's Role

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PRESENTED BY:

- **Loretta T. Embry, M.A.,**
SLP Board Member
- **Patricia L. Leppa, M.A.,**
SLP Board Member
- **Gregg B. Thornton, Esq.,**
Executive Director

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PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- I. Overview of board
 - Board history
 - Organization
 - Role of Board and Board Members
- II. Updates to 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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Section I - BOARD HISTORY

- Recent Amendments
 - In 2006 Chapter 4753 was amended to require Au.D. for audiology license.
 - In 2007 Chapter 4753 was amended to allow the Board to issue student permits to address SLP shortages.

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I. Board History - Chapter 4753 Ohio Revised Code

What is the role of the Board?

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I. Board History - Chapter 4753 Ohio Revised Code

- 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. 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. THE BOARD

- 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. THE BOARD

- 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
- Loretta T. Embry, M.A., SLP
Euclid, Ohio
Term Expires - 9/26/10

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I. THE BOARD

- J. Paul Good, North Lima, Ohio
Term Expires - 9/26/10
- Jane M. Kukula, Au.D., Mentor, Ohio
Term Expires - 9/26/11
- Malcolm J. Porter
Columbus, Ohio
Term Expires - 9/26/10

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I. THE BOARD

- 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 STAFF

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

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I. BOARD STAFF

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

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I. BOARD STAFF

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

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I. BOARD STAFF

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

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I. 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. 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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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. BOARD ROLE

Differences between role of licensure board and professional association

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I. BOARD ROLE

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. BOARD ROLE (OBSLPA)

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. BOARD ROLE

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. BOARD ROLE

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. BOARD ROLE

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. BOARD ROLE - 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. BOARD ROLE - Committees

Standing Committees

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

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I. BOARD ROLE - 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. BOARD ROLE - 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. BOARD ROLE - 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. BOARD ROLE - 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. BOARD ROLE - 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. BOARD ROLE - 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. 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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I. Role of OBSLPA 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 RC and AC
- Be familiar with other laws affecting board operations and procedures

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I. Role of OBSLPA 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 OBSLPA 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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Section II - LAWS AND RULES

- Laws and Rules are available on board website at: www.slpaud.ohio.gov

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Section II - LAWS AND RULES

Recent Legislative Updates

- In 2006 Chapter 4753 was amended to require Au.D. for audiology license.
- In 2007 Chapter 4753 was amended to allow the Board to issue student permits to address SLP shortages.

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Section II - LAWS AND RULES

Future Legislative Updates

- In 2010 Chapter 4753 – Board will be seeking amendment to allow escrow licensure.
- In 2011 Chapter 4753 – Board will be seeking amendment to allow practice of speech-language pathology & audiology via telemedicine/telehealth.

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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 changes to OAC section 4753-3-07 to be more consistent with Ohio Revised Code section 4753.071**
- OAC 4753-3-07(B)(5)(a)
- (B) Conditional license for professional experience
- (5) Expiration of the conditional license
- (a) The length of the professional experience is determined by the professional experience year plan.
- (b) The professional experience year report and supervision log must be submitted to the board within thirty days of completion of the professional experience.

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Section II - LAWS AND RULES

Proposed Rule Changes

- **Proposed changes to OAC section 4753-3-07 (G)(1) and (G)(3)(a) specifying the time period in which the supervised professional experience report and supervised contacts log is due.**
- OAC 4753-3-07 (G)(1) and (G)(3)(a)
- (G) Supervised professional experience report and supervision contacts log
- (1) Upon completion of the professional experience year or when there is a change in the professional experience year plan, the conditional licensee shall submit a "Supervised Professional Experience Report" and a "Supervision Contacts Log" of the supervisory contacts that occurred during the experience to the board within thirty calendar days.

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Section II - LAWS AND RULES

Proposed Rule Changes

- **Proposed changes to OAC section 4753-3-07 (G)(1) and (G)(3)(a) specifying the time period in which the supervised professional experience report and supervised contacts log is due.**
- OAC 4753-3-07 (G)(1) and (G)(3)(a)
- (G) Supervised professional experience report and supervision contacts log
- (3) Completion of professional experience
- (a) The "Supervised Professional Experience Report" and "Supervision Contacts Log" are due within thirty calendar days of completion of the professional experience.

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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: if 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: if 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: if he/she:
 - (c) Submitting Submitts 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

Future Rule Changes

In 2010: Web-based supervision rule
Proposed rule for Web-based Supervision under OAC section 4753-3-07

- (F) Supervision of professional experience
- (1) Professional experience shall entail the direct involvement of the supervisor in any and all ways, INCLUDING TELEMEDICINE, that will permit the supervisor to monitor, improve, provide feedback, and evaluate the applicant's performance in professional employment.
- (2) WHEN ONSITE SUPERVISION OCCURS VIA TELEMEDICINE APPLICATIONS, SUPERVISION SHALL OCCUR USING REAL TIME, SYNCHRONOUS, ENCRYPTED VIDEOCONFERENCING.

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Section II - LAWS AND RULES

Future Rule Changes

In 2010: Web-based supervision rule

Proposed rule for Web-based Supervision under OAC section 4753-3-07

- Board accepting public comment on proposed rule.
- Rule is posted on our website at www.slpand.ohio.gov.
- Public comment may be submitted the board office or at the next board meeting on May 10, 2010.
- Please visit website for more details.

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Section II - LAWS AND RULES

Future Rule Changes

In 2010 or 2011: Continuing Education

- 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.

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Section II - LAWS AND RULES

Rule changes help:

- Reduce confusion
- Improve compliance with licensure requirements

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Section II - LAWS AND RULES

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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Section II - LAWS AND RULES

2009 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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Section II - LAWS AND RULES

2009 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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Section II - LAWS AND RULES

2009 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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Section II - LAWS AND RULES

2009 Business Filing

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

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Section II - LAWS AND RULES

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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Section II - LAWS AND RULES

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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