

ARTICLE 11-02
AUDIOLOGIST AND SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST LICENSURE

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CHAPTER 11-02-01
INITIAL LICENSURE AND RENEWALS

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11-02-01-01. Licensure application.

An application for a license to practice audiology or speech-language pathology shall be made to the state board of examiners of audiology and speech-language pathology on forms provided by the board upon request. The application shall contain such information as the board may reasonably require.

1. Each application for a license shall be accompanied by:
 - a. A prescribed fee.
 - b. An official transcript verifying completion of undergraduate and graduate degrees.
 - c. An official or authenticated copy of a passing score, as established by the American speech-language-hearing association, on the Praxis II specialty examination in the area of audiology or speech-language pathology, or another examination approved by the board.
2. All applications shall be signed by the applicant and notarized.
3. The board may request such additional information or clarification of information provided in the application as it deems reasonably necessary.
4. If the board so directs, an applicant shall personally appear before the board concerning the application.
5. The board may grant licensure to an applicant who holds a current license in good standing to practice as an audiologist, speech-language pathologist, or speech-language pathology licensed assistant in another state or jurisdiction if that other state or jurisdiction imposes at least substantially the same standards that are imposed under this chapter.

History: Amended effective May 1, 1984; June 1, 1990; April 1, 2016; April 1, 2018.

General Authority: NDCC 43-37-06

Law Implemented: NDCC 43-37-06, 43-37-09

11-02-01-02. Licensure without examination.

Repealed effective May 1, 1984.

11-02-01-03. Licensure with examination.

Repealed effective May 1, 1984.

11-02-01-04. Renewal of licensure and relicensure.

1. Applications for the renewal of license are due by the first date of each year.
2. At least two months before the first date of each year, the board shall notify the licensee of the requirement for renewal. The notice must be made to the address last provided to the board by the licensee and must encourage applicants to submit applications for renewal upon receiving that notice.
3. A license must be renewed by the board if, on or before the thirty-first day of January of each year, the licensee meets all of the following requirements:
 - a. The licensee filed a complete application for renewal form provided by the board.
 - b. The licensee paid the renewal fee.
 - c. The licensee provided proof of completion of the continuing education required by section 11-02-01-06.
 - d. Grounds for denial of the application under North Dakota Century Code section 43-37-13 do not exist.
 - e. Supervision requirements completed in accordance with section 11-02-01-08.
4. If the completed application for renewal, renewal fee, and proof of completion of continuing education are not filed before the first day of each year, the licensee shall pay the late fee associated with the license.
5. If the completed application for renewal, renewal fee, proof of completion of continuing education, and late fee is not filed before the last day of January, the license expires and the individual may not practice until the board renews the license or grants relicensure.
6. The board may extend the expiration date and the deadlines for filing the application for renewal, renewal fee, proof of completion of continuing education, and late fee upon proof of medical or other hardship preventing the individual from meeting the deadlines.
7. If an individual is unlicensed for a period less than five calendar years, the individual must be granted relicensure upon the filing of a completed application for license, the licensing fee, a two hundred fifty dollar relicensure fee, and proof of completion of ten clock hours of continuing education for each calendar year for which the individual was unlicensed.
8. If an individual is unlicensed for a period of five or more calendar years, the individual may be required by the board to retake and pass the Praxis II specialty examination or another examination approved by the board, and shall be required to file a completed application for a license, the licensing fee, a two hundred fifty dollar relicensure fee, and proof of completion of ten clock hours of continuing education for each calendar year for which the individual was unlicensed in order to be considered for relicensure.
9. An individual may be granted a relicensure only once in a five-year period.

History: Amended effective May 1, 1984; October 1, 1989; June 1, 1990; April 1, 2016; April 1, 2018.

General Authority: NDCC 43-37-06

Law Implemented: NDCC 43-37-06

11-02-01-05. Fees.

The following fees shall be paid in connection with audiologist, speech-language pathologist, and speech-language pathology licensed assistant applications, examinations, renewals, and penalties:

1. Application fee for an audiologist license, speech-language pathologist license, and speech-language pathology licensed assistant license: one hundred dollars.
2. Renewal fee for an audiologist license, speech-language pathologist license, and speech-language pathology license assistant: seventy-five dollars.
3. Relicensure fee: two hundred fifty dollars.

History: Amended effective May 1, 1984; June 1, 1990; February 1, 2001; April 1, 2016; April 1, 2018.

General Authority: NDCC 43-37-06

Law Implemented: NDCC 43-37-06

11-02-01-06. Continuing education.

1. Continuing education is defined as courses or workshops that contribute to professional development and lead to acquiring and enhancing skills and knowledge required for professional practice that are either approved by the board or certified by the American speech-language-hearing association, the American academy of audiology, or the international hearing association or another organization approved by the board.
2. Licensees are required to complete ten clock hours of continuing education during each calendar year.
3. Continued practice in violation of the continuing education requirements as outlined in this section subjects a licensee to disciplinary action as outlined in North Dakota Century Code section 43-37-13.

History: Amended effective May 1, 1984; August 1, 1986; June 1, 1990; April 1, 2016.

General Authority: NDCC 43-37-06

Law Implemented: NDCC 43-37-06

11-02-01-07. Passing score.

The successful completion of a Praxis II specialty examination in audiology or speech-language pathology or another examination approved by the board means: obtaining a score equal to or greater than the passing score established by the American speech-language-hearing association or another organization approved by the board, and in effect at the time of administration of the test.

History: Effective May 1, 1984; amended effective June 1, 1990; April 1, 2016.

General Authority: NDCC 43-37-09

Law Implemented: NDCC 43-37-06

11-02-01-08. Speech-language pathology licensed assistants.

1. Definitions.
 - a. "Direct supervision" means face-to-face contact that occurs either in-person or through video conferencing. Activities that occur during direct supervision include observation, modeling, cotreatment, discussions, and teaching.

- b. "Indirect supervision" means other than face-to-face contact. Activities that occur during indirect supervision include telephone conversations, written correspondence, electronic exchanges, or other methods using secure telecommunication technology.
2. Minimum qualifications for a speech-language pathology licensed assistant. A bachelor's degree in speech-language pathology or communication disorders as approved by the board that includes a minimum of six semester credit-hours in disordered communication, a minimum of three semester credit-hours in clinical techniques, and successful completion of an internship requiring a minimum of one hundred hours of clinical experience overseen by a supervising speech-language pathologist.
3. Scope of practice.
 - a. Provide speech-language pathology services only in settings in which direct and indirect supervision are provided on a regular and systematic basis by a supervising speech-language pathologist.
 - b. Self identify as a speech-language pathology licensed assistant to consumers.
 - c. Perform only those tasks prescribed by the supervising speech-language pathologist.
 - d. Tasks that a supervising speech pathologist may delegate to a speech-language pathology assistant are limited to the following:
 - (1) Assist with speech, language, and hearing screenings without clinical interpretation as developed and directed by the supervising speech-language pathologist.
 - (2) Assist during assessment as developed and directed by the supervising speech-language pathologist. In carrying out assessments, a speech-language pathology licensed assistant may not provide a clinical interpretation.
 - (3) Deliver services set forth in treatment plans or protocols developed and directed by supervising speech-language pathologist.
 - (4) Document consumer performance and report this information to the supervising speech-language pathologist.
 - (5) Program and provide instruction in the use of augmentative and alternative communication devices as developed and directed by the supervising speech-language pathologist.
 - (6) Demonstrate to and share information with consumers regarding feeding and swallowing strategies developed and directed by the supervising speech-language pathologist.
 - (7) Participate in formal parent or guardian conferences, case conferences, or an interdisciplinary team with the presence of the supervising speech-language pathologist.
4. Supervision.
 - a. A speech-language pathology licensed assistant must be supervised by a licensed speech-language pathologist who has been actively practicing for a minimum of three of the last five years.
 - b. A supervising speech-language pathologist is responsible for the extent, kind, and quality of the service provided by the speech-language pathology licensed assistant, consistent with the standards and requirements approved by the board.

- c. A speech-language pathologist may be the supervisor of record for no more than two speech-language pathology licensed assistants at the same time.
- d. The supervising speech-language pathologist is responsible for the professional services provided by the speech-language pathology licensed assistant.
- e. A supervising speech-language pathologist must provide direct and indirect supervision as determined by the supervising speech-language pathologist's assessment of the competence of the speech-language pathology licensed assistant and within the scope of the rules adopted by the board. In determining the methods, frequency, and content of supervision, a supervising speech-language pathologist shall consider:
 - (1) The complexity of clients' needs;
 - (2) The number and diversity of clients;
 - (3) The knowledge, competence, and skills of the speech-language pathology licensed assistant;
 - (4) The type of practice setting;
 - (5) Any requirements particular to the practice setting; and
 - (6) Other regulatory requirements.
- f. A supervising speech-language pathologist and a supervised speech-language pathology licensed assistant shall make a written supervision plan that must be in effect for the duration of the supervision, that may be requested by the board at any time, and that includes the following:
 - (1) Periodic evaluation and documentation reflecting the speech-language pathology licensed assistant's competence to perform the services prescribed.
 - (2) Periodic documentation of the frequency, methods, and content of the supervision.
- g. A supervising speech-language pathologist shall provide direct and indirect supervision that meets the following guidelines:
 - (1) During the first ninety days, a supervising speech-language pathologist shall provide direct supervision for at least twenty percent of the client contact hours worked each week by the speech-language pathology licensed assistant, and indirect supervision for at least ten percent of the client contact hours worked by the speech-language pathology licensed assistant.
 - (2) After the initial ninety workdays are complete, the supervising speech-language pathologist shall provide direct supervision for at least ten percent of the client contact hours worked each week by the speech-language pathology licensed assistant and indirect supervision for at least ten percent of the client contact hours worked by the speech-language pathology licensed assistant.
 - (3) The board may request supervision records at any time.

History: Effective April 1, 2018.

General Authority: NDCC 43-37-06

Law Implemented: NDCC 43-06-04.2