

CHAPTER 67-11-20
CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION FOR SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY
PARAPROFESSIONALS

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67-11-20-01. Definitions.

For purposes of this chapter:

1. "Speech-language pathology paraprofessional" means an individual providing service as a paraprofessional who meets the requirements of this chapter and provides services authorized in this chapter in a school setting from early childhood through grade twelve.
2. "Supervising speech-language pathologist" means an individual who:
 - a. Supervises no more than two speech-language pathology paraprofessionals;
 - b. Holds a current restricted educator's professional license for speech-language pathology at the master's degree level issued by the North Dakota education standards and practices board or holds a current speech-language pathology license issued by the North Dakota state board of examiners on audiology and speech-language pathology; and
 - c. Has a minimum of one year of full-time experience providing speech-language pathology services since receiving the individual's license.

History: Effective December 1, 2003.

General Authority: NDCC 15.1-02-11, 15.1-02-16, 15.1-32-02, 15.1-32-09, 43-37-03(4)

Law Implemented: NDCC 15.1-02-11, 15.1-32-02, 15.1-32-09, 43-37-03(4); 20 USC 1412(a)(15); 20 USC 6319(c)-(f); 34 CFR 200.58

67-11-20-02. Certificate of completion required.

Individuals providing speech-language pathology paraprofessional services in school settings from early childhood through grade twelve must hold the North Dakota certificate of completion for speech-language pathology paraprofessional or hold a current restricted educator's professional license for speech-language pathology at the master's degree level issued by the North Dakota education standards and practices board or a current speech-language pathology license issued by the North Dakota state board of examiners on audiology and speech-language pathology.

History: Effective December 1, 2003; amended effective October 1, 2023.

General Authority: NDCC 15.1-02-11, 15.1-02-16, 15.1-32-02, 15.1-32-09, 43-37-03(4)

Law Implemented: NDCC 15.1-02-11, 15.1-32-02, 15.1-32-09, 43-37-03(4); 20 USC 1412(a)(15); 20 USC 6319(c)-(f); 34 CFR 200.58

67-11-20-03. Issuing agency.

The North Dakota certificate of completion for speech-language pathology paraprofessional is issued by the:

Superintendent of Public Instruction
Department of Public Instruction
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 201
Bismarck, ND 58505-0440

History: Effective December 1, 2003; amended effective October 1, 2023.

General Authority: NDCC 15.1-02-11, 15.1-02-16, 15.1-32-02, 15.1-32-09

Law Implemented: NDCC 15.1-02-11, 15.1-32-02, 15.1-32-09; 20 USC 1412(a)(15); 20 USC 6319(c)-(f); 34 CFR 200.58

67-11-20-04. Certificate of completion standards.

To obtain a certificate of completion for speech-language pathology, an individual must submit a completed application form and qualify under one of the following levels:

1. Speech-language pathology paraprofessionals receiving a level 1 certificate must have one of the following:
 - a. An associate's degree which incorporates:
 - (1) Thirty hours of general college education including oral and written communication skills, mathematics, psychology, and the biological and health sciences;
 - (2) Thirty hours of college education in the area of speech-language pathology, including classes in anatomy, physiology of speech, language, swallowing and hearing mechanisms, communication development, introduction of clinical processes, and fundamentals of human behavior management; and
 - (3) A minimum of one hundred clock-hours of fieldwork experience which is supervised by a qualified speech-language pathologist;
 - b. Currently hold a certification or licensure:
 - (1) As a speech-language pathology assistant issued by the American speech-language-hearing association; or
 - (2) Equivalent to the requirements in subdivision a issued by another state.
2. Speech-language pathology paraprofessionals receiving a level 2 certificate must have one of the following:
 - a. A bachelor's degree in communication sciences and disorders or its equivalency. In addition, a transcribable practicum minimum of one hundred clock-hours of fieldwork experience that is supervised by a licensed speech-language pathologist; or
 - b. Currently hold a license from the North Dakota state board of examiners on audiology and speech-language pathology as a speech-language pathology licensed assistant or equivalent certification or licensure that meets the requirements of subdivision a issued by another state.

All speech-language pathology paraprofessional certificates that are valid on October 1, 2023, will be converted to a level 1 certificate. Individuals wishing to upgrade to a level 2 certificate must complete an application form as described in this section.

History: Effective December 1, 2003; amended effective October 1, 2023.

General Authority: NDCC 15.1-02-11, 15.1-02-16, 15.1-32-02, 15.1-32-09

Law Implemented: NDCC 15.1-02-11, 15.1-32-02, 15.1-32-09; 20 USC 1412(a)(15); 20 USC 6319(c)-(f); 34 CFR 200.58

67-11-20-05. Speech-language pathology paraprofessional services.

1. Speech-language pathology paraprofessionals may only provide speech-language pathology paraprofessional services under the direct control of a supervising speech-language pathologist.
2. A level 1 speech-language pathology paraprofessional may:
 - a. Provide speech-language screenings, without interpretation, following specified screening protocols developed by the supervising speech-language pathologist;
 - b. Perform documented tasks developed by the supervising speech-language pathologist;
 - c. Document students' progress toward meeting objectives and report this information to the supervising speech-language pathologist; and
 - d. Prepare materials, perform scheduling, and maintain space or equipment.
3. A level 2 speech-language pathology paraprofessional may:
 - a. Provide all services that a level 1 speech-language pathology paraprofessional may provide, as described in subsection 2;
 - b. Assist the supervising speech-language pathologist with regulatory paperwork as directed.
4. A level 1 or 2 speech-language pathology paraprofessional may not:
 - a. Make independent decisions regarding changes on the student's individual program;
 - b. Perform standardized or nonstandardized diagnostic tests, formal or informal evaluations, or interpret test results;
 - c. Take referrals or dismiss students from a caseload;
 - d. Participate in conferences or other multidisciplinary team meetings without the presence of the supervising speech-language pathologist;
 - e. Disclose confidential information either orally or in writing to anyone not designated by the supervising speech-language pathologist;
 - f. Provide counseling to the student or family regarding a communication disorder;
 - g. Prepare or sign any formal documentation, including an individualized education program or an assessment plan as a supervising speech-language pathologist; or
 - h. Maintain the person's own caseload.

History: Effective December 1, 2003; amended effective October 1, 2023.

General Authority: NDCC 15.1-02-11, 15.1-02-16, 15.1-32-02, 15.1-32-09

Law Implemented: NDCC 15.1-02-11, 15.1-32-02, 15.1-32-09; 20 USC 1412(a)(15); 20 USC 6319(c)-(f); 34 CFR 200.58

67-11-20-06. Reconsideration.

If an application for a certificate of completion for speech-language pathology paraprofessional is denied, the applicant must be notified of the opportunity for reconsideration. Upon receipt of a written denial, the applicant may request a reconsideration of the denial. A request for reconsideration must be in writing and must be received by the superintendent of public instruction within twenty-one days of the

date the denial was mailed to the applicant by the superintendent of public instruction. Untimely requests may not be considered. The request for reconsideration must discuss:

1. The fact, law, or rule the applicant believes was erroneously interpreted or applied; and
2. The applicant's arguments on how the fact, law, or rule should have been applied, giving specific reasons and a thorough analysis.

The superintendent of public instruction will issue a final written response on the reconsideration request within twenty-one days after receiving a complete and timely reconsideration request. If the superintendent's written response denies the reconsideration request, the superintendent's written response must notify the applicant of the applicant's right to a hearing conducted pursuant to North Dakota Century Code chapter 28-32. The applicant shall request the hearing within thirty days.

History: Effective December 1, 2003; amended effective October 1, 2023.

General Authority: NDCC 15.1-02-11, 15.1-02-16, 15.1-32-02, 15.1-32-09

Law Implemented: NDCC 15.1-02-11, 15.1-32-02, 15.1-32-09; 20 USC 1412(a)(15); 20 USC 6319(c)-(f); 34 CFR 200.58

67-11-20-07. Use of federal rules and policies.

Unless otherwise specified in this chapter, applicable federal law and program regulations govern speech-language pathology paraprofessionals.

History: Effective December 1, 2003.

General Authority: NDCC 15.1-02-11, 15.1-02-16, 15.1-32-02, 15.1-32-09

Law Implemented: NDCC 15.1-02-11, 15.1-32-02, 15.1-32-09; 20 USC 1412(a)(15); 20 USC 6319(c)-(f); 34 CFR 200.58