

**GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY
AND AUDIOLOGY
Professional Licensing Board
237 Coliseum Drive
Macon, GA 31217
February 6, 2012
10:00 a.m.**

The Board Meeting for the Georgia State Board of Speech Language Pathology and Audiology was held on Monday, February 6, 2012, at the Professional Licensing Boards, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia.

The following Board members were present:	Others Present:
Lori Smith, AUD, President Amy Gatch, SLP, Vice President Melanie Blackwood, SLP Andrea Boswell, SLP Holly Kaplan, AuD Lauren Wright	Janet Wray, Sr. Attorney General Anita Martin, Executive Director Aricka Colbert, Licensing Analyst Carol White, Board Support Dr. Jamie Howard Ralph Jackson

Rules Hearing

Dr. Smith called the rules hearing to order at 10:05 a.m. The hearing was held to consider changes to Board Rule 609-3.03 – Regency of Study., to be retitled Requirements for Licensure by Examination for Audiology January 1, 2007, or after. No written comments or verbal comments were received for the hearing. The Board Rule Hearing was adjourned at 10:06 a.m.

Open Session

Dr. Lori Smith established that a quorum was present and the meeting that was scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m. was called to order at 10:10 a.m.

Review of December 12, 2011 Conference Call Board meeting minutes.

Ms. Boswell moved to approve the minutes. Ms. Gatch seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Ratify list of licenses

Dr. Kaplan moved to approve the list. Ms. Boswell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Consideration of adoption of Board Rule 609-3-.03 Regency of Study to be retitled: Rule 609-3-.03 Requirements for Licensure by Examination for Audiology January 1, 2007 or after.

Ms. Boswell made a motion to adopt Board Rule 609-3-.03 Requirements for Licensure by Examination for Audiology January 1, 2007. Dr. Gatch seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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609-3-.03 Requirements for Licensure by Examination for Audiology January 1, 2007 or after.

In order to be considered for licensure as an audiologist on or after January 1, 2007, the applicant must satisfy the following requirements.

(a) For Doctoral Degree applicants.

1. Education Requirements. Applicants whose degree was earned on or after January 1, 2007 must have earned a doctoral degree program with a major emphasis in audiology that addresses the knowledge and skills pertinent to the profession of audiology, from an institution of higher learning that is, or at the time the applicant was enrolled and graduated was, accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education or its successor organization.
2. Clinical Practicum Requirements. Applicants must submit certified evidence of completion of post-baccalaureate directly supervised clinical practicum with cases representative of a wide spectrum of ages and communicative disorders within the first three years of doctoral degree program.
3. Applicants must complete and provide documentation of one of the following:
 - (i) Certified evidence of having obtained required professional experience that is equivalent to a minimum of 12 months of full-time supervised clinical practicum. The required professional experience must be approved by an academic program. The students must obtain a variety of clinical practicum experiences in different work settings and with different populations so that the applicant can demonstrate skills across the scope of practice of audiology. Acceptable required professional experience includes clinical and administrative activities directly related to patient care. A calendar week of clinical practicum is defined as a minimum of 35 hours per calendar week in direct patient/client contact, consultation, record keeping, and administrative duties relevant to audiology service delivery. The required professional experience must be obtained with an accredited program or one of its cooperating programs or,
 - (ii) A paid clinical experience that meets the requirements of Rule 609-3-.04(a)1, for Masters Degree audiology licensure candidates.
4. Examination. The applicant shall be required to pass an examination as specified in Board rules.

4. Recency of Study.

In order for an applicant to demonstrate recency of study, he/she must have completed a minimum of two (2) continuing education units within the two (2) years preceding the date the application is received by the Board.

(b) For Masters Degree applicants.

1. Educational requirements

- (i) Applicants shall have earned a master's degree with a major emphasis in audiology which was conferred before January 1, 2007 from an institution of higher learning which was, at the time the applicant was enrolled and graduated, accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education or its successor organization.

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(ii) Applicants shall submit certified evidence of completion of a minimum of 75 semester hours of academic credit from one or more accredited programs constituting a well-integrated program that includes classes that reflect a well integrated program of study dealing with the nature, prevention, evaluation and treatment of hearing and related disorders. At least thirty-six (36) hours of these academic credits must be earned at the graduate level from an accredited program.

2. Clinical Practicum Requirement.

(i) Applicants shall submit certified evidence of completion of at least 25 clock hours of supervised clinical observation and 375 clock hours of directly supervised clinical practicum with cases representative of a wide spectrum of ages and communicative disorders across the scope of practice of audiology. At least 325 of the 400 hours must be completed at the graduate level.

(ii) Applicants shall submit certified evidence of direct clinical experiences in both diagnosis and treatment with children and adults. The supervised practicum must include experience in a variety of settings with client populations across the life span from culturally/linguistic diverse backgrounds and with various types of severities of communication problems and related disorders., differences and disabilities.

3. Required Professional Experience.

Applicants shall complete a paid clinical experience pursuant to Board rule 609-3-.04(a)1.

4. Applicants shall be required to pass an examination as specified in Board rules/

5. Recency of Study.

In order for an applicant to demonstrate recency of study, he/she must have completed a minimum of two (2) continuing education units within the two (2) years preceding the date the application is received by the Board.

Authority O.C.G.A. §§43-44-3, 43-44-6, 43-44-8, 43-44-10 and 43-44-11.

Correspondence from the Georgia Hearing Aid Dealers and Dispensers Board re: internet and mail order hearing aid sales.

Dr. Jamie Howard, President of the Georgia Academy of Audiology and Ralph Jackson, Past President of the Georgia Hearing Society for Hearing Professionals addressed the Board concerning the following Taskforce for Consumer Hearing Health.

1. The task force will provide patient based information to the Board.
2. The task force ask who is the attorney for United Healthcare/Health Innovations and has the board changed its decision on whether or not a person has to have a license and the remaining issue was whether or not you have to be licensed to dispensing hearing aids?
3. Will the Board consider drafting rules for a standard of care for testing and fitting? Drs. Smith, Kaplan and Bohannon will develop a rule for this issue and provide to the board at the next board meeting.
4. The task force will provide a suggested rule language.
5. Executive Director Anita Martin will get a copy of the Health Innovations letter from the Hearing Aid Dealer and Dispenser Boards.

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6. The Board recommended Health Innovations should receive the "United Healthcare" letter.

Rule Variance request from Trudy Simone Whitehead re Board Rule 609-3-.02(C)(1) Requirements for Licensure by Examination for Speech Language Pathology on January 1, 2007 or After.

Ms. Boswell made a motion to approve. The Board will grant the waiver for the practicum hours. Dr. Kaplan seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Correspondence from Lori Burkhead seeking clarification on conducting a Modified Barium Swallowing Study

The Board states Modified Barium Swallowing Studies are allowed under the scope of practice. However, if medication is administered a physician or nurse needs to be present during the study. The Board states that radiology technicians are not licensed individuals in the State of Georgia.

Rule Variance Request from Trudy Simone Whitehead regarding Board Rule 609-3-.02)C(1)-Requirements for Licensure by Examination for Speech Language Pathology on January 1, 2007 or After. Ms. Boswell made a motion to grant the rule waiver request for the waiver of practicum hours. Dr. Kaplan seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Discussion of proposed Georgia Hearing Aid Dispensing Laws

The Board does not support any legislation.

Executive Director's Open Session – Ms. Anita Martin

- Ms. Martin shared the Secretary of State Reorganization plan.
- Ms. Martin stated that she is retiring effective March 30, 2012.

Miscellaneous

- Ms. Anita Martin will check on Board Rule 609-6-.01 Speech Pathology Aide rule. The rule that is posted is not what the Board adopted a couple of years ago. The Board recommended to Ms. Martin the SLP Aide application also needs revision.

Executive Session

Ms. Blackwood made a motion, Ms. Boswell seconded and the Board voted to enter into Executive Session in accordance with O.C.G.A §43-1-2(k) to deliberate on applications and O.C.G.A. §43-1-19(h)(2) to review complaints. Voting in favor of the motion were those present who included Ms. Gatch, Ms. Wright and Dr. Kaplan. The Board concluded Executive Session in order to vote on these matters and continue with the public session.

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Appointments:

10:30 a.m. – D.L.J. – Denied Speech Pathologist Aide Applicant – No Show – The Board recommended to uphold the denial.

Applications:

1. J.L.E. – Speech Aide Applicant – The Board recommended denying and providing the applicant with the specifics that must be met.
2. J.M.F. – Speech Language Pathologist Reinstatement Applicant – The Board recommended approval and to accept the consent order waiving the continuing education hours.
3. N.M.C. –Speech Aide Applicant – The Board recommended denying and providing the applicant with the specifics that must be met.
4. K.D.D. – Speech Language Pathologist Endorsement Applicant – The Board recommended denial until applicant meets condition of recency of study as outlined in Board Rule 609-8-.03
5. L.S. – Foreign Trained PCE Applicant – The Board recommended approval.
6. A.M.C. – Speech Language Pathologist Applicant – The Board recommended denying.
7. K.N.S. – Speech Aide Applicant – The Board recommended denying.
8. K.L.J. –Speech Aide Applicant – The Board recommended denying.

Cognizant Report – Dr. Holly Kaplan

SLPA120005 – The Board recommended closing with no violation.

SLPA120006 – The Board recommended closing with no violation.

SLPA120007 – The Board recommended referring to OIG to interview the patient and gets a copy of the IEP containing goals, objectives, present level of performance and service page. If the parent doesn't have a copy of the IEP, get a waiver and obtain from the school system. Once received an investigative interview will be scheduled with the SLP.

Attorney General – Ms. Janet Wray

- Ms. Wray presented to the Board for acceptance signed consent orders on:
 1. Jason Feld, AuD
 2. Jocelyn Gasaway, SLPA
 3. Shira H. Yablok, SLPA
- Ms. Wray presented to the Board for acceptance a signed Voluntary Surrender on Kenneth Allen Thisdale.

Open Session

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Ms. Gatch made a motion to approve the recommendations in executive session. Ms. Blackwood seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The Board chose March 12, 2012 as a date to meet if an in person meeting is required due to appeal appointments.

Ms. Boswell made a motion to adjourn, Dr. Kaplan seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:06 p.m.

Minutes recorded by:

Carol White, Board Secretary

Minutes reviewed and edited by:

Anita O. Martin, Executive Director

