

**GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY
AND AUDIOLOGY
Conference Call Board Meeting
Professional Licensing Board
237 Coliseum Drive
Macon, GA 31217
December 12, 2011
8:00 a.m.**

The Conference Call Board Meeting for the Georgia State Board of Speech Language Pathology and Audiology was held on Monday, December 12, 2011, at the Professional Licensing Boards, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia.

The following Board members were present:	Others Present:
Lori Smith, AUD Melanie Blackwood, SLP Robin Bohannon, AUD Andrea Boswell, SLP Michael Callahan, M.D. Amy Gatch, SLP Holly Kaplan, AUD Lauren Wright	Anita Martin, Executive Director

Open Session

Dr. Lori Smith established that a quorum was present and the meeting that was scheduled to begin at 8:00 a.m. was called to order at 8:02 a.m.

Review of November 7, 2011 Conference Call Board meeting minutes.

Dr. Kaplan moved to approve the minutes. Dr. Callahan seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Ratify list of licenses

Dr. Callahan moved to approve the list. Dr. Bohannon seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Correspondence from Thomas D. Jones, President of Georgia Society of Hearing Professionals regarding Internet Hearing Aid Sales.

The Board will query the Hearing Aid Board to see if they have a statement about this issue. Ms. Martin will draft a policy on this issue and provide to the Board at its next board meeting.

Review of forms for Audiology Assistant and SLP Aide.

The Board tabled until their next Board meeting in February 2012.

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Consideration for posting Board Rule 609-3-.03 – Regency of Study to be Retitled

Requirements for Licensure by Examination for Audiology on January 1, 2007 or After.

Ms. Boswell made a motion to post; Dr. Kaplan seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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

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

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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.

(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. §§____

Request from Nikki Dickerson regarding lifting the suspension of her license from Public Consent Order, Docket number 2011 – 2012.

Ms. Boswell made a motion to approve the request from Ms. Dickerson. Dr. Bohannon seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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Executive Session

Dr. Michael Callahan made a motion, Ms. Wright 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. Blackwood, Boswell and Gatch and Drs. Bohannon and Kaplan. The Board concluded Executive Session in order to vote on these matters and continue with the public session.

Applications:

1. S.H.Y. – SLP Applicant – The Board recommended referring to the Attorney General’s office to mimic the Missouri Board order.
2. J.M.F. – SLP Reinstatement – The Board recommended reinstatement with a Consent Order based upon Board Policy.
3. J.D.G. – SLP Reinstatement – The Board recommended reinstatement with a Consent Order based upon Board Policy.

Cognizant Report – Dr. Holly Kaplan

SLPA120004 – The Board recommended sending to the OIG to serve a Cease and Desist Order, request job description, degree information, a description on how billing has been conducted, billing information and work history of any practice in Georgia.

Open Session

Ms. Wright made a motion to approve the recommendations in executive session. Dr. Bohannon seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. 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 8:35 a.m.

Minutes recorded by:

Carol White, Board Secretary

Minutes reviewed and edited by:

Anita O. Martin, Executive Director