



SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS & AUDIOLOGISTS AT A GLANCE

Statutes: Chapters 401 and 51, Texas Occupations Code

Rules: Title 16 T.A.C. Chapter 111

Number of Licensees: 21,692 (FY 19)

Practice Act? Yes

Title Act? Yes

Inspections? No



Overview:

- Speech-language pathology uses nonmedical procedures to test and rehabilitate communication disorders including speech, voice, language, oral pharyngeal function, or cognitive processes so these conditions can be modified.
- Audiology uses nonmedical methods to test and rehabilitate auditory or vestibular system disorders to provide services that modify communicative disorders involving speech, language, hearing, balance or abnormal behavior related to hearing loss.

Speech-Language Pathology License Requirements

- A master's degree from an accredited institution with a major in one of the areas of communicative sciences or disorders;
- Supervised clinical work with individuals who present a variety of communication disorders. An applicant must complete at least 25 clock hours of supervised observation before completing the supervised clinical direct client contact (clinical practicum);
- Internship. An applicant must have completed an internship in which a minimum of 1,260 hours of clinical work has been accomplished in speech-language pathology under the supervision of a licensed SLP. The applicant must be licensed before the beginning of the internship;
- Pass the Praxis examination; and,
- Complete the jurisprudence examination.

Speech-Language Pathology Intern

License Requirements

- A master's degree from an accredited institution with a major in one of the areas of communicative sciences or disorders;
- Supervised clinical work with individuals who present a variety of communication disorders. An applicant must have completed a clinical practicum, including supervised clinical observation and clinical direct client contact within an educational institution or in one of its cooperating programs;
- Complete the jurisprudence examination; and,

Scope of License

- Internship. Once the intern license is issued, the intern must be supervised by a licensed speech-language pathologist who has been approved by TDLR to serve as the intern's supervisor. The internship must be completed within a maximum of 48 months. The internship must have a minimum of 1,260 hours of supervised professional experience that includes primarily clinical activities such as assessment, diagnosis, evaluation, screening, treatment, report writing, family/client consultation, and/or counseling related to the management process of individuals who exhibit communication disabilities.



SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS & AUDIOLOGISTS AT A GLANCE

Speech-Language Pathology Assistant

License Requirements

- A bachelor's degree with an emphasis in communicative sciences or disorders. At least 24 of those semester credit hours must be in speech-language pathology, language disorders and speech disorders;
- A speech-language pathology assistant must be supervised by a licensed speech-language pathologist approved by TDLR.
- Complete 25 hours of clinical observation and 25 hours of clinical assisting experiences; and,
- Complete the jurisprudence examination.

Audiology License Requirements

- A doctoral degree in audiology or a related hearing science from an accredited program;
- Proof of completing an internship that consisted of 1,600 hours of supervised clinical work, involving primarily clinical activities. These activities may include assessment, diagnosis, evaluation, screening, treatment, report writing, family/client consultation, and/or counseling related to the management process of individuals;
- Pass the Praxis examination; and,
- Complete the jurisprudence examination.

Audiology Intern License Requirements

- Completion of all coursework required for a doctoral degree in audiology or a related hearing science from an accredited program;
- Once the intern license is issued, the intern must be supervised by a licensed audiologist approved by TDLR. The internship must consist of 1,600 hours of supervised clinical work, involving primarily clinical activities. These activities may include assessment, diagnosis, evaluation, screening, treatment, report writing, family/client consultation, and/or counseling related to the management process of individuals; and,
- Complete the jurisprudence examination.

Audiology Assistant License Requirements

- Be at least 18 years old and possess a high school diploma or equivalent;
- Complete the approved 20-hour certification course from the Council for Accreditation of Occupational Hearing Conservation and earn a passing score on the examination;
- Submit the Supervisory Responsibility Statement for an Assistant in Audiology form; and
- Submit a plan to complete a minimum of 25 hours of job-specific competency-based training to be carried out by the supervisor. Until this training is complete, the licensed assistant in audiology may practice only under in-person, direct supervision by the supervisor.

| License Type | Fees |
|--|-------|
| Speech-Language Pathology initial application (two-year license) | \$150 |
| Speech-Language Pathology renewal (two-year license) | \$100 |
| Speech-Language Pathology Intern initial application (one-year license) | \$75 |
| Speech-Language Pathology Intern Renewal (one-year license) | \$75 |
| Speech-Language Pathology Assistant initial application (two-year license) | \$150 |
| Speech-Language Pathology Assistant Renewal (two-year license) | \$100 |
| Audiology initial application (two-year license) | \$150 |
| Audiology renewal (two-year license) | \$100 |
| Audiology Intern initial application (one-year license) | \$75 |
| Audiology Intern renewal license (one-year) | \$75 |
| Audiology Assistant initial application (two-year license) | \$150 |
| Audiology Assistant renewal (two-year license) | \$100 |
| Duplicate/Replacement License | \$25 |

Criminal Background Check

Texas law requires fingerprint background checks for certain TDLR licensing programs, including all license types within the Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists program. TDLR performs fingerprint criminal history background checks for initial license applications using the FACT Clearinghouse, a repository of DPS and FBI fingerprint-based criminal history results. TDLR relies on Rap-Back for renewal applications. Rap-Back reports notify TDLR and other entities when someone whose fingerprints are on file is arrested.

The **Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists Advisory Board** has 9 members serving 6-year terms, which includes:

- three audiologist members;
- three speech-language pathologist members; and
- three members who represent the public, including one pediatrician or one otolaryngologist.