



**SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY PRACTICE COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

June 12, 2013

Department of Consumer Affairs
2005 Evergreen Street
"Hearing Room"
Sacramento, CA

Committee Members Present

Carol Murphy, Chair, Speech-Language Pathologist
Patti Solomon-Rice, Speech-Language Pathologist

Board Member Present

Alison Grimes, Dispensing Audiologist
Marcia Raggio, Dispensing Audiologist
Deane Manning, Hearing Aid Dispenser
Amnon Shalev, Hearing Aid Dispenser
Jaime Lee, Public Member

Committee Members Absent

Rodney Diaz, Otolaryngologist
Monty Martin, Public Member

Guests Present

Cindy Beyer, HearUSA
Jami Tanihana, HearUSA
Tricia Hunter, HHP CA
Linda Pippert, Alpha Vista Services, CSHA
Meghan Giffin, Alpha Vista Services
Jean Jackson, EBS Healthcare
Dennis Van Vliet, Audiologist

Staff Present

Annemarie Del Mugnaio, Executive Officer
Clair Yazigi, Legal Counsel
Breanne Humphreys, Program Manager

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Murphy called the meeting to order at 3:40 p.m. She announced that the committee does not have a quorum and that the meeting would be informational only.

II. Introductions

Those present introduced themselves.

III. Discussion Regarding the Evaluation of Internationally Trained Applicants for Licensure

A. Update on International English Language Testing System (IELTS) Project

Ms. Del Mugnaio reported that the Office of Professional Examination Services (OPES) is working with the Board and our Subject Matter Experts to conduct a standard setting workshop on the IELTS examination. She stated that the intent of the workshop is to establish a passing score for the IELTS examination specific to the necessary language competencies of a speech-language pathologist. Ms. Del Mugnaio reported that the workshop should be held sometime late summer 2013.

B. Discuss Amendments to Existing Regulations (CCR 1399.152 & 1399.152.1)

Ms. Del Mugnaio explained the issue surrounding the existing provisions of CCR 1399.152 and 1399.152.1. She stated that the regulations were intended to establish a framework for evaluating the equivalent qualifications of foreign trained applicants. However, the provisions do not address the equivalency standards are isolated to those trained in another country. Ms. Del Mugnaio stated that the academic standards in the regulations do not define the statute (Business and Professions Code 2532.2(b), but rather set a different entry-level standard. She stated that the regulations require a foreign educated applicant to demonstrate completion of at least thirty (30) semester units acceptable towards a master's degree while registered as a graduate student in a degree program in speech-language pathology or audiology. Ms. Del Mugnaio explained that the statute BPC 2532.2 (b) requires that at least twenty-four (24) units must be related to disorders of speech, voice, or language for speech-language pathology. She requested Ms. Solomon-Rice to assist her with understanding the current academic framework of accredited training programs to better understand how the statute and the regulations are in harmony and establish a minimum standard for equivalent qualifications.

Ms. Solomon-Rice made suggestions that the regulations include the major content areas as reflected in the American Speech-Language Hearing Association's (ASHA's) 2014 Standards and Implementation Procedures for the Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology.

Ms. Del Mugnaio stated that since the Committee is being conducted as informational only, the discussion will be taken up in the full Board meeting, in terms of how the Board should move forward.

IV. Review of National Standards for Speech-Language Pathology Assistants (SLPA) & Consideration of Regulation Amendments to Existing SLPA Provisions

Ms. Del Mugnaio reviewed the current regulations for SLPAs and the amended regulations as approved by the Board at previous Board meetings. She stated that Ms. Solomon-Rice suggested that the Board review the new ASHA 2013 document regarding the SLPA scope of practice. Ms.

Del Mugnaio reported that Ms. Murphy forwarded a document, *Guidelines for the Speech-Language Pathology Assistant (SLPA) Duties and the Responsibilities in Early Intervention* created by the California Speech-Language-Hearing Association (CSHA) and the California Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) on Early Intervention to the other Board members for review. She asked that they consider whether the current regulations address the responsibilities of an SLPA in early intervention services.

Ms. Murphy inquired whether SLPAs may be supervised by speech-language pathologists who are operating on a credential waiver.

Ms. Del Mugnaio reported that the supervisor must have a clear and valid credential to supervise an SLPA according to current law and regulation.

Ms. Solomon-Rice inquired whether current regulations address the following guidelines as documented in the ASHA and the CSHA/ICC document:

- The maximum number of full-time SLPAs a supervisor may supervise.

Ms. Del Mugnaio referenced the current regulations specifying that a supervisor may supervise a maximum of two (2) SLPAs.

- A minimum amount of supervision that must be provided an SLPA during the first 90 days and a minimum amount of supervision following the first 90 days.

Ms. Del Mugnaio reported that there are no provisions requiring a specific amount of supervision during the first 90 days or thereafter, but rather the supervision provisions in regulation address the type of supervision that must be provided to an SLPA depending upon the services being provided by the SLPA and the medical state of the client/student, e.g., a medically-fragile client/student

- A guideline for addressing a supervisor's extended absence in terms of either requiring a substitute supervisor.

Ms. Del Mugnaio stated that current provisions do not specifically address interim absences of an SLPA supervisor, but state that an SLPA may not perform duties without adequate supervision.

Ms. Del Mugnaio stated that any proposed changes to the current SLPA regulations must be addressed in the full Board meeting.

Chairperson Murphy adjourned the meeting at 4:15 p.m.