

News For Oregon Licensees

Oregon Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology

Chair

Ilia Fong, Au.D

Vice-Chair

Amy Constanza-Smith, CCC-SLP

Professional Members

Amy Martin, CCC-SLP

Carrie Slough, Au.D

Christopher Hargunani, M.D.

Otolaryngologist

Kristy Cousineau, SLPA

Public Members

Jazzmen Manning

Executive Director

Erin K. Haag

Executive Assistant

David Linn

Investigator

Ryan Fahlman-Katler

www.oregon.gov/bspa

Rule Reminders

The Board office has had some concerning questions and cases related to Speech-Language Pathologists utilizing SLPAs and supervising Conditional SLPs.

The SLP that takes on supervision of a C-SLP or SLPA is responsible for confirming the license and/or education status of the individual they will be supervising. This cannot be delegated to any other person. A C-SLP or SLPA must be licensed before they can report to their supervisor, it is not enough just to submit the application or to rely on HR or clinic staff to verify the licensure with our Board.

The SLP that takes on supervision is responsible for all assignment of duties and documentation of performance. This cannot be delegated to any other person or another SLP. SLPAs cannot have a caseload. All patient, student, client outcomes are the responsibility of the SLP, and they must use their professional judgement as to which patients are to be assigned to the SLPA.

Telepractice has specific rules that must be followed under the Professional & Ethical Standards. The provision of service via telepractice is under the professional judgement of the SLP and it must be documented in the patient/student/client file that they have been determined by the SLP to be ap-

(Continued on page 3)

Scope of Practice Questions

SLPAs and EAs have a very clearly defined scope of practice that is listed in OAR 335-095-0060, OAR 335-095-0065 and ORS 681.360-375. We have been receiving several inquiries into medical procedures such as tracheotomy care, modified barium swallows, FEES, etc. Oregon law defines the scope of practice for SLPs and Audiologists more broadly in ORS 681.205, but does not go into more specificity. Instead the rules state:

OAR 335-005-0020—Professional Competence

- “(1) Individuals shall engage in only those aspects of the professions that are within the scope of their competence, considering their level of education, training, and experience.
- (2) Individuals shall continue their professional development throughout their careers.
- (3) Individuals who supervise shall prohibit any of their professional staff from providing services that exceed the staff member's competence, considering the staff member's level of education, training, and experience.
- (5) Individuals shall prohibit anyone under their supervision from engaging in any practice that violates the Professional and Ethical Standards.

(Continued on page 2)

In This Issue:

Conditional SLPs	Page 2
Rules Review	Page 2
Board's Role & Mission	Page 3
Licensee Portal	Page 3
SLP/SLPA Stipend Program	Page 3
Board Actions	Page 4
Board Actions Con't	Page 5

Scope of Practice

(Continued from page 1)

(6) Individuals shall not provide professional services without exercising independent professional judgment, regardless of referral source or prescription.

When questions arise to appropriateness of a particular instance the board looks at each one on a case-by-case basis. They often will solicit information from ASHA, OSHA, experts, and other professionals about the industry standards required education and experience.

ODE Stipend Program

We're excited to share that the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) offers stipends for participants in the Speech Language Stipend Program! These stipends are available through K-12 school districts or ESD programs that sponsor participants.

To ensure everything runs smoothly, participants and their employers will enter into individual agreements that meet Oregon Revised Statutes requirements, ORS 348.398 and 348.406. This approach allows ODE to uphold statutory guidelines while giving employers the flexibility to create agreements tailored to local needs.

Here's how it works:

1. Application Submission: Participants submit the required forms to their employer and ODE.

2. Eligibility and Award: ODE reviews the submissions, determines eligibility, and awards program participation for two years.

Completion and Disbursement: After successfully completing the two-year requirements and any additional tasks (such as surveys), ODE awards the stipend funds to the ESD or School District employer, who then disperses them to the participant and their mentor SLP. It's important for employers to develop agreements that meet the statutory requirements for this program. The specific financial details, including timelines and any applicable taxes or fees, are determined between the candidate and the employer.

For more information, please visit [The Speech Language Stipend ODE webpage](#).

Conditional SLP License

All SLP supervisors that agree to supervise a Conditional SLP during their clinical fellowship year (CFY) agree to meet the rules listed in **OAR 335-080-0015—Supervisors Responsibility and Nature of Supervision**

- 1) The supervisor shall manage and direct the duties and functions of the conditional licensee and oversee the work performed by the conditional licensee.
- 2) The supervisor shall keep records of the tasks performed by the conditional licensee and whether the work is performed competently.

Per OAR 335-080-0005(2), Supervisor means a licensed speech-language pathologist or audiologist who undertakes responsibility for managing and directing a conditional licensee during their post-graduate supervised clinical experience **and until they obtain regular licensure.**

Any Conditional SLP that has completed their CFY requirements must continue to be supervised until they receive full licensure. All SLP supervisors should be able to guide their supervisee through the completion of the CFY and how to apply for upgrading the license.

When a person is nearing completion have them contact the board office and we will prepare their profile to upgrade and confirm if the praxis score has been received.

To upgrade the license we must receive:

- SLP License fee; and
- Passing Praxis Score Report from ETS; and
- Upgrade Form signed by the supervising SLP.

Once these are received it is typically less than a day or two to process the application and upgrade the license.

ASHA CCCs are not required for licensure in Oregon. **DO NOT** wait for ASHA CCCs applications to be processed to apply for upgrading the license. ASHA is not a licensing board or government agency in any sense. ASHA is a private membership organization and membership is not required to obtain or maintain licensure in Oregon.

The Board's Role & Mission

The Board has received some survey questions about the role it serves on behalf of Oregonians. The authority and mission of the Board was set in statute by the Oregon Legislature in 1973.

ORS 681.220 Policy. It is declared to be a policy of this state that it is necessary to provide regulatory authority over persons offering speech-language pathology and audiology services to the public in order to:

- (1) Safeguard the public health, safety and welfare;
- (2) Protect the public from being misled by incompetent, unscrupulous and unauthorized persons;
- (3) Protect the public from unprofessional conduct by qualified speech-language pathologists and audiologists; and
- (4) Help ensure the availability of the highest possible quality speech-language pathology and audiology services to people of this state who have communication disabilities.

The Board is comprised of two SLPs, two audiologists, one otolaryngologist, two non-professional members, and (recently added) an SLPA. The individuals do not represent their respective professions, they represent the people of Oregon. However they do bring their unique experience to the discussions and subsequent votes.

The Board does not receive funding from any tax source and is legislatively mandated to fund its operations through licensing fees. The Agency strives to only maintain enough reserves to prevent wild fluctuations in the biannual renewal fees.

The Board adopts rules to regulate the professions, however there is always a public comment period and even opportunities to serve on rule drafting committees.

If you or someone you know has an interest in joining the Board, please email Erin K. Haag at:

speechaud.board@bspa.oregon.gov

Rule Reminders (Continued)

(Continued from page 1)

appropriate for receiving services via Telepractice and have advance written permission. All services must be equivalent to those that are provided in person (both people on-site). Being employed to provide services exclusively via telepractice does not excuse the requirements for using professional judgement in the selection of patients, service delivery and in the utilization of SLPAs or Conditional SLPs.

SLPAs assist SLPs, not the other way around. We have seen some concerning instances where the SLPAs appear to be the one managing the caseload. In some cases, the SLP has never even treated or co-treated the student the entire school year, which means the child is not technically receiving "speech-language communication services." The SLP must be actively engaged in the treatment of each student/patient/client, and is required to see each of them every 60 days at a minimum. The SLPA is there to assist, not be the sole service provider.

A reminder about events licensees are required to report to the Board office:

- Changes in work or home address, email, and phone number or name used professionally must be reported within 30 days.
- Changes in supervision, whether you are an SLPA or a CF holding a Conditional SLP license, must be reported within 30 days.
- Any licensee's conviction for a misdemeanor or felony and any arrest for a felony crime must be reported within 10 days after the conviction or arrest.
- Prohibited or unprofessional conduct on the part of yourself or another licensee must be reported within 10 working days.
- Any adverse action taken against a license by any state or federal agency or professional association.
- Any reasonable belief that another individual is violating the Board's Professional and Ethical Standards.
- Any suspected Child Abuse (ORS 419b)
Communicable Disease (ORS 433 & OAR 333-018)
or Elder Abuse (ORS 124).

Board Actions

Morales, Elleigh, #017756

Outcome: Consent Order

On November 15, 2024, Morales entered into a consent order with the Board which imposed a civil penalty of \$1,500 and a probation from using the services of/supervising SLPAs for 12 months. She was also required to successfully complete 10 hours of professional development in supervision of SLPAs. After meeting the PD requirements early and refraining from using the services of an SLPA for several months, the board lifted the SLPA prohibition on 11/1/24. These penalties were levied for violations while Morales was employed by AMN Healthcare to work at Ashland School District via 100% telepractice from Florida, from January 5 to June 16, 2023. During that time, she used the services of an SLPA. Morales violated OAR 335-005-0016(3) which states that a telepractitioner is responsible for assessing the client's candidacy for telepractice, including behavioral, physical and cognitive abilities to participate in services provided via telecommunication. Morales also violated ORS 681.370 & 681.370(1) - A speech-language pathologist who employs or otherwise uses the services of a speech-language pathology assistant shall: (1) Be responsible for the extent, type and quality of services provided by each speech-language pathology assistant supervised by the speech-language pathologist. Morales violated OAR 335-095-0050(1)(b) when she failed to treat each student on her caseload and OAR 335-095-0050(4) by failing to create an annual supervision plan for the SLPA whose services she was using and supervising.

Rice, Jeffrey, #021465

Outcome: Consent Order

On June 12, 2024, Rice entered into a consent order with the Board which imposed a civil penalty of \$2,500 Board costs and to relinquish his Oregon audiology license.. Rice neither admits nor denies but the Board finds that Licensee engaged in the conduct, violating ORS 681.420(3) and (5), ORS 681.490(5), OAR 335-005-0015(1),(2), (3), and (16).

Wallner, Danielle – License Denied

Outcome: Consent Order

On June 18, 2024, Wallner entered into a consent order with the Board, which charged her with violation of ORS 681.250 (2)(working as an SLP and purporting to be a SLP when unlicensed); ORS 681.260(5)(failure to meet other requirements for licensure), license application denied. Wallner agrees not to perform any work of any kind in Oregon that would require her to obtain Board licensure in Oregon and as such, the Board has waived the civil penalty assessment.

Barth, Amy #016017

Outcome: Consent Order

On April 5, 2024, Barth entered into a consent order with the Board, which imposed a civil penalty of \$100 when she practiced as an SLP independently, i.e., without a supervisor, under a conditional SLP license, in violation of OAR 335-080-0025(4), from April 10, 2018 until February 28, 2019.

Paley, Mara #17604

Outcome: Consent Order

On April 5, 2024, Paley entered into a consent order with the Board, imposing a civil penalty of \$300 for violating ORS 681.250(2) by practicing without a license from the last week of August, 2023 until her regular SLP license was issued October 4, 2023.

Marshall, Emily #016413

Outcome: Consent Order

On April 5, 2024, Marshall entered into a consent order with the Board imposing a civil penalty of \$500 for violating OAR 335-005-0010(2)(b) by signing the SLP clinical fellowship

Report and Rating form with a false attestation that she had been supervised on-site.

Salvia, Bridget #016367

Outcome: Consent Order

On April 5, 2024, Salvia entered into a consent order with the Board imposing a civil penalty of \$500 for violating OAR 335-005-0010(2)(b) by signing the SLP clinical fellowship Report and Rating form with a false attestation that she had been supervised on-site.

Marks, Nichole #013593

Outcome: Final Order by Default

On March 22, 2024, Marks was issued a Final Order by Default and a civil penalty of \$100 for failure to properly utilize the services of a speech-language pathology assistant (SLPA) while working as a Speech-Language Pathologist at Pediatric Therapy Services in 2017 and 2018. Respondent supervised Speech-Language Pathology Assistant Susan Bosworth in 2017 and 2018 and violating OAR 335-095-0050(4), requires that supervision of Speech-Language Pathology Assistants must be documented, OAR 335-095(a) requiring that documentation include the following elements: date, activity, clinical interaction hours, and direct or indirect supervision hours. The Board found that Respondent failed to maintain adequate records of the supervision she provided to a Speech-Language Pathology Assistant (SLPA) for ten months in 2017 and 2018. Respondent failed to document the activity performed by the SLPA each time Respondent provided supervision.

Marks, Nichole #013593

Outcome: Final Order by Default

On March 22, 2024, Marks was issued a Final Order by Default and a civil penalty of \$600 for failure to properly utilize the services of a speech-language pathology assistant (SLPA) while working as a Speech-Language Pathologist at Pediatric Therapy Services in 2019 and 2020. She violated OAR 335-005-0010(2), ORS 676.150 and ORS 676.150(1)(d) and OAR 335-005-0025 (4) for unprofessional conduct and misrepresentation by failing to take responsibility for the billing of the services provided by herself the SLPA that she utilized to provide services to children. Marks did not document in her treatment notes that some services were provided while co-treating the patient with a physical therapy or occupational therapy professional and that Marks did this knowing that the misrepresentation of the services could be used to falsely increase reimbursement to the clinic where she worked. Marks also violated ORS 681.370(1), ORS 681.370(2), OAR 335-095-0050(5)(a), OAR 335-095-0050(1)(e), OAR 335-095-0050(1)(e), OAR 335-095-0010(4), OAR 335-095-0050(1)(b), OAR 335-095-0050(3), OAR 335-095-0050(4) and (4)(a), OAR 335-095-0050(1)(a), OAR 335-095-0050(1)(b), OAR 335-095-0050(4) OAR 335-095-0050(1)(a) and OAR 335-095-0050(4)(a).

Cohen-Shaw, Gila #015057

Outcome: Consent Order

On March 13, 2024, Cohen-Shaw entered into a consent order with the Board imposing a civil penalty of \$500 for violation of OAR 335-005-0010(2)(b) due to signing the SLP clinical fellowship rating form that included an incorrect attestation about supervision of a clinical fellow.

Pancoast, Elizabeth #016476

Outcome: Consent Order

On March 8, 2024, Pancoast entered into a consent order with

Board Actions

the Board imposing a penalty of \$310 for practicing without a valid license from March 4 – 14, 2019, in violation of ORS 681.250(2).

Rinaldo, Emily #016137

Outcome: Consent Order

On March 8, 2024, Rinaldo entered into a consent order with the Board imposing a civil penalty of \$500 for violating OAR 335-005-0010(2)(b) by signing the SLP clinical fellowship Report and Rating form with a false attestation that she had been supervised on-site.

Bailey, Morgan #016133

Outcome: Consent Order

On March 8, 2024, Bailey entered into a consent order with the Board imposing a civil penalty of \$500 for violating OAR 335-005-0010(2)(b) by signing the SLP clinical fellowship Report and Rating form with a false attestation that she had been supervised on-site.

Thomas, Bruce, #010649

Outcome: Consent Order

On February 29, 2024, Thomas entered into a consent order with the Board surrendering his license with the agreement not to reapply for licensure for five years. The Board found that Thomas failed to adequately supervise two speech-language pathology assistants and violated OAR 335-095-0050(1)(a), OAR 335-095-0050(1)(b), OAR 335-095-0050(1)(c), and OAR 335-095-0050(3).

Gregoire, Marguerite #012872

Outcome: Consent Order

On February 9, 2024, Gregoire entered into a consent order with the Board imposing a reprimand, limiting Gregoire to supervision of no more than five conditional licensees (clinical fellows) at a given time, and imposing a civil penalty of \$10,000 to cover Board costs of the proceeding, for failing to manage and direct the duties and functions of more than one of her conditional licensees and failing to adequately oversee the work performed by more than one of her conditional licensees during their post-graduate supervised clinical experience and until they obtained regular licensure, in violation of OAR 335-080-0005(2) and OAR 335-080-0015(1).

2023

Hansen, Callie #17477

Outcome: Consent Order

On December 8, 2023, Hansen entered into a consent order with the Board imposing a civil penalty of \$750 for practicing speech-language pathology with an expired conditional license for five months, in violation of ORS 681.250(2).

Copple, Shay #015270

Outcome: Consent Order

On December 4, 2023, Copple entered into a consent order with the Board imposing a civil penalty of \$200 for violation of SLPA supervision rules in effect at the time of the violation: OAR 335-095-0050(1)(b) and OAR 335-095-0030(2)(b).

Copple, Shay #015270

Outcome: Consent order

On December 4, 2023, Copple entered into a consent order with the Board imposing a civil penalty of \$1,000 for failing to treat or co-treat with an SLPA a patient on her caseload every 60 days in 2020 in violation of OAR 335-095-0050(1)(b)

as in effect at the time of violation; and for failing to update a patient's treatment goals for a period of 3 years and 9 months in violation of OAR 335-005-0015(6).

Rosvold, Carrie #A0164

Outcome: Consent Order

On November 17, 2023, Rosvold entered into a consent order with the Board imposing a civil penalty of \$150 for worked as an SLPA for approximately two months after failing to renew her certificate as required under ORA 681.360(3).

DiBiasio, Matthew #016642

Outcome: Consent Order

On September 15, 2023, DiBiasio entered into a consent order with the Board imposing a civil penalty of \$500 for not personally verifying that a person was certified by the Board before using the services of that person as a speech-language pathology assistant for approximately 7 months, in violation of OR 335-095-0050(5)(b).

Atiyeh, Ashley #A0848

Outcome: Consent Order

On September 7, 2023, Atiyeh entered into a consent order with the Board imposing a civil penalty of \$250 for performing 100 hours of SLPA fieldwork over approximately 7 months without a provisional SLPA certificate, in violation of ORS 681.360(1) and OAR 335-095-0030(2).

Allen, Madeline #31070

Outcome: Consent Order

On September 8, 2023, Allen entered into a consent order with the Board imposing a penalty of \$450 for practicing audiology without a license from mid-January 2023 until April 13, 2023, in violation of ORS 681.250(2).

Johnson, Scott #021527

Outcome: Consent Order

On September 1, 2023, Johnson entered into a consent order with the Board imposing a penalty of \$450 for assisting or permitting Madeline Allen to practice audiology without a license for approximately three months, in violation of OAR 335-005-0010(2)(g).

Sterling, Keri M. (fka Holm) #013077

Outcome: Consent Order

On July 28, 2023, Sterling entered into a consent order with the Board imposing a penalty of \$300 for purporting to be a speech-language pathologist and worked in the state for approximately three weeks without the required license, in violation of ORS 681.250(2); and for failing to apply for renewal of her license on a timely basis, in violation of ORS 681.320(1)(a) and (b), OAR 335-060-0030(1), and OAR 335-060-0030(3)(a) and (b).

Elliott, Whitney (aka Eber) #016469

Outcome: Consent Order

On July 21, 2023, Elliott entered into a consent order with the Board imposing a penalty of \$210 for practicing as a speech-language pathologist without a valid Oregon license for less than one month, in violation of ORS 681.250(2).

Gouge, Candace #012706

Outcome: Consent Order

On June 30, 2023, Gouge entered into a Consent Order with the Board imposing a penalty of \$2,900 for purporting to be a speech-language pathologist and working in Oregon for approximately ten years without the required license, in violation of ORS 681.250(2).

Gordon, Allison #A0795

Outcome: Consent Order

On June 23, 2023, Gordon entered into a Consent Order with the Board imposing a penalty of \$150 for performing SLPA field-

Board Actions

work for approximately 2.5 months without a provisional SLPA certificate, in violation of ORS 681.360(1) and OAR 335-095-0030(2).

Wilhite, Stephanie #013036

Outcome: Consent Order

On June 16, 2023, Wilhite entered into a Consent Order with the Board imposing a civil penalty of \$500 for practicing as a speech-language pathologist with an expired license for approximately three months in violation of ORS 681.250(2).

Pedersen, Virginia #011435

Outcome: Final Order by Default

On June 2, 2023, a Final Order by Default was issued to Virginia Pedersen prohibiting her from supervising or using the services of a speech-language pathology assistant (SLPA) for: failing to be responsible for the extent, type, and quality of services provided by an SLPA in violation of ORS 681.370(1); failing to ensure that persons who received services from an SLPA received prior notification that services were to be provided by an SLPA, in violation of ORS 681.370(2); failing to directly supervise a minimum of 10% of the hours the SLPA spent in clinical interaction, in violation of OAR 335-095-0050 (1)(b)[Effective 12-14-12]; failing to be able to be reached throughout the time the SLPA was working, in violation of OAR 335-095-0050(1)(c)[Effective 12-14-12]; failing to maintain adequate records of SLPA supervision, in violation of OAR 335-095-0050(4)(a); and failing to honor her responsibility to hold paramount the welfare of the persons she served professionally, in violation of OAR 335-095-0015(1).

Wahl, Kathleen #013031

Outcome: Consent Order

On June 2, 2023, Wahl entered into a Consent Order with the Board imposing a civil penalty of \$100 for practicing as a speech-language pathologist with an expired license for approximately one month in violation of ORS 681.250(2).

Lee, Katherine Anne #015871

On May 5, 2023, Lee entered into a Consent Order with the Board imposing a reprimand for inadvertently failing to verify that a speech-language pathology assistant was certified with the Board under ORS 681.360, in violation of OAR 335-095-0050(5).

Clemenhausen, Kimberly TSPC #50423

On May 5, 2023, Clemenhausen entered into a Consent Order with the Board imposing a reprimand for inadvertently failing to verify that a speech-language pathology assistant was certified with the Board under ORS 681.360, in violation of OAR 335-095-0050(5).

Bunker, Christy TSPC #57538

On May 5, 2023, Bunker entered into a Consent Order with the Board imposing a reprimand for inadvertently failing to verify that a speech-language pathology assistant was certified with the Board under ORS 681.360, in violation of OAR 335-095-0050(5).

Acosta, Cassandra, nka Cassandra Bingen #16564

Outcome: Consent Order

On April 15, 2023, Bingen entered into a Consent Order with the Board imposing a civil penalty of \$300 for failing to verify that a person was certified with the Board before using the services of that person as a speech-language pathology assistant, in violation of OAR 335-095-0050(5)(b).

Ruthardt, Jennifer #012562

Outcome: Consent Order

On March 31, 2023, Ruthardt entered into a Consent Order with the Board imposing a civil penalty of \$100 for failing to

treat or co-treat with an SLPA each patient on her caseload every 60 days in the 2021-22 school year, in violation of OAR 335-095-0050(1)(b).

Migdal, Sarah #015898

Outcome: Consent Order

On March 8, 2023, Migdal entered into a Consent Order with the Board imposing a civil penalty of \$500 for engaging in inadvertent misrepresentation about her location during supervision of a conditionally licensed SLP, in violation of OAR 335-005-0010(2)(b).

Waxenfelter, Aaron #015400

Outcome: Consent Order

On March 1, 2023, Waxenfelter entered into a Consent Order with the Board imposing a civil penalty of \$1,350 for one count of practicing as a speech-language pathologist without a valid license for more than nine months in violation of ORS 681.250(2).