

FILED WITH LRC TIME: <u>5:30 pm</u> JUL 16 2026 <i>Andy Darnell</i> REGULATIONS COMPILER
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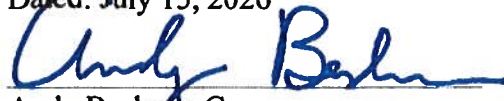
STATEMENT OF EMERGENCY

201 KAR 17:011E

Pursuant to KRS 13A.190(1)(a)2., KRS 334A.055, and KRS 334A.188 SECTION 3.B.1, this emergency amendment to the administrative regulation is being promulgated to comply with the adoption of 2026 HB 657 which requires the Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (the “Board”) to require a national and state criminal background investigation for every applicant seeking an initial license issued by the Board to engage in the practice of speech-language pathology and audiology, and applicants seeking to reinstate a license. The criminal background investigation shall be by means of a fingerprint check by the Department of Kentucky State Police and Federal Bureau of Investigation. The effective date of KRS 334A.055 requires that this emergency amendment be promulgated to ensure there is no delay in processing applications upon the effective date of the Act.

As a result, this emergency amendment to the administrative regulation—and the identical amendment to the ordinary regulation being concomitantly filed—have been amended to align with this statutory change to offset the potential delay in processing licensure applications—whereby the Board would be unable to process applications and collect fees in accordance with the terms of the statute—and therefore “[p]revent an imminent loss of federal or state funds” pursuant to KRS 13A.190(1)(a)2. This emergency amended administrative regulation is temporary and will be replaced by an ordinary amended administrative regulation as provided by KRS 13A.190. The ordinary amendment will be filed with this emergency amendment and will be identical.


Margaret Adkins, Au.D., CCC-A, Board Chair
Kentucky Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology
Dated: July 15, 2026


Andy Beshear, Governor
Commonwealth of Kentucky
Dated: July 15, 2026

1 BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

2 KENTUCKY BOARD OF SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY

3 (Emergency Amendment)

4 201 KAR 17:011E. Education, experience, and application requirements [Requirements] for in-
5 terim licensure as a speech language pathologist.

6 RELATES TO: KRS 334A.035, 334A.050

7 STATUTORY AUTHORITY: KRS 334A.055, 334A.080

8 NECESSITY, FUNCTION, AND CONFORMITY: KRS 334A.080 requires the Board of
9 Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology to promulgate responsible administrative regula-
10 tions, including administrative regulations which delineate qualifications for licensure and re-
11 newal of licensure. KRS 334A.035 and 334A.050 require the board to promulgate administrative
12 regulations concerning licensure as a speech-language pathologist, including a requirement that
13 an applicant meet specified education and experience criteria as determined by the board. KRS
14 334A055, requires applicants seeking an initial license to engage in a profession authorized by
15 the board to obtain a national and state criminal background investigation by the Kentucky State
16 Police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This administrative regulation establishes criteria
17 for interim licensure for speech-language pathologists.

18 Section 1. Education and Experience.

19 (1) [~~In addition to the citizenship requirements of KRS 334A.050,~~] Each[each] applicant for in-
20 terim licensure in speech-language pathology in Kentucky shall provide a certified transcript
21 confirming attainment of a master's degree in the area of speech-language pathology or commu-

1 ication disorders from a program accredited by the Council for Academic Accreditation of the
2 American Speech Language Hearing Association, or possess equivalent education.

3 (2) An applicant shall have "equivalent" education if the applicant holds:

4 (a) A doctoral degree in speech-language pathology or communication disorders or a related
5 area from a program accredited by the Council for Academic Accreditation of the American
6 Speech Language Hearing Association; or

7 (b) A bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university, and has completed
8 all coursework and clinical practicum requirements leading to a doctorate or master's degree
9 from a university program accredited by the Council for Academic Accreditation of the Ameri-
10 can Speech Language Hearing Association. A signed letter from the department chair or a direc-
11 tor of graduate studies confirming all coursework and clinical hours have been met shall be pro-
12 vided if an official transcript is not yet available.

13 Section 2. Application for Licensure. [(3)]

14 (1) Each[The] applicant for Interim SLP licensure shall submit the following to the board:

15 (a) A completed "Application for Interim License", form DPL-SLPA-01, containing a written
16 description verifying completion of the required academic coursework and supervised clinical
17 experience; ~~[on the Application for Interim License,]~~

18 (b) Pay the fee as established in 201 KAR 17:030;

19 (c) ~~[with]~~ Submit an official transcript or letter, which shall be sent directly from the academ-
20 ic institution[university] verifying satisfactory completion of degree requirements. Credit shall
21 not be allowed for courses listed on the application unless satisfactory completion is verified by
22 an official transcript. The applicant receiving academic credit (semester hours, quarter hours, or
23 other unit of credit) with a passing grade as defined by the academic[training] institution shall

1 constitute satisfactory completion.

2 (d) The results of a national and state criminal background investigation performed within the
3 last ninety (90) days by the Department of Kentucky State Police (KSP) and the Federal Bureau
4 of Investigation (FBI) submitted directly to the board after payment of any required fee to the
5 KSP and FBI. Any cases officially expunged shall not have to be disclosed by the applicant and
6 shall not be considered by the board as a conviction for the purposes of this subparagraph.

7 ~~[(4) Application for approval of academic coursework and supervised clinical experience shall be~~
8 ~~made as soon as possible after completion of these experiences, and shall be due within thirty~~
9 ~~(30) days after the professional postgraduate experience is begun.~~

10 ~~(5) A written plan for the postgraduate professional experience shall be submitted with the appli-~~
11 ~~cation for interim licensure within thirty (30) days after initiating the postgraduate professional~~
12 ~~experience.]~~

13 Section 3. Postgraduate professional experience and supervision.

14 (1) After completion of academic coursework and clinical practicum, the applicant shall success-
15 fully complete a period of postgraduate professional experience [The applicant shall [proceed to]
16 obtain postgraduate professional experience] under a supervisor who [is a speech language
17 pathologist who] holds a valid Kentucky speech language pathology license or Education Profes-
18 sional Standards Board Master's level certification as a teacher of exceptional children in the are-
19 as of speech and communication disorders. [An applicant for interim licensure shall submit a
20 completed Application for Interim Licensure to the board.]

21 ~~[(6) Postgraduate professional experience.]~~

22 ~~[(a) After completion of academic coursework and clinical practicum, the applicant shall suc-~~
23 ~~cessfully complete a period of postgraduate professional experience.]~~

1 ~~(2[(b))~~ The experience shall consist of at least thirty-six (36) weeks of full-time professional ex-
2 perience to consist of a minimum of thirty-five (35) work hours per week or its part-time equiva-
3 lent as follows:

4 ~~(a)[1-]~~ At least eighty (80) percent of the major responsibilities during postgraduate profes-
5 sional experience shall be in direct contact with clients or patients, consultations, recordkeeping,
6 and administrative duties.

7 ~~(b)[2-]~~ The postgraduate professional experience shall not total less than 1,260 hours ac-
8 cumulated within twenty-four (24) months of the beginning date of the experience.

9 ~~(c)[3-]~~ Professional experience of less than five (5) hours per week shall not meet the re-
10 quirement and shall not be counted toward the postgraduate professional experience.

11 ~~(d)[4-]~~ Experience of more than thirty-five (35) hours per week shall not be used to reduce
12 the postgraduate professional experience to less than thirty-six (36) weeks.

13 ~~(e)[5-]~~ Once initiated, the postgraduate professional experience shall be completed within
14 twenty-four (24) months.

15 ~~(f)[6-]~~ An extension~~[Extension]~~ of the postgraduate professional experience may be re-
16 quested utilizing the "Application for Extension of Interim License", form DPL-SLPA-02. An
17 extension may be granted by the board in the event of:

18 1.[a-] Illness;

19 2.[b-] Change in employment status;

20 3.[c-] Family care issue; or

21 4.[d-] Other extraordinary occurrence impacting one's ability to complete the postgradu-
22 ate experience.

23 (4) Any change in the written plan for the postgraduate professional experience, or any change in

supervision, shall be submitted to the board on the "Change in PPE or Supervision for Interim SLP" form, DPL-SLPA-03.

Section 4. Supervision requirements for Interim SLP.

~~(1)[1-]~~ The postgraduate professional experience supervisor shall not engage in fewer than thirty-six (36) supervisory activities during the postgraduate professional experience.

~~(2)[2-]~~ This supervision shall include eighteen (18) on-site observations of direct client contact at the interim licensee's work site.

~~1.[a-]~~ One (1) hour shall equal one (1) on-site observation.

~~2.[b-]~~ A maximum of six (6) on-site observations may be accrued in one (1) day.

~~3.[c-]~~ At least six (6) on-site observations shall be accrued during each third of the experience.

~~4.[d-]~~ These on-site observations shall be of the interim licensee providing screening, evaluation, assessment, habilitation, and rehabilitation.

~~(c)[3-]~~ The supervision shall include eighteen (18) other monitoring activities.

~~1.[a-]~~ At least six (6) other monitoring activities shall be completed during each of the three (3) segments of the postgraduate professional experience.

~~2.[b-]~~ These other monitoring activities may be executed by correspondence, review of video tapes or audio tapes, evaluation of written reports, phone conferences with the interim licensee, or evaluations by professional colleagues.

~~(d)[4-]~~ The supervisor periodically shall conduct a formal evaluation of the applicant's progress in the development of professional skills.

Section 5. Examination requirements.

~~(1)[5-]~~ A person with an interim license shall take and pass a national PRAXIS examination in

1 speech-language pathology within twenty-four (24) months.

2 (2) Official documentation of scores shall be sent to the board directly from Educational Testing
3 Services. [A person with an interim license shall continue to practice under supervision if a suc-
4 cessful score is not achieved. If the applicant is unable to obtain a passing score within twenty
5 (24) months, they shall seek board approval to continue to practice. The applicant shall: a. Sub-
6 mit a written, signed letter to the board requesting board approval; and b. Appear before the
7 board.]

8 Section 6.[Section 2.] Incorporation by Reference.

9 (1) The following material is incorporated by reference:

10 (a) The "Application for Interim Licensure", DPL-SLPA-01, July 2026;[January 2012, is
11 incorporated by reference.]

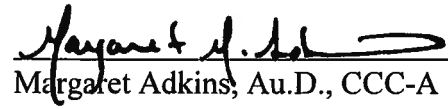
12 (b) The "Application for Extension of Interim License", DPL-SLPA-02, July 2026; and

13 (c) The "Change in PPE or Supervision for Interim SLP", DPL-SLPA- 03, July 2026.

14 (2) This material may be inspected, copied, or obtained, subject to applicable copyright law,
15 at the Kentucky Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, Department of Profes-
16 sional Licensing, 500 Mero Street, [28C32,] Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, Monday through Fri-
17 day, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

201 KAR 17:011E

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Margaret A. Adkins", is written over a horizontal line.

Margaret Adkins, Au.D., CCC-A

Board Chair

Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

Date: July 15, 2026

AFFIDAVIT OF EMERGENCY STATEMENT BY BOARD CHAIR

Comes the Affiant, Margaret Adkins, Au.D., CCC-A, and after first being duly sworn, states the following:

1. I am Chair of the Kentucky Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology.
2. The 2026 General Assembly enacted HB 657 requiring a criminal background investigation by means of a fingerprint check by the Department of Kentucky State Police and Federal Bureau of Investigation for all initial applicants for licensure, and applicants for reinstatement, who apply for authorization to engage in the practice of professional counseling, effective on July 15, 2026.
3. The Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology considered these amendments at its May 12, 2026, special meeting and authorized the filing of the accompanying emergency amendment to the administrative regulation prior to the effective date of HB 657 to ensure there is no undue delay in processing applications for initial licensure and reinstatement.
4. Based on a finding that an emergency exists in accordance with KRS 13A.190(1)(a)2., and an imminent deadline for the promulgation of amendments to the administrative regulation required by the passage of HB 657, the attached emergency amendment is being filed to ensure there is no undue delay in processing applications for initial licensure and reinstatement.

Further the Affiant saith naught.



Affiant