

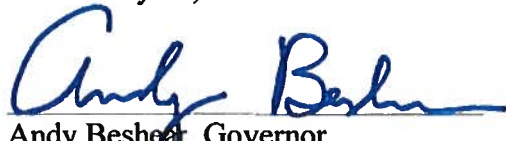
STATEMENT OF EMERGENCY

201 KAR 17:012E

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 17:012E. Application, education, and requirements [~~Requirements~~] for licensure as a
5 speech-language pathologist.

6 RELATES TO: KRS 334A.033, 334.035(1)(c), 334A.050, 334A.187

7 STATUTORY AUTHORITY: KRS 334A.033, 334A.050, 334A.055, 334A.080(3)

8 NECESSITY, FUNCTION, AND CONFORMITY: KRS 334A.080(3) 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.033 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 334A.055 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 licensure for speech-language pathologists.

18 Section 1. Application for Licensure.

19 (1) Each applicant for licensure as an SLP shall:

20 (a) Submit an "Application for Licensure", form DLP-LPC-04;

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

1 (c) Have official academic transcripts sent directly by the academic institution to the board;

2 and

3 (d) Have the results of a national and state criminal background investigation performed
4 within the last ninety (90) days by the Department of Kentucky State Police (KSP) and the Fed-
5 eral Bureau of Investigation (FBI) submitted directly to the board. The applicant shall pay any
6 required fee to the KSP and FBI. Any cases officially expunged shall not have to be disclosed by
7 the applicant and shall not be considered by the board as a conviction.

8 Section 2. Education and Experience. [In addition to the citizenship requirements of KRS
9 334A.050,] Each[each] applicant for licensure in speech-language pathology in Kentucky shall
10 meet the requirements established in this section.

11 (1)

12 (a) An applicant shall provide a certified transcript confirming attainment of a master's degree in
13 the area of speech-language pathology or communication disorders from a program accredited by
14 the Council for Academic Accreditation of the American Speech Language Hearing Association,
15 or possess equivalent education.

16 (b) An applicant shall have equivalent education if the applicant holds a doctoral degree in
17 speech-language pathology, communication disorders, or a related area from a program accredit-
18 ed by the Council for Academic Accreditation of the American Speech Language Hearing Asso-
19 ciation.

20 (2) The applicant shall have passed a national PRAXIS examination in speech-language patholo-
21 gy.

22 (3) In accordance with KRS 334A.035(1)(c), within thirty (30) days after completion of the post-
23 graduate professional experience, the applicant shall submit a complete application for licensure

under this section. The applicant's supervisor shall verify the successful completion of postgraduate professional experience by signing the application, or the applicant may submit their American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) certification number as proof of successful completion of the postgraduate professional experience.~~[Application for License.]~~

(4) In addition to fulfilling the requirements of this administrative regulation and paying the requisite fees established in 201 KAR 17:030, Section 1, an applicant licensed in another state shall comply with the provisions of KRS 334A.187.

Section 3. Incorporation by Reference.

(1) "Application for Licensure", DPL-SLPA-4, July 2026,~~["Application for License", July 2013],~~ is incorporated by reference.

(2) This material may be inspected, copied, or obtained, subject to applicable copyright law, at the Kentucky Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, Department of Professional Licensing, 500 Mero Street, ~~[2SC32,]~~ Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

201 KAR 17:012E

APPROVED:

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

Margaret Adkins, Au.D., CCC-A

Board Chair

Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

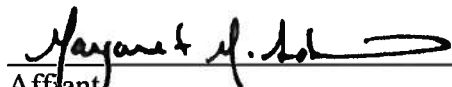
Date: July 15, 2026

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