

STATEMENT OF EMERGENCY

201 KAR 17:032E

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 17:032E. Requirements for interim licensure as an audiologist.

5 RELATES TO: KRS 334A.185(2)

6 STATUTORY AUTHORITY: KRS 334A.055, 334A.080(3), 334A.185(2)

7 NECESSITY, FUNCTION, AND CONFORMITY: KRS 334A.080(3) requires the Board of
8 Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology to promulgate responsible administrative regula-
9 tions, including administrative regulations which delineate qualifications for licensure and re-
10 newal of licensure. KRS 334A.055 requires applicants seeking an initial license to engage in a
11 profession authorized by the board to obtain a national and state criminal background investiga-
12 tion by the Kentucky State Police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This administrative
13 regulation establishes requirements for interim licensure as an audiologist.

14 Section 1. Application for Licensure

15 (1) Each applicant for licensure as an interim audiologist shall:

16 (a) Submit an "Application for Interim License", form DPL-SLPA-01, which is incorporated
17 by reference in 201 KAR 17:011;

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

19 (c) Submit an official academic transcript sent directly by the academic institution to the
20 board; and

21 (d) Have the results of a national and state criminal background investigation performed

1 within the last ninety (90) days by the Department of Kentucky State Police (KSP) and the Fed-
2 eral Bureau of Investigation (FBI) submitted directly to the board. The applicant shall pay any
3 required fee to the KSP and FBI. Any cases officially expunged shall not have to be disclosed by
4 the applicant and shall not be considered by the board as a conviction.

5 Section 2. Education and Experience.

6 (1) Each applicant for interim licensure in audiology in Kentucky shall provide a certified tran-
7 script confirming attainment of a Doctorate degree in audiology or a related field, or possess
8 equivalent education as described in subsection (2) of this section, excluding the Au.D. or sub-
9 stantive equivalent from a program accredited by the Council for Academic Accreditation of the
10 American Speech Language Hearing Association or the Accreditation Commission for Audiolo-
11 gy Education of the American Academy of Audiology.

12 (2) An applicant shall have equivalent education if the applicant holds a doctoral degree in audi-
13 ology, excluding the Au.D., from a program accredited by the Council for Academic Accredita-
14 tion of the American Speech Language Hearing Association or the Accreditation Commission
15 for Audiology Education of the American Academy of Audiology.

16 ~~[(3) The applicant shall submit to the board a written description verifying completion of the re-~~
17 ~~quired academic coursework and supervised clinical experience on the Application for Interim~~
18 ~~License, with required supporting documentation. Credit shall not be allowed for courses listed~~
19 ~~on the application unless satisfactory completion is verified by an official transcript. Satisfactory~~
20 ~~completion shall exist if the applicant has received academic credit (semester hours, quarter~~
21 ~~hours, or other unit of credit) with a passing grade as defined by the training institution. A signed~~
22 ~~letter from the department chair or a director of graduate studies confirming all coursework and~~
23 ~~clinical hours have been met shall be provided if an official transcript is not yet available.]~~

Section 3. Supervision.[(4)]

(1) The interim licensee shall function under the supervision of an appropriate supervisor as defined in KRS 334A.185(2).

(2) Application for interim licensure shall be made within thirty (30) days of securing a supervisor and shall be completed under the supervision of a licensed audiologist. [approval of academic coursework and supervised clinical experience shall be made as soon as possible after completion of these experiences, and either before or within thirty (30) days after the postgraduate professional experience is begun.]

(3) Supervision shall be completed under an individual who holds a valid Kentucky audiology license.

(4) Supervision shall include eighteen (18) on-site observations of direct client contact at the interim licensee's work site.

1. One (1) hour shall equal one (1) on-site supervision.

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

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

4. These on-site observations shall be of the interim licensee providing screening, evaluation, assessment, habilitation, or rehabilitation.

(c) The supervision shall include eighteen (18) other monitoring activities.

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

2. These other monitoring activities may be executed by correspondence, review of videotapes or audiotapes, evaluation of written reports, phone conferences with the interim licen-

1 see, or evaluations by professional colleagues.

2 (d) The supervisor periodically shall conduct a formal evaluation of the applicant's pro-
3 gress in the development of professional skills.

4 Section 4. Postgraduate professional experience.

5 (1) An interim audiologist shall successfully complete a period of postgraduate professional ex-
6 perience.

7 (2)[(5)] A written plan for postgraduate professional experience shall be submitted with the ap-
8 plication for interim licensure. [within thirty (30) days after initiating the postgraduate profes-
9 sional experience. The applicant shall proceed to obtain postgraduate professional experience
10 under a supervisor who is a licensed audiologist. An applicant for interim licensure shall submit
11 a completed Application for Interim Licensure to the board.]

12 [(6) Postgraduate professional experience.

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

15 (3)[(b)] The postgraduate professional experience shall consist of the following: [at least thirty-
16 six (36) weeks of full time professional experience to consist of a minimum of thirty five (35)
17 work hours a week or its part-time equivalent as follows:]

18 (a)[1-] At least eighty (80) percent of the major responsibilities during the postgraduate
19 professional experience shall be in direct client contact consultations, recordkeeping, and
20 administrative duties;

21 (b)[2-] Postgraduate professional experience shall not total less than 1,260 hours;

22 (c)[3-] Once initiated, postgraduate professional experience shall be accumulated within
23 twenty-four (24) months. An extension of the postgraduate professional experience may be

1 requested utilizing the "Application for Extension of Interim License", DPL-SLPA-03,
2 which is incorporated by reference in 201 KAR 17:011. An extension may be granted by
3 the board [~~This may be extended~~] in the event of:

4 1.[a.] Illness;

5 2.[b.] Change in employment status;

6 3.[c.] Family care issue; or

7 4.[d.] Other extraordinary occurrence impacting one's ability to complete the postgradu-
8 ate professional experience;

9 ~~(d)[4.]~~ Professional experience of less than five hours per week shall not meet the require-
10 ment and shall not be counted toward postgraduate professional experience; and

11 ~~(c)[5. Experience of more than thirty five (35) hours per week shall not be used to shorten~~
12 ~~the postgraduate professional experience to less than thirty six (36) weeks; and~~

13 ~~6. Extension of the postgraduate professional experience may be granted in the event of:~~

14 ~~a. Illness;~~

15 ~~b. Change in employment status;~~

16 ~~c. Family care issue; or~~

17 ~~d. Other extraordinary occurrence impacting one's ability to complete the postgraduate pro-~~
18 ~~fessional experience.~~

19 ~~(7)] Supervision shall be completed under the supervision of an individual who holds a valid~~
20 ~~license in audiology issued by Kentucky or a state that borders Kentucky.~~

21 ~~(a) The postgraduate professional experience supervisor shall not engage in fewer than~~
22 ~~thirty six (36) supervisory activities during the postgraduate professional experience.~~

23 ~~(b) This supervision shall include eighteen (18) on-site observations of direct client contact at the~~

interim licensee's work site.

~~1. One (1) hour shall equal one (1) on-site supervision.~~

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

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

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

~~(c) The supervision shall include eighteen (18) other monitoring activities.~~

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

~~2. These other monitoring activities may be executed by correspondence, review of videotapes or audiotapes, evaluation of written reports, phone conferences with the interim licensee, or evaluations by professional colleagues.~~

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

~~(6) [(8)] A person with an interim license shall take and pass a national PRAXIS examination in audiology. Official documentation of scores shall be sent to the board directly from Educational Testing Services. A person with an interim license shall continue to practice under supervision if a successful score is not achieved. If the applicant is unable to obtain a passing score within twenty-four (24) months, the applicant shall seek board approval to continue to practice.~~

~~[Section 2. Incorporation by Reference.~~

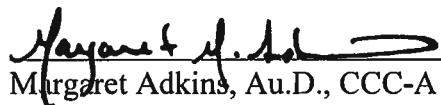
~~(1) "Application for Interim Licensure", January 2012, is incorporated by reference.~~

~~(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 17:032E

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

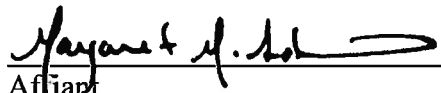
Date: July 15, 2026

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