

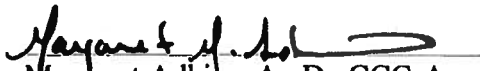
FILED WITH LRC TIME: <u>3:30 pm</u> JUL 16 2026 <i>Angie Darnell</i> REGULATIONS COMPILER

STATEMENT OF EMERGENCY

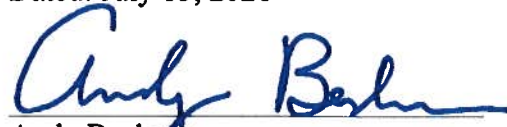
201 KAR 17:036E

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 17:036E. Requirements for licensure for an audiologist.

5 RELATES TO: KRS 334A.030, 334A.050, 334A.185, 334A.187

6 STATUTORY AUTHORITY: KRS 334A.050, 334A.055, 334A.080(3), 334A.185

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.050 and 334A.185 require the board to promulgate administrative
11 regulations delineating education and experience criteria for licensure for audiologists. KRS
12 334A.055 requires applicants seeking an initial license to engage in a profession authorized by
13 the board to obtain a national and state criminal background investigation by the Kentucky State
14 Police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This administrative regulation establishes re-
15 quirements for licensure for an audiologist.

16 Section 1. Application for Licensure

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

18 (a) Submit an "Application for Licensure", form DPL-SLPA-04, incorporated by reference in
19 201 KAR 17:012;

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

21 (c) Submit an official academic transcript sent directly by the academic institution to the

1 board; and

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

8 Section 2. Education and Experience. Each applicant for licensure as an audiologist (AUD) in
9 Kentucky shall meet the requirements established by this section.

10 (1)

11 (a) An applicant shall provide a certified transcript confirming attainment of a doctorate de-
12 gree in the area of audiology or substantive equivalent as described in paragraph (b) of this sub-
13 section, from a program accredited by the Council for Academic Accreditation of the American
14 Speech Language Hearing Association or the Accreditation Commission for Audiology Educa-
15 tion of the American Academy of Audiology.

16 (b) An applicant shall have equivalent education if the applicant holds:

17 1. A doctoral degree in audiology from a program accredited by the Council for Academic
18 Accreditation of the American Speech Language Hearing Association; or

19 2. A master's degree from a program accredited by the Council for Academic Accreditation
20 of the American Speech Language Hearing Association conferred before January 1, 2007.

21 (2) The applicant shall have passed a national PRAXIS examination in audiology. Official doc-
22 umentation of scores shall be sent to the board directly from Educational Testing Services.

23 (3) ~~[Within thirty (30) days of obtaining employment, the applicant shall apply for full licensure.~~

(4) ~~An~~[In addition to fulfilling the requirements of this administrative regulation and paying the fees specified in 201 KAR 17:030, an] applicant licensed in another state shall submit a letter of good standing from each state where the applicant is licensed.

~~Section 2.~~

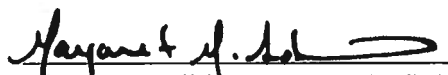
~~[Incorporation by Reference.~~

~~(1) "Application for Licensure", [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 17:036E

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

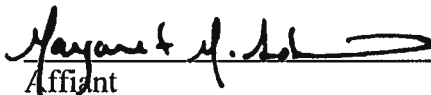
Date: July 15, 2026

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