ARTICLE 11-02
AUDIOLOGIST AND SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST LICENSURE

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CHAPTER 11-02-01
INITIAL LICENSURE AND RENEWALS

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11-02-01-01. Licensure application.

An application for a license to practice audiology or speech-language pathology and speech-language pathology licensed assistants must be made to the state board of examiners of audiology and speech-language pathology on forms provided by the board upon request. The application must contain the information the board reasonably may require.

1. Each application for a license shall be accompanied by:

   a. A prescribed fee.

   b. An official transcript issued by the educational institution from which the degree was received verifying completion of undergraduate and graduate degrees.

   c. An official or authenticated copy of a passing score, as established by the American speech-language-hearing association, on the Praxis II specialty examination in the area of audiology or speech-language pathology, or another examination approved by the board.

2. All applications must be signed by the applicant.

3. The board may request additional information or clarification of information provided in the application as it deems reasonably necessary.

4. If the board so directs, an applicant shall personally appear before the board concerning the application.

5. The board may grant licensure to an applicant who holds a current license in good standing to practice as an audiologist, speech-language pathologist, or speech-language pathology licensed assistant in another state or jurisdiction if that other state or jurisdiction imposes at least substantially the same standards that are imposed under this chapter.

6. Temporary licensure may be granted to an applicant:

a. Who holds a current license in good standing to practice as an audiologist, speech-language pathologist, or speech-language pathology licensed assistant in another state or jurisdiction.

b. Who has held a license in good standing to practice as an audiologist, speech-language pathologist, or speech-language pathology licensed assistant in another state or jurisdiction within the past five years.

Temporary licensure may be granted for a maximum of six months, at which time documentation necessary for full licensure is required or licensure is suspended.

Full licensure must be granted if all documentation is provided that meets the demands for initial or relicensure.

History: Amended effective May 1, 1984; June 1, 1990; April 1, 2016; April 1, 2018; July 1, 2026.
General Authority: NDCC 43-37-06
Law Implemented: NDCC 43-37-04, 43-37-06, 43-37-09

11-02-01-02. Licensure without examination.

Repealed effective May 1, 1984.

11-02-01-03. Licensure with examination.

Repealed effective May 1, 1984.

11-02-01-04. Renewal of licensure and relicensure.

1. Applications for the renewal of license are due by the first date of each year.

2. At least two months before the first date of each year, the board shall notify the licensee of the requirement for renewal. The notice must be made to the email address or address last provided to the board by the licensee and must encourage applicants to submit applications for renewal upon receiving that notice.

3. A license must be renewed by the board if, on or before the thirty-first day of January of each year, the licensee meets all of the following requirements:

   a. The licensee filed a complete application for renewal form provided by the board.

   b. The licensee paid the renewal fee.

   c. The licensee provided proof of completion of the continuing education required by section 11-02-01-06.

   d. Grounds for denial of the application under North Dakota Century Code section 43-37-13 do not exist.

   e. Supervision requirements completed in accordance with section 11-02-01-08.

4. If the completed application for renewal, renewal fee, and proof of completion of continuing education are not filed before the first day of each year, the license must expire, the individual may not practice, and the renewal application must be completed by January thirty-first. If the completed application for renewal, renewal fee, and proof of completion of continuing education are not filed before the last day of January, the licensee is subject to relicensure.

5. The board may extend the expiration date and the deadlines for filing the application for renewal, renewal fee, and proof of completion of continuing education upon proof of medical or other hardship preventing the individual from meeting the deadlines.

6. If an individual is unlicensed for a period less than five calendar years, the individual must be granted relicensure upon the filing of a completed application for license, the licensing fee, a two hundred fifty dollar relicensure fee, and proof of completion of ten clock hours of continuing education for each year for which the individual was unlicensed to be considered for relicensure.

7. If an individual is unlicensed for a period of five or more calendar years, the individual may be required by the board to retake and pass the Praxis II specialty examination or another examination approved by the board, and shall be required to file a completed application for a license, the licensing fee, a two hundred fifty dollar relicensure fee, and proof of completion of ten clock hours of continuing education for each calendar year for which the individual was unlicensed to be considered for relicensure.

History: Amended effective May 1, 1984; October 1, 1989; June 1,1990; April 1, 2016; April 1, 2018; July 1, 2026.
General Authority: NDCC 43-37-04, 43-37-06
Law Implemented: NDCC 43-37-04, 43-37-06

11-02-01-05. Fees.

The following fees must be paid in connection with audiologist, speech-language pathologist, and speech-language pathology licensed assistant applications, examinations, renewals, and penalties:

1. Application fee for an audiologist license, speech-language pathologist license, and speech-language pathology licensed assistant license: one hundred dollars.

2. Renewal fee for an audiologist license, speech-language pathologist license, and speech-language pathology license assistant: seventy-five dollars.

3. Relicensure fee: two hundred fifty dollars.

History: Amended effective May 1, 1984; June 1, 1990; February 1, 2001; April 1, 2016; April 1, 2018; July 1, 2026.
General Authority: NDCC 43-37-06
Law Implemented: NDCC 43-37-04, 43-37-06

11-02-01-06. Continuing education.

1. Continuing education is defined as courses or workshops that contribute to professional development and lead to acquiring and enhancing skills and knowledge required for professional practice that are either approved by the board or certified by the American speech-language-hearing association, the American academy of audiology, or the international hearing association or another organization approved by the board.

2. Licensees are required to complete ten clock hours of continuing education during each calendar year.

3. Continued practice in violation of the continuing education requirements as outlined in this section subjects a licensee to disciplinary action as outlined in North Dakota Century Code section 43-37-13.

History: Amended effective May 1, 1984; August 1, 1986; June 1, 1990; April 1, 2016; July 1, 2026.
General Authority: NDCC 43-37-06

Law Implemented: NDCC 43-37-04, 43-37-06

11-02-01-07. Passing score.

The successful completion of a Praxis II specialty examination in audiology or speech-language pathology or another examination approved by the board means obtaining a score equal to or greater than the passing score established by the American speech-language-hearing association or another organization approved by the board and in effect at the time of administration of the test.

History: Effective May 1, 1984; amended effective June 1, 1990; April 1, 2016; July 1, 2026.
General Authority: NDCC 43-37-09
Law Implemented: NDCC 43-37-04, 43-37-06

11-02-01-08. Speech-language pathology licensed assistants.

1. a. "Direct clinical experience" means treatment, screenings, or assisting with assessments.

   b. "Direct supervision" means face-to-face contact that occurs in-person or through video conferencing. Activities that occur during direct supervision include speech-language pathology observation of the practicing speech-language pathology licensed assistant, speech-language pathology modeling for the speech-language pathology licensed assistant, and cotreatment between the speech-language pathology licensed assistant and supervising speech-language pathologist on a single client.

   c. "Indirect clinical experience" means paperwork, observation, or treatment preparation.

   d. "Indirect supervision" means other than face-to-face contact. Activities that occur during indirect supervision include telephone conversations, written correspondence, review of documents, electronic exchanges, review of recorded sessions, or other methods using secure telecommunication technology.

2. An applicant for a speech-language pathology licensed assistant shall possess one hundred hours of direct clinical experience overseen by a licensed supervising speech-language pathologist with a minimum of twenty-five percent direct clinical supervision or equivalent work experience as approved at the discretion of the board and at least a bachelor's degree in speech-language pathology or communication disorders or a two-year degree in a speech-language pathology assistant’s program or a bachelor's degree in another field, with course work in the following areas:

   a. Introduction to communication sciences and disorders;

   b. Clinical phonetics;

   c. Speech sound disorders;

   d. Language development;

   e. Language disorders; and

   f. Anatomy and physiology of speech and hearing mechanisms.

3. A speech-language pathology licensed assistant may:

   a. Provide speech-language pathology services only in settings in which direct and indirect supervision are provided on a regular and systematic basis by a supervising speech-language pathologist.

   b. Self identify as a speech-language pathology licensed assistant to the public.

c. Perform only those tasks prescribed by the supervising speech-language pathologist, which are limited to the following:

(1) Assist with speech and language and hearing screenings without clinical interpretation as developed and directed by the supervising speech-language pathologist.

(2) Assist during assessment as developed and directed by the supervising speech-language pathologist. The speech-language pathology licensed assistant may not administer or score diagnostic assessments or provide clinical interpretation of assessments.

(3) Deliver services set forth in treatment plans or protocols developed and directed by supervising speech-language pathologist.

(4) Document client, patient, or student performance and report this information to the supervising speech-language pathologist.

(5) Program and provide instruction in the use of augmentative and alternative communication devices as developed and directed by the supervising speech-language pathologist.

(6) Demonstrate to and share information with clients, patients, or students regarding feeding and swallowing strategies developed and directed by the supervising speech-language pathologist.

(7) Participate in formal parent or guardian conferences, case conferences, or an interdisciplinary team with the presence of the supervising speech-language pathologist.

4. a. A speech-language pathology licensed assistant must be supervised by a licensed speech-language pathologist who has been actively practicing for eighteen months post initial licensure.

b. A supervising speech-language pathologist is responsible for the extent, kind, and quality of the service provided by the speech-language pathology licensed assistant, consistent with the standards and requirements approved by the board.

c. A speech-language pathologist may be the supervisor of record for no more than three speech-language pathology licensed assistants at the same time.

d. The supervising speech-language pathologist is responsible for the professional services provided by the speech-language pathology licensed assistant.

e. A supervising speech-language pathologist shall provide direct and indirect supervision as determined by the supervising speech-language pathologist's assessment of the competence of the speech-language pathology licensed assistant and within the scope of the rules adopted by the board. In determining the methods, frequency, and content of supervision, a supervising speech-language pathologist shall consider:

(1) The complexity of clients' needs;

(2) The number and diversity of clients;

(3) The knowledge, competence, and skills of the speech-language pathology licensed assistant;

(4) The type of practice setting;

(5) Any requirements particular to the practice setting; and

(6) Other regulatory requirements.

f. A supervising speech-language pathologist and a supervised speech-language pathology licensed assistant shall make a written supervision plan that must be in effect for the duration of the supervision, that may be requested by the board at any time, and that includes the following:

(1) Periodic evaluation and documentation reflecting the speech-language pathology licensed assistant's competence to perform the services prescribed.

(2) Periodic documentation of the frequency, methods, and content of the supervision.

g. A supervising speech-language pathologist shall provide direct and indirect supervision that meets the following guidelines:

(1) The supervising speech-language pathologist shall provide direct supervision for at least ten percent of the client contact hours worked each week by the speech-language pathology licensed assistant and indirect supervision for at least ten percent of the client contact hours worked by the speech-language pathology licensed assistant. Direct supervision must be provided by the speech-language pathologist for each client, patient, or student at least once every sixty days. The supervising speech-language pathologist shall provide direct supervision at an increased rate for medically fragile or high-risk patients an appropriate amount in relationship to their condition. The board may request supervision records at any time.

(2) The board may request supervision records at any time.

h. If the supervising speech-language pathologist becomes unlicensed for any reason, the speech-language pathology licensed assistant also shall cease practice until the supervising speech-language pathologist becomes relicensed or immediately shall identify a new supervising speech-language pathologist until the previous supervising speech-language pathologist is relicensed.

History: Effective April 1, 2018; amended effective July 1, 2026.
General Authority: NDCC 43-37-06
Law Implemented: NDCC 43-06-04.2, 43-37-04