

### **334A.020 Definitions for chapter.**

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

- (1) "Board" means the Kentucky Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology;
- (2) "Person" means any individual, organization, or corporate body, except that only individuals can be licensed under this chapter;
- (3) "Speech-language pathologist" means one who practices speech-language pathology. A speech-language pathologist may describe himself to the public by any title or description of services incorporating the words "speech-language pathologist," "speech-language pathology," "speech-language therapy," "speech-language correction," "speech-language correctionist," "speech-language therapist," "speech clinic," "speech clinician," "speech pathologist," "language pathologist," "language pathology," "language therapist," "logopedics," "logopedist," "communicology," "communicologist," "aphasiologist," "voice therapy," "voice therapist," "voice pathology," "voice pathologist," "phoniatriest," "communication disorders," or "verbal therapist";
- (4) "The practice of speech pathology" means the application of principles, methods, and procedures for the measurement, testing, audiometric screening, identification, appraisal, determination of prognosis, evaluation, consultation, remediation, counseling, instruction, and research related to the development and disorders of speech, voice, verbal and written language, cognition/communication, or oral and pharyngeal sensori-motor competencies for the purpose of designing and implementing programs for the amelioration of these disorders and conditions. Any representation to the public by title or by description of services, methods, or procedures for the evaluation, counseling, remediation consultation, measurement, testing, audiometric screening, identification, appraisal, instruction, and research of persons diagnosed with conditions or disorders affecting speech, voice, verbal and written language, cognition/communication, or oral and pharyngeal sensori-motor competencies shall be considered to be the practice of speech-language pathology;
- (5) "Audiologist" is defined as one who practices audiology. An audiologist may describe himself to the public by any title or description of services incorporating the words "audiologist," "audiology," "audiological," "hearing center," "hearing clinic," "hearing clinician," "hearing therapist," "audiometry," "audiometrist," "audiometrics," "otometry," "otometrist," "aural rehabilitationist," or "hearing conservationist";
- (6) "The practice of audiology" means the application of principles, methods, and procedures of measurement, testing, appraisal, prediction, consultation, counseling, and instruction related to hearing and disorders of hearing for the purpose of modifying communicative disorders involving speech, language, auditory behavior, or other aberrant behavior related to hearing loss; planning, directing, conducting, or participating in identification and hearing conservation programs; and habilitative and rehabilitative programs, including hearing aid recommendations and evaluation, auditory training, or speech reading;

- (7) "Continuing professional education" in speech-language pathology and audiology consists of planned learning experiences beyond a basic educational program leading to a degree. These experiences are designed to promote knowledge, skills, and attitudes of speech-language pathology and audiology practitioners to enable them to provide professional services in their areas of training that are based on current research and best practices;
- (8) "Speech-language pathology assistant" means one who assists in the practice of speech-language pathology only under the supervision and direction of an appropriately qualified supervisor and only within the public school system in the Commonwealth. Any speech pathology services provided without appropriate supervision or outside the public school system shall be deemed to be the unlicensed practice of speech pathology and shall subject the offending party to penalties established pursuant to KRS 334A.990;
- (9) "Assisting in the practice of speech pathology" means the provision of certain specific components of a speech or language service program provided by a speech-language pathology assistant under the supervision and direction of an appropriately qualified supervisor.
  - (a) If the training, supervision, documentation, and planning are appropriate, the following tasks may be delegated to a speech-language pathology assistant:
    1. Conduct speech-language and hearing screenings without interpretation following specified screening protocols developed by a speech-language pathologist and audiologist, respectively;
    2. Follow documented treatment plans or protocols as prescribed by the supervisor;
    3. Document student progress toward meeting established objectives as stated in the treatment plan;
    4. Provide direct treatment assistance to identified students under the supervision of the supervisor;
    5. Assist with clerical and other related duties as directed by the supervisor;
    6. Report to the supervisor about the treatment plan based on a student's performance;
    7. Schedule activities, prepare charts, records, graphs, or otherwise display data. This shall not include report generation;
    8. Perform simple checks and maintenance of equipment;
    9. Participate with the supervisor in research projects, inservice training, and public relations programs;
    10. Assist in the development and maintenance of an appropriate schedule for service delivery;
    11. Assist in implementing collaborative activities with other professionals;
    12. Assist in administering tests for diagnostic evaluations and progress monitoring; and

13. Participate in parent conferences, case conferences, or any interdisciplinary team in consultation with, or in the presence of, the supervisor.
- (b) The following activities shall be outside the scope of practice of the speech-language pathology assistant:
1. Performing any activity which violates the code of ethics promulgated by the board by administrative regulation;
  2. Interpreting test results, or performing diagnostic evaluations without supervision;
  3. Conducting client or family counseling without the recommendation, guidance, and approval of the supervisor;
  4. Writing, developing, or modifying a student's individualized treatment plan in any way without the recommendation, guidance, and approval of the supervisor;
  5. Treating students without following the individualized treatment plan prepared by the supervisor or without access to supervision;
  6. Signing any due process document without the co-signature of the supervisor;
  7. Selecting or discharging students;
  8. Disclosing clinical or confidential information, either orally or in writing, to anyone not designated by the supervisor;
  9. Making referrals for additional services; and
  10. Representing himself or herself as something other than a speech-language pathology assistant;
- (10) "Supervisor" means a person who holds a Kentucky license as a speech-language pathologist or who holds Education Professional Standards Board master's level certification as a teacher of exceptional children in the areas of speech and communication disorders as established by administrative regulation;
- (11) "Interim license" means a license issued by the board pursuant to KRS 334A.035 to a person for the purpose of completing the supervised postgraduate professional experience required under that section prior to an application for licensure as a speech-language pathologist or a speech-language pathology assistant; and
- (12) "Temporary license" means a license that may be issued by the board administrator pursuant to KRS 334A.183 to any applicant who has met all the requirements for permanent licensure in accordance with that section.

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**History:** Amended 2008 Ky. Acts ch. 165, sec. 1, effective July 15, 2008. -- Amended 2000 Ky. Acts ch. 375, sec. 4, effective July 14, 2000. -- Amended 1994 Ky. Acts ch. 32, sec. 1, effective July 15, 1994. -- Amended 1986 Ky. Acts ch. 483, sec. 2, effective July 15, 1986. -- Created 1972 Ky. Acts ch. 236, sec. 2.