

BOARD OF SPEECH PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY

CHAPTER 740

LICENSURE OF SPEECH PATHOLOGISTS AND AUDIOLOGISTS

[Prior to 9/18/24, see Professional Licensure Division[645] Ch 300]

Chapter rescission date pursuant to Iowa Code section 17A.7: 5/22/29

481—740.1(147) Definitions. For purposes of these rules, the following definitions shall apply:

“*ABA*” means the American Board of Audiology.

“*ASHA*” means the American Speech-Language Hearing Association.

“*Assistant*” means an unlicensed person who works under the supervision of an Iowa-licensed speech pathologist or audiologist and meets the minimum requirements set forth in these rules.

“*Audiologist*” means a person who engages in the application of principles, methods and procedures for measurement, testing, evaluation, prediction, consultation, counseling, instruction, habilitation, rehabilitation, or remediation related to hearing and disorders of hearing and associated communication disorders for the purpose of nonmedically evaluating, identifying, preventing, ameliorating, modifying, or remediating such disorders and conditions in individuals or groups of individuals, including the determination, selection and use of appropriate hearing devices.

“*Board*” means the board of speech pathology and audiology.

“*DCI*” means the Iowa division of criminal investigation.

“*Department*” means the department of inspections, appeals, and licensing.

“*FBI*” means the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

“*Full-time*” means a minimum of 30 hours per week.

“*Grace period*” means the 30-day period following expiration of a license when the license is still considered to be active.

“*Inactive license*” means a license that has expired because it was not renewed by the end of the grace period.

“*Licensee*” means any person licensed to practice as a speech pathologist or audiologist in the state of Iowa.

“*License expiration date*” means December 31 of odd-numbered years.

“*On site*” means:

1. To be continuously on site and present in the department or facility where services are being provided;
2. To be immediately available to assist the person being supervised in the services being performed; and
3. To provide continued direction of appropriate aspects of each treatment session in which a component of treatment is delegated.

“*Reactivate*” or “*reactivation*” means the process as outlined in rule 481—740.10(17A,147,272C) by which an inactive license is restored to active status.

“*Reinstatement*” means the process as outlined in rule 481—506.31(272C) by which a licensee who has had a license suspended or revoked or who has voluntarily surrendered a license may apply to have the license reinstated, with or without conditions.

“*Speech pathologist*” or “*speech-language pathologist*” means a person who engages in the application of principles, methods, and procedures for the measurement, testing, evaluation, prediction, consultation, counseling, instruction, habilitation, rehabilitation, or remediation related to the development and disorders of speech, swallowing, fluency, voice, or language for the purpose of nonmedically evaluating, preventing, ameliorating, modifying, or remediating such disorders and conditions in individuals or groups of individuals.

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481—740.2(147) Initial licensure. The following criteria will apply to licensure:

740.2(1) Applicants will submit a completed online licensure application and pay the nonrefundable licensure fee specified in rule 481—507.20(147,154F).

740.2(2) Application requirements.

a. Applicants who did not complete the nine months of clinical experience under supervision of a licensed Iowa speech pathologist or audiologist, as appropriate, must submit:

- (1) An official copy of a current ASHA certificate of clinical competence; or
- (2) Verification of current ABA certification.

b. Applicants who complete the nine-month clinical experience under Iowa supervision may submit evidence of licensure requirements as outlined in paragraph 740.2(2) “*a*” or must submit the following:

- (1) Official copies of academic transcripts sent directly from the school to the board showing proof of completion of not less than 400 hours of supervised clinical training; and
- (2) Verification of nine months of full-time clinical experience, or equivalent, completed after the master’s degree, under the supervision of a licensed speech pathologist or audiologist or as a part of the doctoral degree.

c. Results of the Praxis Examination.

740.2(3) Applicants will submit required waivers and fingerprints pursuant to the board-approved process to facilitate a national criminal history background check by the DCI and the FBI. The cost of the criminal history background check by the DCI and the FBI shall be assessed to the applicant.

740.2(4) An applicant who has been licensed in the District of Columbia or another state, territory, province or foreign country who has been a licensed speech pathologist or audiologist under the laws of another jurisdiction will provide verification of license from the jurisdiction in which the applicant has most recently been licensed sent directly from the jurisdiction to the board office. The applicant must also disclose any public or pending complaints against the applicant in any other jurisdiction. Web-based verification may be substituted for verification direct from the jurisdiction’s board office if the verification provides:

- a.* Licensee’s name;
- b.* Date of initial licensure;
- c.* Current licensure status; and
- d.* Any disciplinary action taken against the license.

740.2(5) An applicant who has relocated to Iowa from a state that did not require licensure to practice the profession may submit proof of work experience in lieu of educational and training requirements, if eligible, in accordance with rule 481—501.2(272C).

740.2(6) If the application is not completed according to the instructions, the application will not be reviewed by the board.

[ARC 0596D, IAB 9/16/26, effective 7/1/27]

481—740.3(147) Educational qualifications.

740.3(1) The applicant shall possess the following:

- a.* A master’s degree from an accredited school, college or university with a major in speech pathology; or
- b.* A master’s or doctoral degree from an accredited school, college or university with a major in audiology.

740.3(2) Foreign-trained applicants.

a. Foreign-trained speech pathologist and audiologist applicants who do not hold a license in another state or U.S. territory shall provide an English translation and an equivalency evaluation at the licensee’s expense of the licensee’s educational credentials by one of the approved credential evaluation services on ABA’s or ASHA’s websites or approved by the board. The professional curriculum must be equivalent to that stated in these rules.

b. Foreign-trained applicants who hold a license in another state or U.S. territory may apply for licensure by endorsement.

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481—740.4(147) Examination requirements. The examination required by the board will be the Praxis Examination in speech pathology or audiology. This examination is administered by the Educational Testing Service. The applicant will make arrangements to take the Praxis Examination in speech pathology or audiology and pay all expenses associated with taking the examination. The applicant will have the examination scores sent directly to the board from the Educational Testing Service.

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481—740.5(147) Audiology and speech-language pathology interstate compact. The rules of the audiology and speech-language pathology interstate compact commission are incorporated by reference pursuant to Iowa Code section 147F.1. An audiologist or speech-language pathologist may engage in the practice of audiology or speech-language pathology in Iowa without a license issued by the board if the individual has a current compact privilege to practice in Iowa issued by the audiology and speech-language pathology interstate compact commission. The state fee for issuance of a compact privilege to practice in Iowa shall be \$60, which will be collected by the speech-language pathology interstate compact commission. The state fee for issuance of a compact privilege to practice in Iowa shall be waived for an active-duty military member or spouse of an individual who is an active-duty military member. An audiologist or speech-language pathologist who practices audiology or speech-language pathology in Iowa using a compact privilege is subject to the rules governing licensees in rule 481—740.8(147) and in 481—Chapters 741 and 743. Complaints, investigations, and disciplinary proceedings involving a compact privilege shall be handled in accordance with Iowa Code chapters 17A, 147F, 154F and 272C and with 481—Chapters 503, 504, and 506.

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481—740.6(147) Temporary clinical license. A temporary clinical license for the purpose of obtaining clinical experience as a prerequisite for licensure is valid for one year and may be renewed at the discretion of the board. The license shall be designated “temporary clinical license in speech pathology” or “temporary clinical license in audiology.”

740.6(1) A speech pathology applicant will submit the following to the board:

- a. Evidence of supervision by a speech pathologist with an active, current Iowa license in good standing;
- b. A completed application form and the temporary clinical license fee;
- c. An official copy of the transcript sent directly from the school to the board;
- d. Official verification of completion of not less than 400 hours of supervised clinical training in an accredited college or university; and
- e. Results of the Praxis Examination.

740.6(2) An audiology applicant or an applicant completing a doctoral externship must submit the following to the board:

- a. Evidence of supervision by an audiologist with an active, current Iowa license in good standing. The applicant completing an audiology doctoral externship must show evidence of on-site supervision;
- b. A completed application form and the temporary clinical license fee;
- c. An official copy of the transcript, sent directly from the school to the board;
- d. Official verification of completion of not less than 400 hours of supervised clinical training in an accredited college or university; and
- e. Results of the Praxis Examination.

740.6(3) The plan for supervised clinical experience must be approved by the board before the applicant starts practice and shall:

- a. Include at least nine months of full-time clinical experience, or equivalent;
- b. Include supervision by an Iowa-licensed speech pathologist or audiologist, as appropriate. If the applicant is being supervised by more than one individual, each supervisor must submit a supervised clinical experience plan for approval. If there is a change in the supervised clinical experience plan at any time during the supervised clinical experience, the licensee must contact the board for approval within 30 days of the change;
- c. Be kept by the supervisor for two years from the last date of the clinical experience; and

d. Include a completed supervised clinical experience report form that shall be submitted to the board of speech pathology and audiology upon the applicant's successful completion of the nine months of full-time clinical experience. If the applicant was supervised by more than one individual, each supervisor must submit a supervised clinical experience report.

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481—740.7(147) Temporary permit.

740.7(1) A nonresident may apply to the board for a temporary permit to practice speech pathology or audiology:

- a. For a period not to exceed three months;
- b. By submitting a letter to support the need for such a permit;
- c. By submitting documents to show that the applicant has substantially the same qualifications as required for licensure in Iowa;
- d. By submitting the documentation prior to the date the applicant intends to begin practice; and
- e. By submitting the temporary permit fee.

740.7(2) The applicant shall receive a final determination from the board regarding the application for a temporary permit.

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481—740.8(147) Use of assistants. A licensee will, in the delivery of professional services, utilize assistants only to the extent provided in these rules. Such assistants will use the title provided by these rules.

740.8(1) Duties.

- a. *Speech pathology assistant I.* A speech pathology assistant I works with an individual for whom significant improvement is expected within a reasonable amount of time.
- b. *Speech pathology assistant II.* A speech pathology assistant II works with an individual for whom maintenance of present level of communication is the goal; or for whom, based on the history and diagnosis, only slow improvement is expected.
- c. *Audiology assistant I.* An audiology assistant I is more broadly trained and may be given a variety of duties depending upon the individual's training.
- d. *Audiology assistant II.* An audiology assistant II is trained specifically for a single task for screening.

740.8(2) Minimum requirements.

a. A speech pathology assistant I or II or audiology assistant I will satisfy the following minimum requirements:

- (1) Reach the age of majority;
- (2) Complete a high school education, or its equivalent; and
- (3) Complete one of the following:
 1. A three-semester-hour (or four-quarter-hour) course in introductory speech and language pathology for speech pathology assistants or in audiology for audiology assistants from an accredited educational institution and 15 hours of instruction in the specific tasks that the assistant will be performing;

or

2. A minimum training period comprised of 75 clock hours on instruction and practicum experience.
- b. An audiology assistant II will satisfy the following requirements:
- (1) Reach the age of majority.
 - (2) Complete a high school education, or its equivalent.
 - (3) Complete a minimum of 15 clock hours of instruction and practicum experience in the specific task that the assistant will be performing.

740.8(3) Utilization. Utilization of a speech pathology or audiology assistant requires that a plan be developed by the licensee desiring to utilize that assistant, consisting of the following information:

- a. Documentation that the assistant meets minimum requirements;
- b. A written plan of the activities and supervision that will be kept by the licensee supervising the assistant. This supervision will include direct on-site observation for a minimum of 20 percent of the

assistant's direct patient care for level I speech pathology and level I audiology assistants and 10 percent for level II speech pathology assistants. Level II audiology assistants will be supervised 10 percent of the time. At least half of that time will be direct on-site observation with the other portion provided as time interpreting results;

c. A listing of the facilities where the assistant will be utilized; and

d. A statement, signed by the licensee and the assistant, acknowledging the licensee and the assistant have read the rules pertaining to assistants.

740.8(4) *Maximum number of assistants.* A licensee may not utilize more than three assistants unless a plan of supervision is filed and approved by the board.

740.8(5) *Supervisor responsibilities.* A licensee who utilizes an assistant will have the following responsibilities:

a. To be legally responsible for the actions of the assistant in assigned duties with a client;

b. To make all professional decisions relating to the management of a client;

c. To ensure that the assistant is assigned only those duties and responsibilities for which the assistant has been specifically trained and is qualified to perform;

d. To ensure compliance of the assistant(s) under supervision with the provisions of these rules by providing direct observation and supervision of the activities of the assistant; and

e. To submit to the board of speech pathology and audiology upon request a copy of the plan of activities and supervision for each assistant and documentation of the dates each assistant was utilized by the licensee.

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481—740.9(147) License renewal.

740.9(1) The biennial license renewal period for a license to practice speech pathology or audiology will begin on January 1 of an even-numbered year and end on December 31 of the next odd-numbered year. The licensee is responsible for renewing the license prior to its expiration.

740.9(2) An individual who was issued an initial license within six months of the license renewal date will not be required to renew the license until the subsequent renewal date two years later.

740.9(3) A licensee seeking renewal will:

a. Meet the continuing education requirements of rule 481—742.2(147) and the mandatory reporting requirements of subrule 740.9(4). A licensee whose license was reactivated during the current renewal compliance period may use continuing education credit earned during the compliance period for the first renewal following reactivation; and

b. Submit the completed renewal application and renewal fee before the license expiration date.

740.9(4) Mandatory reporter training requirements.

a. A licensee who examines, attends, counsels, or treats children, dependent adults, or both in the scope of a licensee's professional practice will complete the applicable department of health and human services' training relating to the identification and reporting of child abuse, dependent adult abuse, or both. Written documentation of training completion should be maintained for three years. The training is not required if the licensee is engaged in active duty military service or holds a waiver demonstrating a hardship in complying with these training requirements.

b. The board may select licensees for audit of compliance with the requirements in paragraphs 740.10(4) "a" and "b."

740.9(5) A two-year license will be issued after the requirements of the rule are met. If the board receives adverse information on the renewal application, the board will issue the renewal license but may refer the adverse information for further consideration or disciplinary investigation.

740.9(6) The license certificate and proof of active licensure will be displayed in a conspicuous public place at the primary site of practice.

740.9(7) Late renewal. The license will become late when the license has not been renewed by the expiration date on the renewal. The licensee will be assessed a late fee as specified in 481—subrule 507.20(3). To renew a late license, the licensee will complete the renewal requirements and submit the late fee within the grace period.

740.9(8) Inactive license. A licensee who fails to renew the license by the end of the grace period has an inactive license. A licensee whose license is inactive continues to hold the privilege of licensure in Iowa, but may not practice until the license is reactivated.

740.9(9) Compact eligibility review. This rule applies to licensees who were licensed prior to enactment of this rule. In order to complete the compact eligibility review, at or prior to a licensee's next renewal, the licensee must submit required waivers and fingerprints pursuant to the board-approved process to facilitate a national criminal history background check. The cost for the evaluation of the fingerprint packet and the DCI and the FBI criminal history background checks will be assessed to the applicant. The board may withhold issuing a license pending receipt of a report from the DCI and the FBI.

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481—740.10(17A,147,272C) License reactivation. To apply for reactivation of an inactive license:

740.10(1) Submit a completed reactivation application and pay the nonrefundable application fee.

740.10(2) Provide verification of current competence to practice speech pathology and audiology by satisfying one of the following criteria:

a. If the license has been on inactive status for five years or less, an applicant must provide the following:

(1) Verification of the license from the jurisdiction in which the applicant has been most recently licensed and has been practicing during the time period the Iowa license was inactive, sent directly from the jurisdiction to the board office. Web-based verification may be substituted for verification from a jurisdiction's board office if the verification includes:

1. Licensee's name;
2. Date of initial licensure;
3. Current licensure status; and
4. Any disciplinary action taken against the license; and

(2) Verification of completion of 26 hours of continuing education within two years of application for reactivation or verification of active practice, consisting of a minimum of 2,080 hours, in another state or jurisdiction during the two years preceding an application for reactivation.

b. If the license has been on inactive status for more than five years, an applicant must provide the following:

(1) Verification of the license from the jurisdiction in which the applicant has been most recently licensed and has been practicing during the time period the Iowa license was inactive, sent directly from the jurisdiction to the board office. Web-based verification may be substituted for verification from a jurisdiction's board office if the verification includes:

1. Licensee's name;
2. Date of initial licensure;
3. Current licensure status; and
4. Any disciplinary action taken against the license; and

(2) Verification of completion of 52 hours of continuing education within two years of application for reactivation or 26 hours of continuing education within two years of application for reactivation and verification of active practice, consisting of a minimum of 2,080 hours, in another state or jurisdiction during the two years preceding an application for reactivation; or

(3) Verification of passing the Praxis Examination in speech pathology or audiology within the last two years prior to application for reactivation.

740.10(3) If the license has been inactive for two or more years and the licensee cannot provide verification of active practice, consisting of a minimum of 2,080 hours, in another state or jurisdiction during the two years preceding an application for reactivation, the licensee must submit required waivers and fingerprints pursuant to the board-approved process to facilitate a national criminal history background check. The cost for the evaluation of the fingerprint packet and the DCI and the FBI criminal history background checks will be assessed to the applicant. The board may withhold issuing a license pending receipt of a report from the DCI and the FBI.

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481—740.11(17A,147,272C) License reinstatement. A licensee whose license has been revoked, suspended, or voluntarily surrendered must apply for and receive board-approved reinstatement of the license and must apply for and be granted reactivation of the license prior to practicing speech pathology and audiology in this state.

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