

# News For Oregon Licensees

## Oregon Board of Examiners for Speech -Language Pathology & Audiology

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### License Renewal Due By End of 2023

All Active Speech-Language Pathologists, Speech-Language Pathology Assistants, and Audiologists, **have a license renewal deadline of December 31st, 2023** and a license expiration date of January 30th, 2024. Conditional SLP and Provisional SLPAs have specific expiration and renewal dates.

The renewal system will open in the Fall of this year and the Board office is working with our website development team to possibly open it up as soon as September. The professional development required at renewal:

Speech-Language Pathologists & Audiologists: 20 PD hours\*

Speech-Language Pathology Assistants: 10 PD hours\*

\* All renewals must include 1 hour of cultural competency related PD.

\* All supervisors of SLPAs must have 2 hours of supervision training on file.

Licensees can use any hours earned in 2022 or 2023, even if earned prior to licensure and/or used to apply for the initial license. All hours must have documentation to be accepted. We accept un-official ASHA or AAA CEU transcripts and they can be submitted as one single activity titled "ASHA transcript." Otherwise we accept individual certificates of attendance. Certificates without a name on them and/or event receipts are not acceptable forms of documentation.

### Rules Update— New Rules Adopted

Students and faculty at Pacific University spearheaded a project to study Oregon’s rule language relating to discrimination. Their suggested language was presented at the November 4, 2022 Board meeting and adopted by Board as proposed rules and requested public comment. The rules were made permanent at the February 10, 2023 meeting:

**Professional & Ethical Standards anti-discrimination:**

OAR 335-005-0015

Welfare of Clients

(4) Individuals shall not discriminate in the delivery of professional services on the basis of language, dialect, race, color, ethnicity, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, sex, gender, gender identity and/or expression, sexual orientation, disability, military, veteran status, or any other protected classification recognized by applicable law.

OAR 335-005-0020

Professional Competence

(7) Individuals shall not discriminate in their relationships with colleagues, students, and members of allied professions on the basis of language, dialect, race, color, or ethnicity, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, sex, gender, gender identity and/or expression, sexual orientation, disability, military, veteran status, or any other protected classification recognized by applicable law.

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## Rules (Con't)

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### Healthcare Interpreters

The 2021 Oregon Legislature passed HB 2359 which amended ORS 413.550 through ORS 413.563 regarding requirements for health care interpreters. It requires the Board to create new rules to comply with the law. Section 3 directs providers to utilize healthcare interpreters from the Oregon Health Authority's registry or meet an exemption set by OHA or the licensing board. After receiving considerable public comment the board passed the following:

OAR 335-005-0015

Welfare of Clients

(17) Except as provided in subsection (a) of this section, a licensee who is reimbursed with public funds shall work with a health care interpreter from the health care interpreter registry administered by the Oregon Health Authority under ORS 413.558 when communicating with a patient who prefers to communicate in a language other than English, unless the licensee is proficient in the patient's preferred language.

(a) A licensee who is otherwise required to work with a health care interpreter from the health care interpreter registry may work with a health care interpreter who is not listed on the health care interpreter registry only if the provider:

(A) Is employed by an education provider that provides education services to children from birth through age 21 and the interpreter is provided by the education provider in accordance with the education provider's requirements; or

(B) Verifies, in writing, that the licensee has taken the appropriate steps needed to obtain a health care interpreter from the health care interpreter registry in accordance with the rules adopted by the Oregon Health Authority under ORS 413.558; or

(C) Has offered the patient the services of a health care interpreter from the health care interpreter registry and the patient declined the offer and chose a different interpreter.

### Reciprocal Licensing:

The Board has received input from some licensees proposing reciprocal licensing. The concept would create a temporary license and eliminate certain documentation requirements, like official transcripts if the person holds licensure in a state with the same requirement. There would also be a reduced license fee. These applicants would still be required to complete a background check and renew as a regular licensee by December 31st of odd numbered years. A statute change might be required, and discussion is ongoing.

## Past Legislative Update

In 2019 the Oregon Legislature passed [HB 2011](#) mandating cultural competence continuing education for various licensed professions. The Board has proposed adding one hour of professional development related to cultural competency per renewal.

The Oregon Health Authority Office of Equity and Inclusion maintains a list of approved activities you can find here: <https://www.oregon.gov/oha/OEI/Pages/CCCE.aspx>

As before, as long as it is an acceptable activity from an accepted sponsor, you can count it towards license renewal. If you have any doubts if an activity is acceptable without special approval please check with our office.

## SLPA rules were effective January 1, 2020

Rules relating to the utilization of SLPAs were updated in 2019 and were effective on 1/1/2020. ([See them here](#)).

All SLPA/SLP combinations should now be following the new rules including preparation of the annual supervision plan and maintenance of the monthly supervision logs which include at least one hour of consultative supervision.

The SLP must be sure to treat or co-treat with their supporting SLPA each patient/client/student that the SLPA is working with at least every 60 days.

Patients/clients/students must be provided with informed consent if they are to receive services from an SLPA (this was always the case in statute, now is repeated in rule).

Supervisors must have at least 2 hours of professional education on file with the Board office prior to beginning supervision of SLPAs.

As always, SLPAs do not have caseloads. They assist speech-language pathologists with the **SLP's** caseload.

For all of the details, please read the rules. Here is a link to the [2021 SLPA Supervision Guide](#). If you have questions contact the board office via email.

## The Board's Role & Mission

The Board has received some survey questions about the role it serves on behalf of Oregonians. The authority and mission of the Board was set in statute by the Oregon Legislature in 1973.

**ORS 681.220 Policy.** It is declared to be a policy of this state that it is necessary to provide regulatory authority over persons offering speech-language pathology and audiology services to the public in order to:

- (1) Safeguard the public health, safety and welfare;
- (2) Protect the public from being misled by incompetent, unscrupulous and unauthorized persons;
- (3) Protect the public from unprofessional conduct by qualified speech-language pathologists and audiologists; and
- (4) Help ensure the availability of the highest possible quality speech-language pathology and audiology services to people of this state who have communication disabilities.

The Board is comprised of 2 SLPs, 2 audiologists, 1 otolaryngologist, 2 non-professional members, and (recently added) an SLPA. The individuals do not represent their respective professions, they represent the people of Oregon. However they do bring their unique experience to the discussions and subsequent votes.

The Board does not receive funding from any tax source and is legislatively mandated to fund its operations through licensing fees. The Agency strives to only maintain enough reserves to prevent wild fluctuations in the biannual renewal fees.

The Board adopts rules to regulate the professions, however there is always a public comment period and even opportunities to serve on rule drafting committees. If you or someone you know has an interest in joining the Board please email the board.

## BSPA Licensee Portal

Through the new online portal licensees can:

- Update any of their contact information
- Submit name changes
- Upload professional development certificates or ASHA transcript at anytime prior to renewal
- Print a copy of the license
- Request official verifications be sent to another state

It is very important to keep your email updated as it is the main way we will notify you of renewals, rule changes, meeting notices, and general announcements.

*\* If you have trouble receiving a temporary password, check your spam or junk folder prior to contacting our office for assistance.*

## 2023 Legislative Update

The Oregon Legislature is in session and the Board is tracking measures that may affect licensees.

- **Board's Budget Bill—HB 5023.** There was a fee increase effective 7/1/21 and we are not asking for an increase this biennium. Licensing numbers continue on the pace of increasing about 7% per year. Interestingly, from 2020 through current, more than half of all new licensees do not live in Oregon and are practicing here under our new telepractice rules. We continue to see the same or an increased number of cases as our license numbers climb, but we are not asking for an increase in staffing.
- **Study of caseloads of SLPs, OTs, PTs in education—HB 2618.** Requires Department of Education to conduct study to identify best methodology for determining appropriate number of students on caseload for certain school-based health practitioners.
- **Interpreters in schools—HB 2240** This bill is to fix prior legislation requiring interpreters in healthcare, to remove exempt school settings. The Board already made this change in rule, so this fix will further align our rules with statute.

### A reminder about events licensees are required to report to the Board office:

- Changes in work or home address, email, and phone number or name used professionally must be reported within 30 days.
- Changes in supervision, whether you are an SLPA or a CF holding a Conditional SLP license, must be reported within 30 days.
- Any licensee's conviction for a misdemeanor or felony and any arrest for a felony crime must be reported within 10 days after the conviction or arrest.
- Prohibited or unprofessional conduct on the part of yourself or another licensee must be reported within 10 working days
- Any adverse action taken against a license by any state or federal agency or professional association.
- Any reasonable belief that another individual is violating the Board's Professional and Ethical Standards.
- Any suspected Child Abuse (ORS 419b) Communicable Disease (ORS 433 & OAR 333-018) or Elder Abuse (ORS 124)

# Board Actions

**Bilderback, Suzanne #016370****Outcome:** Final Order by Default

A Final Order by Default was issued to Suzanne Bilderback imposing a civil penalty of \$100 for practicing as a speech-language pathologist without a license for a period of less than one month in violation of ORS 681.250(2).

**Benjamin, Hailey #016422****Outcome:** Final Order by Default

A Final Order by Default was issued to Hailey Benjamin imposing a civil penalty of \$1,000 on Licensee. The Board found that Benjamin committed one count of making false statements to the Board and engaging in dishonesty, fraud, and/or misrepresentation when she submitted an SLPCF Report and Rating form to the Board that contained false information, in violation of OAR 335-005-0010(2)(b) and OAR 335-005-00125(8).

**Knapstad, Shandra #015899****Outcome:** Consent Order

On September 9, 2022, Knapstad entered into a Consent Order with the Board imposing a civil penalty of \$400 for supervising a conditional speech-language pathologist whose license had expired for approximately four months, in violation of OAR 335-005-0010(2)(g).

**Moss, Talia #16976****Outcome:** Consent Order

On September 2, 2022, Moss entered into a Consent Order with the Board imposing a civil penalty of \$300 for practicing as a speech-language pathologist without the required license for approximately three months in violation of ORS 681.250(2).

**Parrish, Jessica #17434****Outcome:** Consent Order

On August 17, 2022, Parrish entered into a Consent Order with the Board imposing a civil penalty of \$300 for practicing as a speech-language pathologist without the required license for approximately three months in violation of ORS 681.250(2).

**Kenyon, Janet #021288****Outcome:** Consent Order

On July 19, 2022, Kenyon entered into a Consent Order with the Board imposing a reprimand and a limitation on her practice. Kenyon's practice is limited to patients over the age of eight years until the Board lifts the limitation. The Board will consider lifting the limitation when the Board finds that Kenyon has demonstrated competence in pediatric care as determined by a file review.

**Staniewicz, Jamie #17436****Outcome:** Consent Order

On July 29, 2022, Staniewicz entered into a Consent Order with the Board imposing a civil penalty of \$1,000 for practicing as a speech-language pathologist without the required license for approximately ten months in violation of ORS 681.250(2).

**Watts, Annabelle #16960****Outcome:** Consent Order

On July 29, 2022, Watts entered into a Consent Order with the Board imposing a civil penalty of \$400 for practicing as a speech-language pathologist without the required license for approximately four months in violation of ORS 681.250(2).

**Sippl, Tracy #016091****Outcome:** Consent Order

On June 22, 2022, Sippl entered into a Consent Order with the Board imposing a civil penalty of \$500 for negligently engaging in misrepresentation about supervision of the clinical experience of her supervisees, in violation of OAR 335-005-0010(2)(b).

**Tang, Amy #016174****Outcome:** Consent Order

On May 6, 2022, Tang entered into a Consent Order with the Board imposing a civil penalty of \$610 for practicing as a speech-language pathologist without the required license for approximately six months in violation of ORS 681.250(2).

**Green, Katlyn #17335****Outcome:** Consent Order

On April 18, 2022, Green entered into a Consent Order with the Board imposing a civil penalty of \$150 for practicing as a speech-language pathologist without the required license for approximately one month in violation of ORS 681.250(2).

**Erskine, Barbara #010792****Outcome:** Consent Order

On April 11, 2022, Erskine entered into a Consent Order with the Board imposing: a Reprimand for failing to maintain records in accordance with OAR 335-010-0070(2) and OAR 335-010-0070(3)(a); and a civil penalty of \$200 for failing to allow a patient access to records in violation of OAR 335-005-0015(9).

**Lawry, Elizabeth #16831****Outcome:** Consent Order

On April 7, 2022, Lawry entered into a Consent Order with the Board imposing a civil penalty of \$100 for practicing as a speech-language pathologist without the required license for approximately one week in violation of ORS 681.250(2).

**Narayanan, Taylor #16921****Outcome:** Consent Order

On April 4, 2022, Narayanan entered into a Consent Order with the Board imposing a civil penalty of \$100 for practicing as a speech-language pathologist without the required license for one month in violation of ORS 681.250(2).

**Ross-Kennedy, Abby #16781****Outcome:** Consent Order

On April 4, 2022, Ross-Kennedy entered into a Consent Order with the Board imposing a civil penalty of \$500 for practicing as a speech-language pathologist without the required license for more than four months in violation of ORS 681.250(2).

**Pentzer, Kristi #A0771****Outcome:** Consent Order

On March 4, 2022, Pentzer entered into a Consent Order with the Board imposing a civil penalty of \$275 for practicing as a speech-language pathology assistant (SLPA) without a valid SLPA certificate for more than 2.5 months in violation of ORS 681.360(1) and OAR 335-095-0030(2).

**Penrod, Alison #016419****Outcome:** Consent Order

On March 4, 2022, Penrod entered into a Consent Order with the Board that imposes a Reprimand for failing to immediately report an action taken against her by a professional association in violation of OAR 335-005-0010(2)(n).

**Foote, Adrienne #015611****Outcome:** Consent Order

On February 18, 2022, Foote entered into a Consent Order with the Board imposing a civil penalty of \$200 for failing to maintain records in violation of OAR 335-010-0070(1).

**Finke, Hillary #A0774****Outcome:** Consent Order

On February 17, 2022, Finke entered into a Consent Order with the Board imposing a civil penalty of \$300 for performing speech-language pathology assistant (SLPA) fieldwork without a provisional SLPA certificate in violation of ORS 681.360(1) and OAR 335-095-0030(2).

# Board Actions

**12/14/21**

**Vestal, Kimberly #13594**

**Outcome:** Consent Order

On December 14, 2021, Vestal entered a Consent Order with the Board that imposes a Reprimand for one count of misrepresenting her supervision of a speech-language pathology provisional certificate-holder in violation of OAR 335-005-0025(8).

**12/13/21**

**Gonzalez Hiltner, Magaly #16462**

**Outcome:** Consent Order

Gonzalez Hiltner entered a consent order with the Board on December 13, 2021. The Order imposes a civil penalty of \$810 on Gonzalez Hiltner for working without the required license at Portland State University at various times from 2017 to 2019 in violation of ORS 681.250(2).

**5/18/21**

**Sarycheva Gonzales, Lada, SLP #15610**

**Outcome:** Consent Order

On May 18, 2021, Sarycheva Gonzales entered a Consent Order with the Board which imposes a \$610 civil penalty. Sarycheva Gonzales failed to renew her license and worked from January 31, 2018 to May 16, 2018 without a valid license in violation of ORS 681.250(2).

**5/12/21**

**Jacobs, Lauren, SLP #16689**

**Outcome:** Consent Order

Jacobs entered a Consent Order with the Board on May 12, 2021, imposing a civil penalty of \$235. Jacobs began working as a clinical fellow in August, 2019 without first obtaining her conditional license, in violation of ORS 681.250(2). Her conditional license was issued on September 24, 2019.

**4/7/21**

**Gill, Jennifer, SLP #16545**

**Outcome:** Consent Order

Gill entered a Consent Order with the Board on April 7, 2021, imposing a civil penalty of \$200. Gill was issued a conditional license on June 28, 2019. The license expired on June 28, 2020 and was renewed on August 12, 2020. Gill practiced at The Wellness Group without the required license for approximately six weeks in violation of ORS 681.250(2).

**4/2/21**

**Moran, Mark, SLP #13522**

**Outcome:** Final Order by Default

A Final Order by Default was issued to Mark Moran imposing a civil penalty of \$200 on Licensee. The Board found that while employed with Comphealth and working at Douglas Education Service District, licensee violated ORS 681.370(3) and OAR 335-095-0050(5)(b) by failing to verify that the SLPA he was supervising for at least two months did not have a Board license (certification).

**3/19/21**

**Tate, Taylor, SLPA #A0727**

**Outcome:** Consent Order

Tate entered a Consent Order with the board on March 29, 2021, imposing a civil penalty of \$100. While working at Douglas Education Service District, Tate violated ORS 681.360(1) and OAR 335-095-0030(2)(a) by doing SLPA fieldwork without the required license (provisional certificate) for at least two months.

**3/19/21**

**Taylor-Bowen, Melissa, SLP # 15631**

**Outcome:** Final Order by Default

A Final Order by Default was issued to Taylor-Bowen imposing a civil penalty of \$300 for practicing without a license while employed at Douglas Education Service District. Taylor-Bowen August 21, 2015. On 01/30/2020, Taylor-Bowen's license expired due to non-renewal. The Board found that Taylor-Bowen was unlicensed for more than two months in violation of ORS 681.250(2). She failed to apply for renewal of her license on a timely basis, in violation of ORS 681.320(1)(a) & (b), OAR 335-0060-0030(1) and OAR 335-060-0030(3)(a) & (b).

**3/19/21**

**Pringle, Jordan, SLP #15339**

**Outcome:** Consent Order

Pringle entered a Consent order with the Board on March 19, 2021, imposing a civil penalty of \$200 on licensee. The Board found that while employed with Douglas Education Service District, licensee violated ORS 681.360(4) and OAR 335-095-0050(5)(b) when supervising an unlicensed Speech-Language Pathology Assistant for about two months.

**2/18/21**

**Bouchard, Rebecca, Speech-Language Pathology Assistant, #A0541**

**Outcome:** Consent Order

Bouchard entered a Consent Order with the Board on February 18, 2021, imposing a civil penalty of \$200 on licensee. The Board finds that while employed by Pediatric Therapy Services, licensee violated OAR 335-095-0050(1)(e) by having a caseload, and ORS 681.375 and OAR 335-095-0060(1) by exceeding her scope of practice. SLPA did not receive appropriate supervision in violation of OAR 335-095-0010(5) and OAR 335-095-0010(5). Licensee failed to report to the Board misconduct of herself and other licensees in violation of ORS 676.150(2) and OAR 335-005-0015(14).