

**PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE  
SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY, AUDIOLOGY AND HEARING AID  
DISPENSING BOARD**

**LCB FILE NO. R026-25I**

**The following document is the initial draft regulation proposed  
by the agency submitted on 07/10/2025**

## PROPOSED REGULATIONS NAC CHAPTER 637B

Approved by the Board Following Public Workshop on July 9, 2025

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<a href="#">New</a>	<i>“Direct Supervision” defined.</i>	Adds new definition related to SLP Assistant licensing per AB177.
<a href="#">New</a>	<i>“Indirect Supervision” defined.</i>	Adds new definition related to SLP Assistant licensing per AB177.
<a href="#">New</a>	<i>“Medically Fragile” defined.</i>	Adds new definition related to SLP Assistant licensing per AB177.
<a href="#">New</a>	<i>“Plan of Care” defined.</i>	Adds new definition related to SLP Assistant licensing per AB177.
<a href="#">637B.014</a>	<i>Applicability of provisions to person who holds credential issued by Department of Education.</i>	Revises to align with exclusion from licensure revised in AB177/NRS now limited to only non-licensees holding NDE SLP Endorsement issued on/before 9/30/2026.
<a href="#">637B.030</a>	<i>Schedule of fees.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adds new/lowered fees for SLP Assistants &amp; HAS Apprentices</li> <li>Adds new initial &amp; renewal ASLP-IC “privilege-to-practice” fees</li> <li>Removes “endorsement” per AB177 repeal of AUD dispensing endorsement</li> </ul>
<a href="#">637B.034</a>	<i>Membership; qualifications; chair; duties; quorum; compensation.</i>	Removes "dispensing" from audiologist per AB177.
<a href="#">637B.035</a>	<i>Application: Payment or waiver of fee.</i>	Adds criteria under which the Board may waive all or part of a fee per AB177.
<a href="#">637B.036</a>	<i>Expiration and renewal of standard or provisional license; combined application for renewal of license as audiologist and speech-language pathologist.</i>	Revises per AB177 removal of NBC-HIS Certification for HAS licensure resulting in HAS Provisional license requiring out-of-state license & less than 2 years of on-site training and work experience.
<a href="#">637B.0363</a>	<i>Renewal of provisional license to engage in practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids.</i>	Revises per AB177 removal of NBC-HIS Certification for HAS licensure. HAS Provisional renewal will require active practice to complete 2 year requirement.
<a href="#">637B.0374</a>	<i>Temporary license to engage in practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids issued to hearing aid specialist or dispensing audiologist: Requirement to take examination; renewal; expiration.</i>	Removes reference to dispensing audiologist per AB177 as exams are no longer required, so temporary dispensing license is no longer applicable.
<a href="#">637B.0391</a>	<i>In-service training for apprentices: General requirements; direct supervision; exemption from participation; credit for apprentice whose license has expired and is reinstated.</i>	Adds "hearing aid specialists" per AB177 removal of NBC-HIS Certification for HAS licensure. Regulations now address required HAS & HAS-A education & training requirements.
<a href="#">637B.0392</a>	<i>In-service training for apprentices: Contents and approval of academic training; maintenance of list of approved programs.</i>	Adds "hearing aid specialists" per AB177 removal of NBC-HIS Certification for HAS licensure. Regulations now address HAS & HAS-A education & training requirements.
<a href="#">637B.0394</a>	<i>In-service training for apprentices: Requirements for on-site training and work experience; core competencies; review and documentation of progress; report and proof of compliance.</i>	Adds "hearing aid specialists" per AB177 removal of NBC-HIS Certification for HAS licensure. Regulations now address HAS & HAS-A education & training requirements.
<a href="#">637B.0396</a>	<i>Qualifications to act as sponsor of apprentice; limitation on number of apprentices or sponsors.</i>	Removes reference to dispensing audiologist per AB177; revises experience required for an audiologist sponsor.
<a href="#">New</a>	<i>Speech-language pathology assistant: clinical training experience.</i>	Establishes requirement of either 75 hours of clinical training completed or clinical training plan to obtain SLPA license.
<a href="#">New</a>	<i>Speech-language pathology assistant: clinical training plan.</i>	Establishes requirements for clinical training completed or clinical training plan to obtain SLPA license.
<a href="#">New</a>	<i>Speech-language pathology assistant, provisional licensee, or student: delegation of duties by supervising speech-language pathologist; limitations.</i>	Establishes SLPA scope of practice.
<a href="#">New</a>	<i>Speech-language pathology assistant prohibited from performing certain activities; disciplinary action</i>	Establishes SLPA prohibited activities.
<a href="#">New</a>	<i>Authority and qualifications to act as a supervising speech-language pathologist; supervision ratios.</i>	Establishes eligibility to act as a supervising SLP.

<a href="#">New</a>	<i>Speech-language pathology assistant: Verification to Board of employment and supervision; notice of termination; number of primary supervisors required per employer of record.</i>	Establishes requirements for SLPA reporting of Supervising SLP(s).
<a href="#">New</a>	<i>Supervision provided by supervising speech-language pathologist.</i>	Establishes supervision requirements for Supervising SLP providing supervision to SLP provisional licensees, assistants, and students.
<a href="#">New</a>	<i>Disclosure of supervisory familial relationship by apprentice or assistant.</i>	Adds section to require disclosure of familial relationship between apprentices and assistants and their sponsors and supervising SLPs.
<a href="#">637B.042</a>	<i>Professional responsibility.</i>	Removes requirement to notify the Board if a criminal charge is filed against the licensee. Extends requirement to report other incidents from 10 days to 30 days.
<a href="#">New</a>	<i>Code of ethics: adoption by reference; effect of violation. (NRS 637B.132)</i>	Added for consideration as modeled in other licensing statutes.
<a href="#">637B.0442</a>	<i>Delegation of duties by hearing aid specialist or dispensing audiologist to unlicensed office assistant, aide or technician.</i>	Removes reference to dispensing audiologist per AB177.
<a href="#">637B.0446</a>	<i>Case history and minimum procedures required for prospective candidate for hearing aid; exception.</i>	Removes reference to dispensing audiologist per AB177.
<a href="#">637B.0448</a>	<i>Duties of hearing aid specialist or dispensing audiologist concerning hearing aid he or she sells or fits.</i>	Removes reference to dispensing audiologist per AB177.
<a href="#">637B.045</a>	<i>Preparation and retention of health care records and other records.</i>	Removes reference to dispensing audiologist per AB177.
<a href="#">637B.400</a>	<i>Requirements for renewal of standard or provisional license; records; audits; excess credits may not be carried forward.</i>	Removes reference to dispensing audiologist per AB177; adds references to SLP assistants & provisional licensees and their supervising SLP(s).
<a href="#">637B.720</a>	<i>Filing or initiation of complaint against licensee; contents; review; complaint filed against apprentice.</i>	Removes reference to dispensing audiologist per AB177; revises requirement for continuing education in fitting & dispensing hearing aids.

## GENERAL PROVISIONS

### AC NEW “Direct Supervision” defined. (NRS NEW – ASSEMBLY BILL 177)

Direct supervision means in-view observation and guidance provided, either in person or through telesupervision, by a supervising speech-language pathologist to a speech-language pathology assistant, provisional licensee, or student while they perform an assigned activity. Direct supervision activities may include, but are not limited to observing, coaching, modeling, and providing real-time assistance and feedback.

### AC NEW “Indirect Supervision” defined. (NRS NEW – ASSEMBLY BILL 177)

Indirect Supervision” means the monitoring or reviewing by a supervising speech-language pathologist of activities performed by a speech-language pathology assistant, provisional licensee, or student including, but not limited to demonstration, records review, view and evaluation of audio or video recorded sessions, and interactive conferences that may be conducted by telephone, email, or other forms of telecommunication.

### AC NEW “Medically Fragile” defined. (NRS NEW – ASSEMBLY BILL 177)

Medically Fragile” means the condition of a client who is acutely ill and in an unstable health condition.

**AC NEW "Plan of Care" defined.** (NRS NEW – ASSEMBLY BILL 177)

"Plan of Care" means a written service plan developed and monitored by a supervising speech-language pathologist to meet the needs of a client, addressing needs for screening, observation, monitoring, assessment, treatment, and other services.

**AC 637B.014 Applicability of provisions to person who holds credential issued by Department of Education.** (NRS 637B.080, 637B.132)

Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, for the purposes of subsection 1 of NRS 637B.080, the provisions of chapter 637B of NRS do not apply to a person who holds a current [credential] endorsement issued on or before September 30, 2026 by the Department of Education pursuant to chapter 391 of NRS and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto, [who engages in the practice of audiology or speech-language pathology, as applicable, within the scope of that credential] which allows a person to teach pupils who have speech and language impairments and provide speech-language pathology services in accordance with their current licensed personnel classification in the public school district in which they are employed, if the person:

- (a) Holds an active teacher's license issued pursuant to chapter 391 of NRS and an endorsement to teach pupils who have hearing impairments or to teach pupils who have speech and language impairments issued on or before September 30, 2026 by the Department of Education pursuant to chapter 391 of NRS and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto ;
- (b) Is employed by a public educational institution; and
- (c) Does not engage in the practice of audiology or speech-language pathology as an independent contractor or provide services in the private practice of audiology or speech-language pathology.

If a person who holds a current credential issued by the Department of Education pursuant to chapter 391 of NRS and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto also holds a valid license to engage in the practice of audiology or the practice of speech-language pathology pursuant to the provisions of chapter 637B of NRS and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto, such a person is also subject to the provisions of chapter 637B of NRS and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto regardless of the setting in which [to the extent that] he or she engages in the practice of audiology or speech-language pathology [as an independent contractor or provides services in the private practice of audiology or speech-language pathology].

**SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY, AUDIOLOGY AND HEARING AID DISPENSING BOARD**

**AC 637B.030 Schedule of fees.** (NRS 637B.132, 637B.175)

The Board will charge and collect the following fees:

Application fee for a standard license, temporary license, provisional license, or limited license .....	\$150
Application fee for an apprentice license or assistant license .....	75
Fee for a standard license or provisional license .....	100
Fee for an apprentice or assistant license .....	50
Fee for a privilege-to-practice .....	100
Fee for a temporary license .....	50
Fee for a limited license .....	25
Fee for renewal of a standard license or provisional license .....	100
Fee for renewal of an apprentice or assistant license .....	75
Fee for renewal of a privilege-to-practice .....	75
Fee for renewal of [a] an inactive or temporary license .....	[50] 75
Reinstatement fee for a standard license or provisional license expired 30 days or more .....	100
Reinstatement fee for an apprentice or assistant license expired 30 days or more .....	75
Reinstatement fee for a standard license or provisional license expired less than 30 days .....	75
Reinstatement fee for an apprentice license or assistant license expired less than 30 days .....	50
Examination fee .....	250
Fee for converting to a different type of license .....	50
Fee for each additional license [or endorsement] .....	50
Fee for obtaining license information .....	50

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON FITTING AND DISPENSING HEARING AIDS

### AC 637B.034 Membership; qualifications; chair; duties; quorum; compensation. (NRS 637B.132)

The Advisory Committee on Fitting and Dispensing Hearing Aids is composed of the following members:

- (a) At least two members of the Board, one of whom must represent [dispensing] audiologists and one of whom must represent hearing aid specialists; and
- (b) Not more than three additional members who are [dispensing] audiologists or hearing aid specialists or any combination thereof.

Each member of the Committee must be a [dispensing] audiologist or hearing aid specialist licensed pursuant to chapter 637B of NRS, as applicable, at the time of his or her appointment and must maintain current licensure with the Board.

The Committee shall select a Chair from among the members of the Committee who are members of the Board.

The Committee shall make recommendations to the Board on all matters relating to the fitting and dispensing of hearing aids, including, without limitation:

- (a) Regulations governing the fitting and dispensing of hearing aids;
- (b) A program of apprenticeship for the fitting and dispensing of hearing aids;
- (c) Examinations and passing scores for written and practical examinations for the fitting and dispensing of hearing aids; and
- (d) Investigations of complaints relating to the fitting and dispensing of hearing aids.

A quorum of the Committee is three members, at least one of whom must be a member of the Board.

Each member of the Committee who is not a member of the Board serves without compensation.

## LICENSING; HEARING AID SPECIALISTS AND APPRENTICES; SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY ASSISTANTS

### AC 637B.035 Application: Payment or waiver of fee. (NRS 637B.132, 637B.160, 637B.175, 637B.191, 637B.194)

Any person seeking licensure by the Board or seeking to renew, reinstate or change the type of a license issued by the Board must submit a completed application on a form provided by the Board.

Each application submitted pursuant to subsection 1 must be accompanied by payment of any fee prescribed by NAC 637B.030.

The Board may waive all or part of a fee set forth in subsection 1 if:

- (a) An applicant or licensee submits a written request for a waiver that includes documentation providing proof satisfactory to the Board of an extenuating circumstance that does not allow payment of the fee.
- (b) The Board determines that a fee waiver is appropriate for a specific applicant or licensee, or a specific group of applicants or licensees due to extenuating circumstances.

The Board may delegate authority to the Executive Director to waive fees within criteria established in a policy approved by the Board.

If a waiver request is denied or a partial fee waiver is granted pursuant to this section, the Board may grant additional time for applicant or licensee to pay the required fee.

As used in this section, "extenuating circumstance" includes, without limitation:

- (a) Extreme illness or injury;
- (b) Extreme financial or familial hardship;
- (c) Military service.
- (d) Other circumstances deemed appropriate at a meeting of the Board, or in a policy established by the Board.

### AC 637B.036 Expiration and renewal of standard or provisional license; combined application for renewal of license as audiologist and speech-language pathologist. (NRS 637B.132, 637B.160, 637B.191, 637B.194)

Each standard and provisional license issued by the Board, including, without limitation, each standard license that has been converted to inactive status, expires 1 year after the date on which the license was issued.

An application to renew a license will not be approved unless the application is submitted not later than 30 days after the date on which the license expired.

An application for renewal of a license as an audiologist and a license as a speech-language pathologist may be submitted on a single application.

An application for the renewal of a provisional license as a hearing aid specialist for a second time must include proof that the licensee ~~has applied to take the National Competency Examination administered by the National Board for Certification in Hearing Instrument Sciences, or its successor organization, or another comparable examination approved by the Board.~~ is actively practicing in order to complete at least 2 years of on-site training and work experience in fitting and dispensing hearing aids as prescribed in NAC 637B.0391.

**AC 637B.0363 Renewal of provisional license to engage in practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids.** (NRS 637B.132, 637B.191, 637B.194)

Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, the Board may renew a provisional license to engage in the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids, which has been issued to a person pursuant to NRS 637B.201, if the person has ~~not continued to actively practice in order to complete at least 2 years of on-site training and work experience in fitting and dispensing hearing aids as prescribed in NAC 637B.0391.~~

[(a) Completed the training required for certification by the National Board for Certification in Hearing Instrument Sciences; (b) Achieved a passing score on the National Competency Examination administered by the National Board for Certification in Hearing Instrument Sciences, or its successor organization, or another comparable examination approved by the Board; or (c) Completed the training pursuant to paragraph (a) and achieved a passing score on the examination pursuant to paragraph (b).]

The Board will not renew a provisional license which has been issued to a person who has[:] ~~not continued to actively practice in order to complete at least 2 years of on-site training and work experience in fitting and dispensing hearing aids as prescribed in NAC 637B.0391.~~

[(a) Completed the training required for certification by the National Board for Certification in Hearing Instruments Sciences; and

(b) Failed to apply to take the National Competency Examination administered by the National Board for Certification in Hearing Instrument Sciences, or its successor organization, or another comparable examination approved by the Board, at least 60 days before the expiration of the provisional license.]

**AC 637B.0374 Temporary license to engage in practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids issued to hearing aid specialist [or dispensing audiologist]: Requirement to take examination; renewal; expiration.** (NRS 637B.132, 637B.191, 637B.194)

A hearing aid specialist ~~[or dispensing audiologist]~~ must take the written portion and the practical portion of the examination concerning the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids prescribed pursuant to NRS 637B.194 and NAC 637B.0373 within 6 months after the Board issues a temporary license to engage in the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids to the hearing aid specialist ~~[or dispensing audiologist]~~ pursuant to NRS 637B.200.

Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, the Board will renew a temporary license to engage in the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids, which has been issued to a hearing aid specialist ~~[or dispensing audiologist]~~ pursuant to NRS 637B.200, for an additional 6 months if the hearing aid specialist ~~[or dispensing audiologist]~~ has:

- (a) Taken the examination required pursuant to subsection 1; and
- (b) Not achieved a passing score on the written portion or the practical portion of the examination.

If a hearing aid specialist ~~[or dispensing audiologist]~~ does not take the examination required pursuant to subsection 1 within the prescribed time, the temporary license expires and will not be renewed or reissued by the Board.

**AC 637B.0391 In-service training for hearing aid specialists and apprentices: General requirements; direct supervision; exemption from participation.** (NRS 637B.132, 637B.194, 637B.235)

Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, the in-service training of a person who has been issued an apprentice license by the Board pursuant to NRS 637B.195 must consist of:

(a) An academic portion, as set forth in NAC 637B.0392; and

(b) An on-site training and work experience portion which is competency-based, as set forth in NAC 637B.0394.

An apprentice shall participate in the in-service training set forth in subsection 1 under the direct supervision of a sponsor for a minimum of 2 years and, in accordance with NRS 637B.238, may not serve as an apprentice for more than 3 years without passing the examination set forth in NAC 637B.0373.

An apprentice is not required to participate in the in-service training required by this section if the apprentice:

(a) Holds an associate's degree in hearing instrument sciences which is approved by the National Board for Certification in Hearing Instrument Sciences; or

(b) Successfully completes a program of education or training in hearing instrument sciences which is approved by the Board.

If approved by the Board, an apprentice whose license as an apprentice expired but is reinstated may receive credit for not more than 2 years of in-service training completed during the initial license period.

An apprentice may receive credit toward the in-service training required by this section for not more than 2 years of in-service training completed

under the supervision of a licensed audiologist or hearing aid specialist or equivalent in any state or territory of the United States, or the District of Columbia.

An applicant for a provisional license to engage in the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids who does not hold an associate's degree or bachelor's degree in hearing instrument sciences or a current certification issued by the National Board for Certification in Hearing Instrument Sciences pursuant to NRS 637B.193 must provide proof satisfactory of:

(a) Completion of the academic portion of the in-service training set forth in subsection 1; and

(b) Completion of at least 1 year of the on-site training and work experience set forth in subsection 1, which may include work experience while licensed in good standing as a hearing aid specialist, hearing aid specialist apprentice, or equivalent in any state or territory of the United States, or the District of Columbia.

An applicant for a standard or temporary license to engage in the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids who does not hold an associate's degree or bachelor's degree in hearing instrument sciences or a current certification issued by the National Board for Certification in Hearing Instrument Sciences pursuant to NRS 637B.193 must provide proof satisfactory of completion of the in-service training required by this section, which may include work experience while licensed in good standing as a hearing aid specialist, hearing aid specialist apprentice, or equivalent in any state or territory of the United States, or the District of Columbia.

**AC 637B.0392 In-service training for hearing aid specialists and apprentices: Contents and approval of academic training.** (NRS 637B.132, 637B.194, 637B.235)

The academic portion of the in-service training of a(n) **hearing aid specialist** or apprentice required by NAC 637B.0391 must be specific to the training and education necessary to perform competently the duties and responsibilities necessary for the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids and must include, without limitation, training and education concerning:

(a) Laws and rules relating to ethics;

(b) Federal laws and rules governing hearing aids;

(c) Infection controls;

(d) Basic hearing science;

(e) Hearing instrument science and fitting practices; and

(f) Audiometric testing and masking.

Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, a customized program of academic training and a proposed curriculum must be submitted to the Board for evaluation and approval.

A program of academic training accepted by the National Board for Certification in Hearing Instrument Sciences, the International Hearing Society or an accredited institution of higher education that meets the minimum requirements of subsection 1 does not require the approval of the Board.

**AC 637B.0394 In-Service Training for Hearing Aid Specialists and Apprentices: Requirements for On-Site Training and Work Experience; Core Competencies; Review and Documentation of Progress; Report and Proof of Compliance.** (NRS 7B.132, 637B.194, 637B.235)

The on-site training and work experience portion of the in-service training of a[n] hearing aid specialist or apprentice required by NAC 637B.0391 must consist of a minimum of 16 hours per week and 30 weeks per year and may be completed in conjunction with the academic portion of the in-service training set forth in NAC 637B.0392.

The on-site training and work experience portion must include, without limitation, the evaluation of the apprentice's achievement of core competencies concerning:

- (a) Sanitation protocols;
- (b) The identification and documentation of the needs of a client;
- (c) Visual inspections of the ear and otoscopic examinations;
- (d) Audiometric testing;
- (e) The results of hearing evaluations;
- (f) Ear impressions, preparations and molds;
- (g) Physical and electronic checks of hearing aids;
- (h) The fitting, programming, troubleshooting, adjusting and repairing of hearing aids; and
- (i) Client documentation.

An apprentice and his or her sponsor shall jointly:

- (a) Review the progress of the apprentice in achieving each core competency set forth in subsection 2; and
- (b) Document the proficiency of the apprentice in each core competency, by signature and date, on a form provided by the Board.

The Board may require a sponsor to provide to the Board:

- (a) A report on the training of and core competencies achieved by an apprentice; and
- (b) Proof of compliance with the supervisory responsibilities of the sponsor.

**AC 637B.0396 Qualifications to act as sponsor of apprentice; limitation on number of apprentices or sponsors.** (NRS 7B.132, 637B.194, 637B.235)

To be eligible to act as a sponsor of an apprentice, a hearing aid specialist or [dispensing] audiologist must:

- (a) Hold a standard license that is on active status;
- (b) Have experience as a hearing aid specialist for a minimum of 3 years, or an [dispensing] audiologist who has been fitting and dispensing hearing aids for a minimum of the preceding 3 years;
- (c) Be employed by the same employer as the apprentice during the term of the on-site training and work experience portion of the in-service training of the apprentice; [and]
- (d) Be in good standing with the Board and have no record of disciplinary action;

A hearing aid specialist or [dispensing] audiologist shall not sponsor more than two apprentices at one time, and an apprentice shall not have more than two sponsors at one time.

**AC 637B.NEW Speech-language pathology assistant: clinical training experience.** (NRS NEW – ASSEMBLY BILL 177)

An applicant for a license to practice as a speech-language pathology assistant who is a new graduate holding a bachelor's degree or master's degree in speech-language pathology or communication sciences and disorders awarded by an accredited institution and does not currently or has not previously held a license as a speech-language pathology assistant issued by the District of Columbia or any state or territory of the United States must provide one of the following with the application for licensure:

- (a) Proof satisfactory of 75 hours of clinical training, made up of at least 25 hours of clinical observation experience and 50 hours of clinical assisting experience obtained while earning the degree as evidenced in the academic transcript or verified by the Registrar, Dean, Department Head, or supervising speech-language-pathologist; or



- (b) Proof satisfactory of 75 hours of clinical training, made up of at least 25 hours of clinical observation experience and 50 hours of clinical assisting experience obtained while earning Certification as a Speech-Language Pathology Assistant through the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association; or
- (c) A Clinical Training Plan which outlines a program of on-the-job clinical observation and clinical assisting experience under the direct supervision of an identified supervising speech-language pathologist to obtain the requisite 75 hours of fieldwork experience, as prescribed in NAC 637B.XXX.
  - (1) In order to obtain these hours, the applicant shall first obtain the speech-language pathologist assistant license by submitting the forms, fees, documentation, and completed Clinical Training Plan prescribed in NRS 637B.XXX and NAC 637B.XXX; and
  - (2) The Board shall evaluate the documentation and fees submitted to determine if the assistant license shall be issued. Additional information or revisions may be required before approval is granted.
  - (3) Clinical training may not begin until the speech-language pathology assistant license is issued and the Clinical Training Plan is approved by the Board.

**AC 637B.NEW Speech-language pathology assistant: clinical training plan.** (NRS NEW – ASSEMBLY BILL 177)

A Clinical Training Plan must include a proposed program of on-the-job clinical observation and clinical assisting experience for a speech-language pathology assistant applicant who is a new graduate and holding a bachelor's degree or master's degree in speech-language pathology or communication sciences and disorders awarded by an educational institution, but has not completed at least 75 total hours of fieldwork experience, made up of 25 hours of clinical observation experience and 50 hours of clinical assisting experience.

Clinical observation and clinical assisting hours completed while earning the degree or certification and evidenced in the academic transcript, verified by the Registrar, Dean, or Department Head of the issuing institution, a prior supervising speech-language pathologist, or verified by current ASHA SLPA Certification may be incorporated into the Clinical Training Plan and combined with planned future activities to achieve the required 75 hours of training prescribed in NAC 637B.XXX(a).

All hours worked by the licensed speech-language pathology assistant must be under the direct supervision of the licensed supervising speech-language pathologist identified in the Clinical Training Plan. Direct supervision must total no less than 25% of the speech-language pathology assistant's total contact with each client/patient.

Clinical Training Plan hours must be successfully completed within 90 days of the issuance of the speech-language pathology assistant license.

No later than 5 business days following completion of the Clinical Training Plan hours, the supervising speech-language pathologist identified in the Plan shall notify the Board of completion and submit required documentation attesting to the following:

- (a) The total number of clinical observation and clinical assisting experience hours worked by the licensed speech-language pathology assistant under the direct supervision of the licensed supervising speech-language pathologist.
- (b) The licensed speech-language pathology assistant's competency in all areas of clinical observation and clinical assisting. The licensed speech-language pathology assistant may continue to practice under the direct supervision of the identified licensed supervising speech-language pathologist while the Board evaluates the Clinical Training Plan completion documentation identified in paragraph (4).

If the Clinical Training Plan is not completed within 90 days, one of the following must occur:

- (a) If an initial Clinical Training Plan is not successfully completed after 90 days, a revised plan may be submitted describing the need for the extension and related extenuating circumstances, and requesting an additional 90 days; or
- (b) If a revised plan is not successfully completed after 180 days, a revised plan may be submitted describing the need for the extension and related extenuating circumstances, and requesting review by the Board to consider further extension; or
- (c) A speech-language pathology assistant experiencing extenuating circumstances may request a conversion of their license to inactive status and suspend the Clinical Training Plan until the license is converted back to active status; or
- (d) The Board may place the license of a speech-language pathology assistant on inactive status and prohibit practice if:
  - (1) The speech-language pathology assistant is required to but has not completed a Clinical Training Plan; and

(2) Does not have an active training plan in place and/or does not have an assigned supervising speech-language pathologist; or

(3) The supervising speech-language pathologist has reported concerns regarding the speech-language pathology assistant's competency, ethics, or related issues requiring further investigation by the Board.

As used in this section, "extenuating circumstance" includes, without limitation:

- (a) Extreme illness or injury;
- (b) Extreme financial or familial hardship; or
- (c) Military service.

A speech-language pathology assistant practicing under a Clinical Training Plan may not:

- (a) Practice and/or engage in training hours until the supervising speech-language pathologist has personally verified that the assistant license has been issued, and this Clinical Training Plan has been submitted and approved by the Board;
- (b) Practice and/or engage in training hours at any time there is not an approved Clinical Training Plan in place, including transition between employers, supervising speech-language pathologists, or while waiting for plan approval or a Board review for a plan extension;
- (c) Carry an assigned caseload or engage in any practice that does not involve observing and assisting with the caseload assigned to the identified supervising speech-language pathologist.

J. A speech-language pathology assistant practicing under a Clinical Training Plan must:

- (a) Notify the Board immediately if there is a change or end to employment or supervision from the identified speech-language pathologist and submit a revised Clinical Training Plan;
- (b) Notify the Board immediately once the Clinical Training Plan has been successfully completed;
- (c) Notify the Board immediately when the Clinical Training Plan expires unsuccessfully and complete a revised Plan as described in paragraph 7 of this section.

L. A supervising speech-language pathologist providing supervision to a speech-language pathology assistant practicing under a Clinical Training Plan must:

- (a) Provide direct supervision to the speech-language pathology assistant in accordance with NRS 637B and NAC 637B;
- (b) Determine the competency level of the speech-language pathology assistant to perform tasks relating to the practice of speech-language pathology;
- (c) Evaluate the work of the speech-language pathology assistant;
- (d) Document and maintain records of the training provided to and direct supervision of the speech-language pathology assistant;
- (e) Provide written notification to the Board immediately if:
  - (1) The speech-language pathology assistant is no longer under their supervision;
  - (2) They no longer have the same employer as the speech-language pathology assistant;
  - (3) The speech-language pathology assistant withdraws from or terminates their employment and/or clinical training;
  - (4) They wish to withdraw as the supervisor for the speech-language pathology assistant.

**AC 637B.NEW Speech-language pathology assistant, provisional licensee, or student: delegation of duties by supervising speech-language pathologist; limitations.** (NRS NEW – ASSEMBLY BILL 177)

A supervising speech-language pathologist shall supervise any services delivered to a client by a speech-language pathology assistant, provisional licensee, or student and ensure these are consistent with the client's plan of care.

Only a supervising speech-language pathologist may:

- (a) Determine services included in the client's plan of care that are appropriate to delegate to a speech-language pathology assistant, provisional licensee, or student.
- (b) Delegate services to be delivered by a speech-language pathology assistant, provisional licensee, or student.
- (c) Instruct a speech-language pathology assistant, provisional licensee, or student regarding:
  - (1) The specific program of intervention of a client;
  - (2) Any precaution to be taken to protect a client;
  - (3) Any special problem of a client

- (4) Any procedure which should not be administered to a client; and
- (5) Any other information required to treat a client.

A supervising speech-language pathologist shall not delegate responsibilities to a speech-language pathology assistant, provisional licensee, or student which are beyond the scope of the delegate's training.

A supervising speech-language pathologist may only delegate activities to a student after consideration of clients' needs, the service setting, the guidelines established by the educational program, and their assessment of the student's training and competence.

A supervising speech-language pathologist may delegate any activity to a provisional licensee after consideration of clients' needs, the service setting, and their assessment of the provisional licensee's training and competence.

A supervising speech-language pathologist may delegate the following activities to a speech-language pathology assistant or student after consideration of clients' needs, the service setting, and their assessment of the speech-language pathology assistant or student's training and competence:

- (a) Assisting with client assessment, including, but not limited to setting up the testing environment, gathering and prepping materials, and taking notes;
- (b) Administering and scoring progress monitoring tools with no clinical interpretation if all of the following conditions are met:
  - (1) The speech-language pathology assistant meets the examiner requirements specified in the examiner's manual; and
  - (2) The supervising speech-language pathologist has verified their competence in administration of the tool; and
  - (3) The supervising speech-language pathologist conducts the analysis of the results and signs off on the final score.
- (c) Implementing client care plans as developed and directed by the supervising speech-language pathologist as follows:
  - (1) Providing direct therapy services, both in-person and through telepractice through a variety of service delivery models to clients to address treatment goal(s);
  - (2) Adjusting and documenting the amount and type of support or scaffolding provided to the client in treatment to facilitate progress;
  - (3) Developing and implementing activities and materials for teaching and practice of skills to address the client's treatment goal(s)
- (d) Documenting client performance and reporting this information to the supervising speech-language pathologist in a timely manner.
- (e) Providing coaching to client caregivers for facilitation and carryover of skills.
- (f) Sharing objective information without interpretation or recommendations as directed by the supervising speech-language pathologist regarding client performance to clients, caregivers, families, and other service providers
- (g) Assisting clients with augmentative and alternative communication devices and materials as follows:
  - (1) Programming augmentative and alternative communication devices;
  - (2) Developing low-tech augmentative and alternative communication materials for clients; and
  - (3) Providing training and technical assistance to clients, families, and caregivers in the use of augmentative and alternative communication devices.
- (h) Working with clients who communicate using a language other than English or who are developing English language skills when the supervising speech-language pathologist determines they have sufficient prior training and experiences in working with multilingual clients and the specific client's first language, including:
  - (1) Assisting the supervising speech-language pathologist with interpretation and translation during screening and assessment activities without providing clinical interpretation of results;
  - (2) Interpreting for clients, families, and caregivers; and
  - (3) Providing services in a client's first language.
- (i) Assisting with administrative tasks to include:
  - (1) Clerical duties and site operations such as scheduling, recordkeeping, and maintaining inventory of supplies and equipment;
  - (2) Performing safety checks and maintenance of equipment; and
  - (3) Preparing materials for screening, assessment, and treatment services.

- (j) Engaging in prevention, advocacy, and promotion activities related to communication, swallowing, and related disorders with oversight from the supervising speech-language pathologist.

**AC 637B.NEW Speech-language pathology assistant prohibited from performing certain activities; disciplinary action.** (NRS  
:W – ASSEMBLY BILL 177)

A speech-language pathology assistant shall not:

- (a) Interpret assessment tools for the purpose of diagnosing disability or determining eligibility or qualification for services;
- (b) Administer, score, or interpret feeding, swallowing, or other screenings, checklists, or clinical assessment tools;
- (c) Interpret a client's record or evaluation, identify any problem of a client, or share information with a client or their family;
- (d) Diagnose communication and feeding and swallowing disorders;
- (e) Write, develop, or revise a client's treatment goal(s) or plan of care in any way;
- (f) Develop or determine feeding and swallowing strategies and precautions;
- (g) Provide vocal therapy treatment to a client;
- (h) Use or disclose clinical or confidential information by any method to recipients who have not been approved by the supervising speech-language pathologist, unless mandated by law;
- (i) Sign or initial any formal documents without the supervising speech-language pathologist's co-signature;
- (j) Make referrals for additional services;
- (k) Provide services to a client without following the plan of care prepared by the supervising speech-language pathologist;
- (l) Provide services to clients without access to supervision;
- (m) Select an augmentative and alternative communication system or device for a client;
- (n) Treat a medically fragile client without 100% direct supervision;
- (o) Perform activities that require specialized knowledge and training;
- (p) Provide input in a treatment meeting without the presence of or prior approval of the supervising speech-language pathologist;
- (q) Discharge a client from services;
- (r) Perform tasks when a supervising speech-language pathologist cannot be reached by personal contact, including, but not limited to phone, pager, or other immediate physical or electronic means.
- (s) Perform tasks when a supervising speech-language pathologist is no longer available or assigned to provide the level of supervision stipulated until a new supervising speech-language pathologist has been designated.

A speech-language pathology assistant must:

- (a) Clearly identify themselves as a speech-language pathology assistant or provisional licensee to clients, families, caregivers, and others both verbally and in writing; and
- (b) Comply with federal, state, and local regulations including, but not limited to:
  - (1) The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA);
  - (2) The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA);
  - (3) Reimbursement requirements; and
  - (4) State statutes and rules regarding speech-language pathology assistant education, training, and scope of practice.
- (c) Comply with the following responsibilities related to providing cultural and linguistic supports:
  - (1) Adjust communication style and expectations to meet the needs of clients, patients, and students from different cultural groups and to provide services in a culturally responsive manner;
  - (2) Provide information to families and staff regarding the influence of first language on the development of communication and related skills in a second language (under the direction of the supervising speech-language pathologist).
  - (3) Develop an understanding of the family dynamic from a cultural perspective to effectively engage in meetings surrounding intake, discussions of the therapy plan of care and other communication scenarios surrounding practices for addressing communication concerns; and
  - (4) Engage in continuing education and training opportunities focusing on the assessment and intervention process when working with individuals from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.
- i. A speech-language pathology assistant is subject to disciplinary action if they perform any activity in violation of this section.

- l. A student who performs any activity in this section is subject to administrative action for unlicensed practice pursuant to NRS 637B.290.

**AC 637B.NEW Authority and qualifications to act as a supervising speech-language pathologist; supervision ratios.** (NRS NEW – ASSEMBLY BILL 177)

A supervising speech-language pathologist may provide supervision, including telesupervision, to any of the following and within the scope of authority as described:

- (a) In compliance with supervisory responsibilities prescribed in NRS 637B and NAC 637B to a person licensed by this Board pursuant to NRS 637B as a Speech-Language Pathology Assistant;
- (b) In compliance with supervisory responsibilities prescribed in NRS 637B and NAC 637B and ASHA supervision requirements to a person licensed by this Board pursuant to NRS 637B as a provisional speech-language pathologist who is completing the clinical fellowship experience to earn the ASHA Certificate of Clinical Competence (CCC-SLP);
- (c) In compliance with supervisory responsibilities prescribed in NRS 637B and NAC 637B and the guidelines established by the educational program for a student enrolled in a program accredited by the ASHA Council on Academic Accreditation or a successor organization approved by the Board to obtain a bachelor's or master's degree in speech-language pathology or communication science disorders.

To be eligible to act as a supervising speech-language pathologist, a speech-language pathologist must:

- (a) Hold a standard license issued by this Board pursuant to NRS 637B that is on active status, in good standing, and with no record of disciplinary action;
- (b) Have experience as a speech-language pathologist for a minimum of 2 years post-award of the CCC-SLP;
- (c) Have completed 2 hours of professional development in clinical instruction/supervision; and
- (d) Share the same employer as any speech-language pathology assistant or provisional licensee they supervise.

A supervising speech-language pathologist is responsible for determining the appropriate number of supervisees they can manage within their workload while maintaining the highest level of quality services provided. A supervising speech-language pathologist may not be the supervisor of record for a combined total of no more than three full-time equivalent persons listed below at the same time:

- (a) Provisional licensees;
- (b) Speech-language pathology assistants;
- (c) Students.

A speech-language pathology assistant shall not have more than three supervising speech-language pathologists per employer at one time.

**AC 637B.NEW Speech-language pathology assistant: Verification to Board of employment and supervision; notice of termination; number of primary supervisors required per employer of record.** (NRS NEW – ASSEMBLY BILL 177)

A speech-language pathology assistant shall submit verification of their employment and supervision by a supervising speech-language pathologist to the Board within 30 days after a change in employment or supervisor. The verification must be submitted in a format approved by the Board.

A supervising speech-language pathologist supervisor shall notify the Board within 30 days after the termination of their supervision of a speech-language pathology assistant.

A speech-language pathology assistant must have at least one primary supervising speech-language pathologist and may have no more than two alternate supervising speech-language pathologists for each employer of record.

**AC 637B.NEW Supervision provided by supervising speech-language pathologist.** (NRS NEW – ASSEMBLY BILL 177)

A speech-language pathology assistant, provisional licensee, or student shall not practice speech-language pathology without the general supervision of a supervising speech-language pathologist. Immediate physical presence or constant presence on the premises where the speech-language pathology assistant, provisional licensee, or student is practicing is not required of the speech-language pathologist.

A supervising speech-language pathologist must develop a supervision plan with each speech-language pathology assistant, provisional licensee, or student they supervise that is reviewed and revised as the supervisee integrates skills and attains competency.

When supervising provisional licensees or students, a supervising speech-language pathologist must follow applicable supervision guidelines that complies with the requirements of the clinical fellowship experience or educational program the supervisee is enrolled in.

A supervising speech-language pathologist must develop a supervision plan with each speech-language pathology assistant, provisional licensee, or student they supervise that is reviewed and revised as the supervisee integrates skills and attains competency. Supervision provided by the supervising speech-language pathologist shall be consistent with the:

- (a) Skill and experience demonstrated by the speech-language pathology assistant, provisional licensee, or student;
- (b) Clients' needs;
- (c) Service setting;
- (d) Tasks assigned; and
- (e) Laws and regulations that govern speech-language pathology assistant, provisional licensee, and students.

A supervising speech-language pathologist overseeing a speech-language pathology assistant working under a Clinical Training Plan to obtain on-the-job clinical observation and assisting training shall provide supervision in accordance with NRS 637B and NAC 637B. Direct supervision must total no less than 25% of the speech-language pathology assistant's total contact with each client/patient.

To provide satisfactory supervision, a supervising speech-language pathologist shall:

- (a) Plan, develop, and supervise all client care and services delegated to and delivered by a speech-language pathology assistant, provisional licensee, or student;
- (b) Have first contact with every client before a speech-language pathology assistant, provisional licensee, or student is allowed to provide services to the client independently, including, but not limited to establishing rapport, gathering baseline data, and obtaining documentation;
- (c) Assign clients to each speech-language pathology assistant, provisional licensee, or student they supervise based on the supervising speech-language pathologist's assessment of the supervisee's competence, skills, and experience;
- (d) Review every plan of care as needed for timely implementation of modifications and make all case management decisions;
- (e) Provide direct supervision to each speech-language pathology assistant, provisional licensee, or student they supervise for each client treated by the speech-language pathology assistant, provisional licensee, or student at least every 30–60 days, depending on the setting and frequency of sessions.
- (f) Provide indirect supervision at regular intervals to each speech-language pathology assistant, provisional licensee, or student they supervise for each client treated by the supervisee;
- (g) Conduct ongoing competency evaluations of each speech-language pathology assistant, provisional licensee, or student they supervise;
- (h) Provide and encourage ongoing education and training opportunities for each speech-language pathology assistant, provisional licensee, or student they supervise that are consistent with the competencies and skills required to meet the needs of the clients served;
- (i) Accurately document and regularly record all supervisory activities, including but not limited to direct, indirect, and telesupervision provided to each speech-language pathology assistant, provisional licensee, or student they supervise;
- (j) Maintain an active interest in collaborating with and developing the competency of each speech-language pathology assistant, provisional licensee, or student they supervise;
- (k) Retain legal and ethical responsibility for all clients served by each speech-language pathology assistant, provisional licensee, or student they supervise.

A supervising speech-language pathologist who will not be able to supervise a speech-language pathology assistant or provisional licensee for more than 1 week must:

- (a) Inform each speech-language pathology assistant or provisional licensee they supervise of the planned absence;
- (b) Notify the employer or site administrator that other arrangements must be made while the supervising speech-language pathologist is unavailable for each speech-language pathology assistant or provisional licensee they supervise; and

(c) Inform all clients, families, and caregivers if their speech-language services will be rescheduled.

**AC 637B.NEW Disclosure of supervisory familial relationship by apprentice or assistant. (NRS NEW)**

: each initial application, renewal, and report of change in supervision or sponsorship, a hearing aid specialist apprentice or speech-language pathology assistant applicant or licensee must report to the Board whether any sponsor or supervising SLP is related to the apprentice or assistant within the third degree of consanguinity or affinity, including:

Their spouse, child, parent or sibling;

The spouse of their child, parent or sibling;

Their aunt, uncle, niece, nephew, grandparent, grandchild or first cousin;

A person they are in a dating relationship with.

**PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT AND STANDARDS OF PRACTICE**

**AC 637B.042 Professional responsibility. (NRS 637B.132)**

licensee:

Shall not misrepresent, in advertising or otherwise, his or her education, training, type of license or certificate, qualifications, competence or service, or the results to be achieved if he or she provides service to a client.

Shall not engage in the practice of audiology, speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids while the licensee is impaired by:

- (a) Alcohol, drugs or any other chemical; or
- (b) A mental or physical condition that prevents him or her from safely engaging in the practice of audiology, speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids.

Shall not use his or her relationship with a client to further his or her own personal, religious, political or business interests.

Shall set and maintain professional boundaries with clients, interns and persons with whom the licensee works.

Shall not give or receive, directly or indirectly, a fee, commission, rebate or other compensation for professional services that the licensee has not actually and personally provided.

Except as otherwise provided in subsection 7, shall not disparage the qualifications of any colleague.

Shall report to the Board any unlicensed, unauthorized, unqualified or unethical practice of audiology, speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids that is occurring.

Shall not attempt to diagnose, prescribe for, treat or provide advice for any problem which is outside of his or her field of competence, the scope of the practice of audiology, speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids or the scope of his or her license or certificate.

Shall base his or her practice upon the recognized knowledge relevant to audiology, speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids.

- 1. Shall critically examine and keep current with emerging knowledge relevant to the practice of audiology, speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids.
- 2. Based upon recognized knowledge and standards for the practice of audiology, speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids, shall prepare and maintain in a timely manner a record for each of his or her clients which:
  - (a) Sets forth his or her assessment of the problems of the client, plan of action for the client, course of treatment to that client and progress notes regarding the course of treatment of the client; and
  - (b) Includes copies of other relevant documentation, including, without limitation:
    - (1) All documents relating to the informed consent given by the client;
    - (2) All documents relating to the release of information regarding the client; and
    - (3) All other legal documents regarding the client.
      - As used in this subsection, "assessment" means an evaluation of the client that is based upon comprehensive information about the client.
- 3. Shall complete and submit any reports required by this chapter and chapter 637B of NRS, or pursuant to any rule, order or instruction of a court of competent jurisdiction, in a timely manner.
- 4. Shall comply with the provisions of this chapter and chapter 637B of NRS and all other applicable federal laws and regulations.

- l. Shall not authorize a person under the supervision of the licensee to perform services that are outside of the scope of the license, certificate, training or experience of the person performing the services, or allow such a person to hold himself or herself out as having expertise in a field or activity in which that person is not qualified.
5. Shall notify the Board in writing within ~~140~~ 30 days after:
- (a) An action is taken against any license, certification, registration or other credential held by the licensee that was issued by another state or territory of the United States;
  - ~~[(b) A criminal charge is filed against the licensee;]~~
  - ~~[(c)]~~ (b) The licensee is convicted of a criminal offense, other than a traffic offense which is a misdemeanor that does not involve alcohol or controlled substances;
  - ~~[(d)]~~ (c) A civil action, including, without limitation, an action for malpractice, is filed against the licensee; or
  - ~~[(e)]~~ (d) A settlement or judgment is made in any civil action, including, without limitation, an action for malpractice, in any case filed against the licensee for any act relating to the practice of audiology, speech-language pathology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids.

**AC 637B.NEW Code of ethics: adoption by reference; effect of violation. (NRS 637B.132)**

The Board hereby adopts by reference:

- (a) The ASHA Code of Ethics of the American Speech-Hearing Association as a standard for professional conduct in the State of Nevada for the practice of speech-language pathology and audiology.
- (b) The Code of Ethics of the American Academy of Audiology as a standard for professional conduct in the State of Nevada for the practice of audiology.
- (c) The Code of Ethics of the National Board For Certification In Hearing Instrument Sciences and Code of Ethics of the International Hearing Society as standards for professional conduct in the State of Nevada for the practice of ordering, fitting, and dispensing hearing aids.

A copy of the codes of ethics referenced in section 1 may be obtained, free of charge, from the Board by written request.

A violation of the provisions of a code of ethics adopted by reference pursuant to this section constitutes cause for disciplinary action.

**AC 637B.0442 Delegation of duties by hearing aid specialist or ~~[dispensing]~~ audiologist to unlicensed office assistant, aide or technician. (NRS 637B.132)**

Except as otherwise provided in this section, a hearing aid specialist~~[,]~~ or audiologist~~[, or [dispensing audiologist]]~~ may delegate certain duties to an unlicensed assistant if:

- (a) The duty being delegated is within the scope of the license ~~[or endorsement]~~ of the hearing aid specialist~~[,]~~ or audiologist ~~[, or [dispensing audiologist]]~~; and
- (b) The hearing aid specialist~~[,]~~ or audiologist ~~[, or [dispensing audiologist]]~~ determines, before delegating a duty, that the unlicensed assistant possesses the necessary knowledge, competence, training and skills to perform the duty.

If a hearing aid specialist~~[,]~~ or audiologist~~[, or [dispensing audiologist]]~~ delegates a duty to an unlicensed assistant, the hearing aid specialist~~[,]~~ or audiologist~~[, or [dispensing audiologist]]~~ is responsible and civilly liable for any negligence or incompetence of the unlicensed assistant in performing the duty.

The duties that may be delegated to an unlicensed assistant pursuant to this section include, without limitation:

- (a) Cleaning hearing aids and amplification devices;
- (b) Repairing or replacing a broken part of a hearing aid with the same part;
- (c) Replacing a thin tube or dome with a similar size or style;
- (d) Replacing filters;
- (e) Returning to a client a repaired hearing aid that does not require fitting, programming or adjusting;
- (f) Accepting an in-office return of a hearing aid if a receipt is provided to the client to document proof of the return;
- (g) Performing clerical, secretarial and general administrative duties, including, without limitation, providing information that is readily available to the general public;
- (h) Greeting, escorting and scheduling clients;
- (i) Packaging and mailing orders of earmolds, repaired devices, and returns to manufacturers or laboratories;



- (j) Maintaining inventories of supplies and checking the function of equipment;
- (k) Performing checks on hearing aids and other amplification devices;
- (l) Performing troubleshooting and minor repairs to hearing aids, earmolds and other amplification devices;
- (m) Performing electroacoustic analysis of hearing aids and other amplification devices;
- (n) Demonstrating alerting and assistive listening devices;
- (o) Verbally instructing a patient in proper ear hygiene;
- (p) Assisting a hearing aid specialist[, ] or audiologist[, or [dispensing audiologist]] with treatment programs;
- (q) Assisting a hearing aid specialist[, ] or audiologist[, or [dispensing audiologist]] with setup and technical tasks;
- (r) Preparing materials for an ear impression;
- (s) Maintaining and restocking test and treatment rooms;
- (t) Performing equipment maintenance and biological checks;
- (u) Performing infection control duties within the clinic;
- (v) Assisting a client in completing a case history or other relevant forms;
- (w) Interacting with a manufacturer or supplier of hearing instruments regarding the status of an order or repair; and
- (x) Translating and interpreting only if the unlicensed assistant is fluent in a language other than English and has the necessary training and skills to perform such translation or interpretation.

The following duties that involve direct physical contact with a client or a hearing-related procedure or instrument may be delegated to an unlicensed assistant pursuant to this section:

- (a) Instructing a client in the proper use and care of hearing aids and other amplification devices;
- (b) Conducting hearing and tympanometric screening on older children and adults without interpretation;
- (c) Conducting an otoacoustic emission screening;
- (d) Performing a nondiagnostic otoscopy;
- (e) Performing a pure-tone audiologic reassessment on an established patient;
- (f) Preparing a client for electronystagmography and videonystagmography or evoked testing;
- (g) Assisting a licensed audiologist, dispensing audiologist or hearing aid specialist in testing the hearing of a pediatric client;
- (h) Performing a pure-tone hearing screening and universal newborn hearing screening test;

A hearing aid specialist, audiologist or dispensing audiologist shall not delegate any duty to an unlicensed assistant pursuant to this section that requires professional or advanced training for the practice of audiology or fitting and dispensing hearing aids.

Duties that may not be delegated pursuant to this section include, without limitation:

- (a) Removing a hearing aid from or placing a hearing aid into a client's ear;
- (b) Programming, adjusting or fitting a hearing aid;
- (c) Conducting an interview, examination or evaluation relating to a client's hearing or hearing loss;
- (d) Except for the duties that may be delegated to an unlicensed assistant pursuant to subsection 4, conducting any activity involving direct physical contact with a client and a hearing-related procedure or instrument;
- (e) Determining case selection or evaluation protocols;
- (f) Interpreting observations or data into a diagnostic statement of a clinical management strategy or procedure;
- (g) Participating in a team or case conference or on any interdisciplinary team without the presence of a supervising audiologist or an audiologist designated by the supervising audiologist;
- (h) Writing, developing or modifying a client's individualized treatment plan;
- (i) Assisting a client without following the treatment plan prepared by the respective hearing aid specialist[, ] or audiologist[, or [dispensing audiologist]] without proper supervision;
- (j) Composing or signing any formal document such as a treatment plan, reimbursement form, progress note or other report, as applicable;
- (k) Transmitting or disclosing clinical information, either orally or in writing, to anyone, including the client, without the approval of the supervising hearing aid specialist[, ] or audiologist[, or [dispensing audiologist]];
- (l) Selecting a client for treatment services or discharging a client from treatment services;
- (m) Counseling or consulting with a client, a family member of a client or others regarding the client's status or treatment services or making referrals for additional services; and

- (n) An unlicensed assistant referring to himself or herself, either orally or in writing, with a title other than one designated by the supervising hearing aid specialist[, or audiologist[, or [dispensing audiologist].

**AC 637B.0446 Case history and minimum procedures required for prospective candidate for hearing aid; exception.** (NRS 7B.132)

Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, a hearing aid specialist or [dispensing] audiologist shall take the pertinent case history of, and perform personally the following minimum procedures bilaterally on, each prospective candidate for a hearing aid:

- (a) Pure-tone audiometry, including air-conduction testing and bone-conduction testing through an annually calibrated system.
- (b) Live voice audiometry, only if a separate sound-treated room is available, or recorded voice audiometry, including speech-reception threshold testing, most comfortable and uncomfortable level testing, and speech discrimination testing presented through a speech audiometer.
- (c) When applicable, effective masking.
- (d) Before a hearing test and an ear impression is performed, an otoscopic examination of the ear canal in which the tympanic membrane is visualized.
- (e) After an ear impression is performed, an otoscopic examination in which the tympanic membrane is visualized.

A hearing aid specialist or [dispensing] audiologist shall perform each procedure set forth in subsection 1 in a proper environment to obtain accurate results.

The minimum procedures set forth in subsection 1 are not required if the person supplies the hearing aid specialist or [dispensing] audiologist with complete results of the required tests which have been given within the immediately preceding 6 months by a qualified tester who is licensed pursuant to the provisions of this chapter and chapter 637B of NRS.

**AC 637B.0448 Duties of hearing aid specialist or [dispensing] audiologist concerning hearing aid he or she sells or fits.** (NRS 7B.132)

hearing aid specialist or [dispensing] audiologist shall:

Provide for the service and repair of each hearing aid he or she sells or fits.

Provide to each person who orders or purchases a hearing aid from the hearing aid specialist or [dispensing] audiologist a bill of sale that includes:

- (a) The name of the hearing aid specialist or dispensing audiologist, the address of the principal place of business of the hearing aid specialist or [dispensing] audiologist and the number of the license of the hearing aid specialist or [dispensing] audiologist;
- (b) A description of the make, model and serial number of the hearing aid;
- (c) The amount charged for the hearing aid and, if applicable, an itemization of any amount to be deducted from any refund;
- (d) The condition of the hearing aid, indicating whether it is new, used or reconditioned;
- (e) Any accessories provided with the hearing aid;
- (f) The name of the person or entity responsible for providing a refund; and
- (g) The manner in which a hearing aid may be returned, including the business location where the hearing aid may be returned and the business hours during which the hearing aid may be returned.

Provide to each person who purchases a hearing aid from the hearing aid specialist or dispensing audiologist a written guarantee that the person may return the hearing aid:

- (a) Within 30 days after receipt of the hearing aid; or
- (b) If the hearing aid is returned to the manufacturer for service or repair during the 30-day period, within 30 days after the hearing aid is returned to the possession of the person who purchased the hearing aid.

Schedule at least one appointment with each person who purchases a hearing aid from the hearing aid specialist or [dispensing] audiologist. The appointment must take place not later than 21 days after the hearing aid is delivered to the person.

Within 30 days after a hearing aid and all accessories that accompanied the hearing aid are returned in the same condition as that in which they were received, provide a refund to the person who purchased the hearing aid from the hearing aid specialist or [dispensing] audiologist.

**AC 637B.045 Preparation and retention of health care records and other records.** (NRS 637B.132)

A speech-language pathologist or audiologist shall prepare and retain health care records for each client he or she treats in accordance with NRS 629.051. As used in this subsection, "health care records" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 629.021. A hearing aid specialist or [dispensing] audiologist shall prepare and retain records of fitting, servicing or dispensing a hearing aid for each client he or she treats. The records must be retained for not less than 5 years after the record is prepared and may be created, authenticated and stored in a computer system that limits access to those records or is maintained in any other form which ensures that the records are easily accessible by the hearing aid specialist or [dispensing] audiologist. Each record must include, without limitation:

- (a) The name, address, telephone number and date of birth of the client;
- (b) The medical history of the client as it relates to his or her loss of hearing;
- (c) The dates on which the hearing aid was delivered, fitted and adjusted, and notations of all procedures performed on such dates, and, if applicable, the date of return or attempted return of the hearing aid;
- (d) Audiograms of the client;
- (e) The specifications of the hearing aid, including the serial number of the hearing aid as indicated by the manufacturer of the hearing aid;
- (f) The settings for the hearing aid;
- (g) The progress and disposition of the case;
- (h) A copy of the contract for the sale of the hearing aid . ~~and~~
- [(i) A copy of any waiver of the medical evaluation required by 21 C.F.R. § 801.421.]

## CONTINUING EDUCATION

**AC 637B.400 Requirements for renewal of standard or provisional license; records; audits; excess credits may not be carried forward.** (NRS 637B.132, 637B.191)

Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2 of NAC 637B.403 and NAC 637B.430, as a prerequisite for each renewal of a standard license or provisional license, a licensee must complete, during the annual period immediately preceding the renewal, at least 10 hours of continuing education approved by the Board that directly pertains to the profession in which he or she holds a license issued by the Board, including at least 1 hour of continuing education relating to ethics, cultural competence, cultural humility, culturally responsive practices or diversity, equity and inclusion. If the licensee is an [dispensing] audiologist, at least 3 of the 10 hours of continuing education must directly relate to the practice of fitting and dispensing hearing aids if they have engaged in the practice in the prior 12 months or intend to engage in the practice in the upcoming 12 months. Legible copies of all receipts, records of attendance, certificates and any other evidence of a licensee's completion of a course of continuing education must be retained by the licensee and made available to the Board for inspection for not less than 3 years after the completion of the course.

The Board will conduct random audits of licensees to ensure compliance with the requirements of this section.

If a licensee completes more than the required number of hours of continuing education during one licensing period, the licensee is not allowed to credit the excess hours toward the required education for a subsequent period.

For the purposes of subsection 1, a course approved by the International Institute for Hearing Instruments Studies of the International Hearing Society, American Academy of Audiology, American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Academy of Doctors of Audiology or Educational Audiology Association is deemed to be approved by the Board.

## PRACTICE BEFORE THE BOARD

**AC 637B.720 Filing or initiation of complaint against licensee; contents; review; complaint filed against apprentice.** (NRS 637B.132)

Any person who believes that another person licensed by the Board has violated a provision of this chapter or chapter 637B of NRS may file a complaint with the Board on a form provided by the Board.

The Board may, on its own, initiate a complaint against a person licensed by the Board.

A complaint must, without limitation:

- (a) Identify one or more grounds for disciplinary action; and
- (b) Contain a statement of facts in sufficient detail to enable the Board to understand the allegations.

The Executive Director of the Board, in consultation with legal counsel, shall review each complaint and decide if the complaint merits an investigation.

The Executive Director of the Board shall bring before the Board any complaint found to have merit.

For any proceedings regarding a complaint filed against an apprentice, [speech-language pathology assistant, or provisional speech-language pathologist](#), the Board may require that the [apprentice, assistant, or provisional licensee](#) be accompanied by any hearing aid specialist, [\[or dispensing\]](#) audiologist, [or supervising speech-language pathologist](#) who signed, dated or reviewed a record regarding a patient related to the complaint.