



State of Nevada

Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology & Hearing Aid Dispensing Board

**SMALL BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT AS REQUIRED BY
NRS 233B.0608**

LCB File No. R026-25 | July 23, 2025

- 1. A description of the manner in which comment was solicited from affected small businesses, a summary of their response and an explanation of the manner in which other interested persons may obtain a copy of the summary.**

It was determined that the proposed regulation did not impose a direct and significant economic burden upon a small business or directly restrict the formation, operation or expansion of a small business. The Board used informed, reasonable judgment in making the determination, due to the nature of the regulation changes. The regulations do the following:

During the 2025 Legislative Session, the Legislature enacted Assembly Bill 177 (AB177) which added new licensing for speech-language pathology assistants (SLP assistant), revised licensing requirements for audiologists and hearing aid specialists (HAS), and made a number of other administrative and conforming changes.

The regulations do the following:

Section 1	Amendment of Chapter
Section 2	Defines "Direct Supervision"
Section 3	Defines "Indirect Supervision"
Section 4	Defines "Plan of Care"
Section 5	Revises has standard, temporary, & provisional license requirements
Section 6	Establishes SLP assistant clinical training requirement
Section 7	Establishes SLP assistant clinical training plan components
Section 8	Addresses SLP assistant clinical training plan & inactive status when unable to practice
Section 9	Establishes SLP assistant clinical training plan duties & responsibilities
Section 10	Establishes SLP assistant required duties and prohibited activities
Section 11	Prescribes SLP assistant supervising SLP & reporting requirements
Section 12	Prescribes supervising SLP eligibility requirements
Section 13	Establishes general duties of a supervising SLP
Section 14	Establishes supervising SLP delegation authority
Section 15	Requires disclosure of SLPA/supervising SLP & HAS-A/sponsor family/dating relationships
Section 16	Adopts codes of ethics & establishes violations as grounds for disciplinary action
Section 17	NAC 637B.014 Revises licensing exceptions for school-based personnel per AB177
Section 18	NAC 637B.030 Revises application, issuance, renewal, & privilege-to-practice fees
Section 19	NAC 637B.034 Removes references to dispensing audiologists
Section 20	NAC 637B.035 Authorizes the Board to waive all or part of a fee
Section 21	NAC 637B.036 Revises HAS provisional license renewal requirements
Section 22	NAC 637B.0363 Revises HAS provisional license renewal requirements
Section 23	NAC 637B.0374 Removes references to dispensing audiologists
Section 24	NAC 637B.0391 Authorizes prior training credit for apprentices

Section 25	NAC 637B.0392	Applies apprentice in-service training requirements to HAS applicants
Section 26	NAC 637B.0394	Applies apprentice in-service training requirements to HAS applicants
Section 27	NAC 637B.0396	Revises sponsor requirements & references to dispensing audiologists
Section 28	NAC 637B.042	Revises adverse action reporting requirements & adds "plan of care"
Section 29	NAC 637B.0442	Removes references to dispensing audiologists
Section 30	NAC 637B.0446	Removes references to dispensing audiologists
Section 31	NAC 637B.0448	Removes references to dispensing audiologists
Section 32	NAC 637B.045	Removes references to dispensing audiologists
Section 33	NAC 637B.400	Revises continuing education requirements for audiologists
Section 34	NAC 637B.720	Removes references to dispensing audiologists
Section 35		Effective Date

Comments were solicited from affected businesses in the same manner as they were solicited from the public. No comments were received from small businesses.

A summary of the public response to the proposed regulations may be obtained from the Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Board, 6170 Mae Anne Avenue, Suite 1, Reno, Nevada 89523, (775) 787-3421, or email to board@nvspeechhearing.org.

Copies of the proposed regulations and notices of workshops were sent and posted as follows:

- Sent via email to the following:
 - All Nevada licensed Speech-Language Pathologists, Audiologists, and Hearing Aid Specialists
 - All persons on the agency's mailing list for administrative regulations
- Posted online at the following websites:
 - NV Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Board
www.nvspeechhearing.org
 - Nevada Public Notices <https://notice.nv.gov/>
 - Nevada Legislature Administrative Regulation Notices
<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/Notice/A/>
- Posted at the following physical location: State of Nevada, Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology & Hearing Aid Dispensing Board Administrative Office: 6170 Mae Anne Avenue, Suite 1, Reno, Nevada 89523
- Deposited with the Nevada State Library, Archives and Public Records

2. The manner in which the analysis was conducted, including the methods used to determine the impacts of the proposed regulation on small business.

The Board used informed, reasonable judgment in determining that there will not be an impact on small businesses due to the nature of the regulation changes. In making this determination, the Board considered whether or not the practice of speech-language pathology, audiology, and hearing aid dispensing practitioners regulated by the Board will be impacted. On the whole, the speech-language pathology, audiology and hearing aid dispensing practices will not be impacted to any degree that a small business will be affected.

3. The estimated economic effect of the proposed regulation on the small businesses which it is to regulate, including, without limitation: (a) Adverse and beneficial effects; and (b) Immediate and long-term effects.

The Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Board has determined that the

adopted regulations do not impose a direct and significant economic burden upon a small business or restrict the formation, operation or expansion of a small business.

a) Adverse and Beneficial Effects: There will be no adverse economic effect of these adopted regulations on small businesses. The Board regulates individuals in the practice of speech-language pathology, audiology and the fitting and dispensing of hearing aids. The following sections will directly benefit small businesses and the speech-language pathology, audiology and hearing aid dispensing practitioners as follows:

- The regulations support removal of the requirement for audiologists to pass examinations that may delay licensure and maintain a special endorsement at an additional cost.
- The regulations support new licensing for SLP Assistants to support SLPs in Nevada and expanse care and access to patients.
- The regulations support removal of the requirement for hearing aid specialists to hold NBC-IHS certification for licensure, which currently delays licensing and imposes an additional cost.
- The regulations establish lower fees for assistants and apprentices, and a new privilege-to-practice fee to support ASLP Interstate Compact participation.

b) Direct and Indirect Effects: Direct effect will be to improve and clarify existing law and regulatory requirements. Indirectly, small businesses may experience the effect of more permissive regulations.

4. A description of the methods that the agency considered to reduce the impact of the proposed regulation on small businesses and a statement regarding whether the agency actually used any of those methods.

The Board used informed, reasonable judgment in determining that there will not be an impact on small businesses due to the content and nature of the regulation changes. No other methods were utilized.

5. The estimated cost to the agency for enforcement of the proposed regulation.

There are no additional costs involved in the enforcement of these adopted regulations.

6. If the proposed regulation provides a new fee or increases an existing fee, the total annual amount the agency expects to collect and the manner in which the money will be used.

Section 18 establishes:

- New fees for the issuance and renewal of a privilege-to-practice through the ASLP Interstate Compact.
- New fees for the issuance, renewal, and reinstatement of apprentice and assistant licenses, set lower than standard license fees.
- A \$25 increase in the fee for renewal of an inactive or temporary license.

We are unable to determine the amount of these fees to be collected, but the Board is self-funded and all fees collected support Board operations.

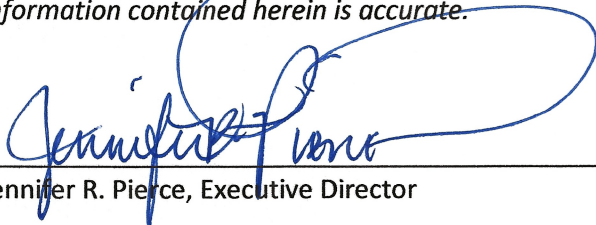
7. If the proposed regulation includes provisions which duplicate or are more stringent than federal, state or local standards regulating the same activity, an explanation of why such duplicative or more stringent provisions are necessary.

The Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Board is not aware of any similar federal, state or local standards regulating the practice of speech-language pathology, audiology and hearing aid dispensing. These adopted regulations do not duplicate nor are they more stringent than federal, state or local standards. The impetus for these regulations, AB177 (2025) aligned the Board's practice law with the FDA Final Rule on Over the Counter hearing Aids.

8. The reasons for the conclusion of the agency regarding the impact of a regulation on small businesses.

The Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Board regulates the practice of speech-language pathology, audiology and fitting and dispensing of hearing aids and licenses qualified individuals as speech-language pathologists, audiologists and hearing aid specialists. The adopted regulations do not impact small businesses as the majority of the revisions in the regulations are either administrative in nature or are permissive than the current versions.

I hereby certify to the best of my knowledge or belief a concerted effort was made to determine the impact of the proposed regulation on small businesses and that this statement was properly prepared, and the information contained herein is accurate.



Jennifer R. Pierce, Executive Director