



Protecting, maintaining and improving the health of all Minnesotans

**Speech-Language Pathologist and Audiologist Licensing
Advisory Council Meeting
October 28, 2014**

Attendance

Members

Mark DeRuijter, PhD, CCC-A/SLP
Jill Arvidson, MST, CCC-SLP
Josephine Helmbrecht, AuD
Katherine Teece, AuD
Jenne Tunnell, AuD
Jerry Meinders, HID
Nyagatare Valens
George Pfaff
Debra Talen

Staff

Anne Kukowski
Gloria Rudolph

Absent

MDH OAS Staff
Sally Gorski, MA, CCC-SLP
Heidi Hueffmeier, CCC-SLP
Geoff Service, MD

I. Introductions

Done by those in attendance.

II. Review and Approve Minutes from July 22, 2014

Approved, as written.

III. Review/Adoption of Agenda

Approved, as written.

IV. Staff Reports

A. Credentialing Report

Rudolph presented the Credentialing Activity Report as of September 30, 2014.

- Full Licenses: 1,964 = 1,526 SLPs, 436 Auds, and 2 Dual.
- CFY/DE Licenses: 123 = 115 SLPs and 8 Auds.
- Temporary Licenses: 13 = 6 SLPs and 7 Auds.
- Total Licenses: 2,100.
- Next renewal deadline is 1/31/15; notices will be mailed in November 2014.
- No HID exam was given from July and October. The next exam is on 11-7-14 @ 8am. It is full.
 - Volunteering to work at the HID exam: Paid \$18/hour, mileage, and lunch.
 - Contracts for examiners are set up at the beginning of the fiscal year.
 - MDH does not pay for lodging.

B. Investigations and Enforcement Report

Kukowski presented the 07/01/14 to 09/30/14 SLP I&E Report:

- 6 Intakes (3 allegations, 2 applications, and 1 general inquiry).
- 1 Investigation opened:
 - 1 application.
- 3 Investigations closed:
 - 1 civil non-disciplinary civil penalty.
 - 1 referred to enforcement.
 - 1 placed in abeyance.
- 2 Enforcement Actions opened:
 - 1 CE violation.
 - 1 technical violation.
- 5 Enforcement Actions closed:
 - 1 closed (inability to timely conclude case).
 - 3 non-disciplinary civil penalties.
 - 1 insufficient evidence of violation.
- 8 Total Pending Investigations, involving 8 practitioners.
- 5 Total Pending Enforcements, involving 5 practitioners.

Kukowski presented the 07/01/14 to 09/30/14 Audiology I&E Report:

- 3 Intakes (2 applications and 1 inquiry – credential check).
- 0 Investigations opened.
- 0 Investigations closed.
- 0 Enforcements opened.
- 0 Enforcements closed.
- 0 Total Pending Investigations, involving 0 practitioners.
- 8 Total Pending Enforcements, involving 7 practitioners.

Kukowski made additional remarks on the Investigation and Enforcement process.

- HOP is closing old cases that do not involve bodily harm.
- A full load for an investigator at any time is approximately 12 cases. MDH investigators carry a far higher load.
- HOP can refuse, revoke, or suspend someone's license.
- A contested case costs about \$20,000. Though the cost can vary widely.

V. Old Business

A. Record Retention

MDH is drafting a new department-wide retention policy. SLP and audiologist credentialing files are currently retained for 50 years after lapse in licensure.

- It was suggested we keep the records if practitioners have caused bodily or significant harm or are a repeat offender.
- Attendees were concerned about practitioners who leave the state and come back years later, and wanted to ensure that records were maintained.

B. Proposed 2015 Legislation

Most of the proposals from HOP will not be forwarded to the legislature this year.

VI. New Business

A. HPSP for FY2014

Kukowski presented statistical for 07/01/2013 to 06/30/2014.

- SLPs – one referral – 3rd party referral
Two discharges. One for no contact and one because they did not have jurisdiction.
- AUDs – One discharge for noncompliance.
- MDH pays a fee to HPSP for individuals who are admitted to the program.
- The individual enrolled pays for his or her toxic screen.
- Practitioners may have to repeat the program several time to be successful.

Next Meeting

January 27, 2015, 2:00 pm to 4:30 pm

TIES Event Center

Larpenteur Room

1644 Larpenteur Ave W

Saint Paul, MN 55108