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Licensure of Speech Pathologists and Audiologists

Sec. 20-416 (b)-1. Definitions

The following definitions shall apply for the purpose of sections 20-416 (b)-2 to 20-416 (b)-14, inclusive:

(a) The term “speech pathologist” shall include an individual who practices speech pathology under any title or description of service incorporating the words: speech pathologist, speech pathology, speech therapist, speech therapy, speech correction, speech correctionist, speech clinician, speech clinic, language pathologist, language pathology, language therapist, logopedics, logopedist, communicology, communicologist, aphasiologist, aphasia therapist, voice therapy, voice therapist, voice pathologist, phoniatrist, communication disorder specialist, communication specialist, or any similar titles or description of services.

(b) The term “audiologist” shall include an individual who practices audiology under any title or description of service incorporating the words: audiology, audiologist, audiological, hearing clinician, hearing clinic, hearing therapy, hearing therapist, hearing conservationist, industrial audiologist, or any similar titles or description of services.

(c) A “certificate from a national professional organization” shall mean the certificate of clinical competence in speech-language pathology or audiology issued by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, or any other comparable certificate, awarded by a comparable national organization, approved by the Commissioner of Health Services.

(d) “Screening” is defined as the use of test procedures (usually pure tone frequency testing) for the purpose of identifying those individuals whose hearing may be at risk. Screening is not diagnostic testing. It does not employ threshold seeking techniques.

(e) “Audiometric testing” is defined as the assessment of hearing sensitivity for pure tone air conduction stimuli.

(f) “Provisional” and “standard certificate for speech pathologists and audiologists” according to the regulations for teacher’s certification means the certificate issued by the Connecticut state department of education.

(g) “Department” shall mean the Connecticut Department of Health Services.

(h) “Candidate” shall mean a person applying for licensure as either a speech pathologist or audiologist pursuant to section 20-411 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

(Effective December 23, 1987)

Secs. 20-416 (b)-2—20-416 (b)-4.

Repealed, June 16, 1982.

Sec. 20-416 (b)-5.

Repealed, April 20, 1995.

Secs. 20-416 (b)-6—20-416 (b)-9.

Repealed, June 16, 1982.

Secs. 20-416 (b)-10—20-416 (b)-11.

Repealed, April 22, 1982.

Sec. 20-416 (b)-12. Supervised professional employment in Connecticut

(a) In order to meet the requirements of Section 20-411 (a) (4) of the Connecticut General Statutes, professional employment undertaken in Connecticut shall be

approved in advance by the Department. Applications for approval shall be upon such forms and provide such information as the Department shall prescribe. The duties of the period of professional employment shall be appropriate to, and shall be supervised by an individual holding, the type of license sought. Candidates seeking licensure in both speech pathology and audiology shall complete two periods of professional employment, one appropriate to speech pathology and one appropriate to audiology.

(b) The length of a professional employment period approved by the Department shall be no longer than 12 months full-time employment or 24 months part-time employment.

(c) The licensed speech pathologist or audiologist supervising the candidate during the professional employment period shall submit an evaluation of the candidate's performance at the end of the professional employment period upon such forms as the Department shall prescribe.

(d) If a candidate beginning the period of approved supervised professional employment has not previously satisfactorily completed the examination prescribed pursuant to Section 20-411 (a) of the Connecticut General Statutes, the candidate shall apply for and take the first available examination.

(e) A professional employment period shall not be accepted as meeting the requirements of Section 20-411 (a) (4) of the Connecticut General Statutes if the candidate fails to receive an evaluation satisfactory to the Department from the licensed speech pathologist or audiologist supervising the professional employment. When a candidate fails to receive a satisfactory evaluation of performance for his period of professional employment, the Department may, in its discretion, approve an additional period of professional employment if the candidate provides documentation of additional formal education or training acceptable to the Department which addresses the deficiencies identified by the Department in its review of the evaluation of the professional employment period.

(f) The Department shall not approve an additional period of professional employment for any candidate who has not passed the examination prescribed pursuant to Section 20-411 (a) of the Connecticut General Statutes.

(g) The supervision of the professional employment period shall consist of at least six (6) sessions of supervision per month providing a total of at least four (4) hours of supervision per month. At least two (2) of these six sessions shall provide a total of at least two (2) hours of direct on-site observation of speech pathology or audiology services delivered by the candidate.

(Effective December 23, 1987)

Sec. 20-416 (b)-13. Examination

(a) The examination prescribed pursuant to Section 20-411 (a) of the Connecticut General Statutes shall be the Educational Testing Service's NTE Specialty Area Test in Speech Pathology or the Educational Testing Service's NTE Specialty Area Test in Audiology. Candidates seeking licensure in both speech pathology and audiology shall be required to pass both Specialty Area Tests.

(b) The examination passing score prescribed pursuant to Section 20-411 (a) of the Connecticut General Statutes shall be a scaled score of 600.

(Effective December 23, 1987)

Sec. 20-416 (b)-14. Professional employment in another state

In lieu of the supervised professional employment period specified in Section 20-416 (b)-12 of the regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, the Department

may, in its discretion, accept an equivalent supervised professional employment period satisfactory to the Department which was undertaken in another state. Alternatively, the Department may, in its discretion, accept professional employment of equivalent duration in another state, provided the candidate had satisfied the educational requirement set forth in subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of Section 20-411 of the Connecticut General Statutes, at the time such employment was undertaken, and provided the candidate was licensed, certified, or held a certificate from a national professional organization, at the time such employment was undertaken.

(Effective December 23, 1987; amended April 20, 1995)