

Speech-Language Pathology Assistant – Limited License Application Checklist

The Board has an open application process. Applications are processed once the application is complete. An application is considered complete when all of the required materials have been received by the Board. Applicants are strongly encouraged to make a copy of their application prior to sending it to the Board. An individual may only begin practicing as a speech-language pathology assistant after receipt of the limited license.

Individuals who have recently graduated (within the past five years) from a Bachelor's program in communications disorders must first obtain a limited license.

I. All Applicants Must Submit the Following

- _____ \$100.00 Non-Refundable Application Fee
(check or money order payable to the Board of SLP)
- _____ A recent 2 inch by 2 inch passport size color photo (attached to first page of application)
- _____ Signed and Notarized Application
- _____ Official Transcript (Proof of graduation from an acceptable program within the last five years)
- _____ Copy of Receipt for Proof of Fingerprinting (Criminal History Records Background Check)
- _____ Law and Regulation Examination completed and returned with Application

Note: Law and Regulation Examination

A minimum score of 75 percent is required to pass the Law Examination. The Exam can be downloaded from the Board's web site at <https://www.health.maryland.gov/boardsahs/>. Use the Forms Link to download a copy of the Exam. To complete the Examination, refer to the law and regulations reference numbers included with the question. Use the Law and Regulation Links on the web site to review the appropriate statute or regulation. If you do not have access to a computer, call the Board office at 410-764-4725 and request a copy of the law and regulations. A license will **not** be issued unless the Law and Regulation Examination is passed.

Note: Criminal History Records Check

Effective October 1, 2016 an applicant for initial licensure must submit evidence to the Board of an application for a criminal history records check (CHRC).

Information and forms regarding the required CHRC is on the Board's Forms page (click on Forms in the Quick Links section).

An application for licensure will not be processed until the application is complete, including submitting evidence of a criminal history records fingerprint receipt.

All applicants should download, fill out, and print the Board's pre-filled LiveScan Pre-Registration Form. The form has relevant Board-specific information already on the form. This form must be presented to the fingerprinting service.

Application form found on the CHRC resources page on the Board's website.

In-state applicants and out-of-state applicants near Maryland may go to an authorized fingerprinting location in Maryland. The CHRC resources page on the Board's website provides a link to the Department of Public Safety & Correctional Services' list of authorized fingerprinting locations.

Out-of-state applicants must contact the Board's administrative assistant at 410-764-4725 to request an official out-of-state fingerprint card to be mailed directly to the applicant before submission of an application for licensure to this Board.

Please note that the CHRC requirement is in addition to answering the disciplinary questions in the application.

II. Application for a Limited License as a Speech-Language Pathology Assistant

In addition to items in Section I, submit the following documentation:

A. Education Requirement

Official transcript from college or university verifying one of the following degrees (applicant must have graduated within 5 years prior to application and transcript must be sent directly to the Board):

____ Bachelor's Degree in Speech-Language Pathology or Communication Disorders

____ Associate's Degree from an approved SLP Assistant Program

____ Associate's Degree or higher in an allied health field from an accredited institution with minimum course work that includes at least 3 credit hours in normal speech-language development; speech disorders; anatomy and physiology of speech systems; language disorders; and phonology (Attach **Form SA2** describing required minimum coursework as stated on transcript)

B. Clinical Hours Requirement (not required if applicant attended an approved SLP Assistant program)

Documentation of 25 hours of clinical observation and 75 hours of clinical assistance experience. Submit one of the following (either the Form SA3 or the Form SA4):

____ **Form SA3** Education Institution Verification of Completion of Required Clinical Hours for applicants that completed the minimum of 25 hours of clinical observation and 75 hours of clinical assistance experience in the educational institution

_____ **Form SA4** Alternate Plan for Obtaining Required Clinical Hours signed by applicant and Supervising Speech-Language Pathologist. This form is required if the applicant did not obtain any or all of the required clinical hours in the educational program. Please note: all required clinical observation hours (25) and clinical assistance hours (75) must be completed within 60 days of the issuance of the limited license and the **Form SA5** must be submitted by the applicant no later than 90 days after issuance of the limited license. Failure to submit the **Form SA5** will result in the limited license becoming null and void.

C. Delegation Agreement (Form SA6) completed by each Supervising Speech-Language Pathologist

The supervising speech-language pathologist must meet either of the following two conditions:

- a) be licensed in the State of Maryland; or
- b) if exempt from licensure in Maryland hold the Certificate of Clinical Competency from ASHA.

To Be Submitted After Initial Limited License Has Been Issued

If a Form SA4 has been submitted to the Board the **Form SA5** is due to the Board not sooner than 60 days and not more than 90 days after the limited license is issued. The Form SA5 documents the completion of the 25 clinical observation hours and 75 clinical assistance hours within 60 days after the limited license is issued. Limited licensees are encouraged to fax the Form SA5 and mail the hardcopy immediately to the Board. Limited licensees are encouraged to call the Board to confirm the Board's receipt of the Form SA5. If the Board does not receive this form before the date specified in the licensure letter the limited license is null and void; the Board will send a notice of a null and void limited license to the individual. If a limited license is null and void the individual would be required to submit another application for limited licensure.

The Competency Skills Checklist, **Form SA7**, is due after 9 months of practice under the limited license but no more than 12 months after the limited license has been issued. If the Limited Licensee has more than one supervisor the Limited Licensee must have each supervisor complete a Form SA7. The Limited Licensee is responsible for submitting the Form SA7s to the Board. If the Limited Licensee does not submit the Competency Skills Checklist the Limited License will be null and void.

Notice – Application Processing

An application is considered complete when all supporting documents and fees have been received by the Board. Final processing may take up to 15 business days. The Board will work with the supervising SLP for issuance of a limited license for the anticipated start date. **An individual may only begin practicing as a speech-language pathology assistant after receipt of the limited license.**

Renewal of Limited License as a Speech-Language Pathology Assistant

If an individual that holds a limited license as a speech-language pathology assistant is unable to obtain at least 9 months of supervised practice as a full time limited licensee, or obtain the specified months of supervised practice as a part-time limited licensee, and/or is unable to complete the items identified in the Competency Skills Checklist the individual may renew the limited license for an additional year. The renewal form and the \$25.00 renewal fee must be submitted at least 30 days prior to the expiration of the limited license. An individual with a renewed limited license is eligible for transfer to a full license provided the minimum number of supervised months has been completed and the Competency Skills Checklist has been submitted to the Board.

If an individual fails to obtain the minimum of 9 months of supervision within the two years of limited licensure the individual must wait an additional year after the expiration of the renewed limited license before the individual can reapply for a limited license as a speech-language pathology assistant.

Transfer of Limited License to Full License

An individual holding a limited license as a speech-language pathologist assistant will be transferred to a full license provided the individual has met all the requirements, the limited licensee has been supervised for at least 9 months and the supervisor has determined the individual to be competent for a full license. The Form SA7 must be received by the Board no sooner than the 9 months of supervised practice ends and no later than 60 days prior to expiration of the limited license. The limited licensee does not need to fill out another application; however a fee of \$100 payable to the Board of Examiners for AHS is required to obtain a full license as a speech-language pathology assistant.