

VOLUME 45, ISSUE 17
ISSUE DATE: SEPTEMBER 3, 2013
RULE ADOPTIONS

LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
AUDIOLOGY AND SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Adopted Amendments: N.J.A.C. 13:44C-3.2, 3.4, and 3.5

Adopted Repeal: N.J.A.C. 13:44C-3.3

Requirements for Licensure; Additional Education Requirements; Licensure without Examination due to Licensure in Another State; Requirements for Clinical Internship

Proposed: July 16, 2012 at 44 N.J.R. 1962(a) (see also 45 N.J.R. 626(c)).

Adopted: March 25, 2013 by Eric T. Kanefsky, Director, Division of Consumer Affairs.

Filed: July 15, 2013 as R.2013 d.106, **with a substantial change** not requiring additional public notice and comment (see N.J.A.C. 1:30-6.3).

Authority: N.J.S.A. 45:3B-24.

Effective Date: September 3, 2013.

Expiration Date: February 17, 2016.

Summary of Public Comments and Agency Responses follows:

The official comment period ended September 14, 2012. The Director received one comment from Joan Bruno, PhD, CCC-SLP, President, New Jersey Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

1. COMMENT: The commenter contends that a doctoral degree is the entry level degree for an audiologist and that the Accreditation Council for Audiology Education (ACAE) of the American Academy of Audiology (AAA) does not accredit speech language pathology programs. The commenter recommends that the Director amend N.J.A.C. 13:44C-3.2(a)1ii and 3.4(b)1ii to remove references to audiology, ACAE, and AAA.

RESPONSE: N.J.S.A. 45:3B-8 states that a master's degree or its equivalent is the required education for licensure as an audiologist or speech-language pathologist. As the statute establishes that a master's degree qualifies an applicant for licensure as an audiologist, it is not appropriate to remove references to audiologists, or the ACAE and AAA, which accredit audiology programs, from N.J.A.C. 13:44C-3.2 and 3.4 as the commenter recommends.

2. COMMENT: N.J.A.C. 13:44C-3.5(a) requires an applicant who holds a doctoral degree to have completed a clinical internship during his or her doctoral degree. An applicant who holds a master's degree must have completed a clinical internship after he or she completed the master's degree. The commenter contends that the regulation does not recognize those who complete "research" doctoral degrees, which do not include clinical internships. The commenter recommends that N.J.A.C. 13:44C-3.5(a) be amended, so that an applicant who holds a doctoral degree may complete a clinical internship either during or after the completion of the doctoral degree program.

RESPONSE: The Director proposed amendments to N.J.A.C. 13:44C-3.5, based on recommendations from the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Advisory Committee, to establish that "research" doctoral degree programs do not qualify an individual for licensure due to the fact that there is no clinical educational component to such programs. After reviewing the commenter's recommendation, the Committee now recommends that "research" doctoral degree programs prepare applicants to practice audiology or speech-language pathology, as long as applicants from such programs complete clinical internships after completion of the doctoral degree. Based on this recommendation from the Committee, the Director is changing N.J.A.C. 13:44C-3.5 upon adoption, so that applicants who completed a doctoral degree can complete a clinical internship during or after the doctoral degree program.

Federal Standards Statement

A Federal standards analysis is not required because there are no Federal standards or requirements applicable to the subject matters of the adopted amendments and repeal.

Full text of the adopted amendments follows (addition to proposal indicated in boldface with asterisks ***thus***):

SUBCHAPTER 3. REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE AS AUDIOLOGIST OR SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST

13:44C-3.2 Requirements for licensure

(a) An applicant for licensure shall submit to the Committee proof that the applicant has:

1. Graduated from:

i. A doctoral degree program in the area of audiology, speech-language pathology, or both, accredited by either the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association or the [page=2043] Accreditation Council for Audiology Education of the American Academy of Audiology. The college or university awarding the degree shall be recognized by either the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education or another state's department of education; or

ii. A master's degree program in the area of audiology, speech-language pathology, or both,

accredited by either the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association or the Accreditation Council for Audiology Education of the American Academy of Audiology. The college or university awarding the degree shall be recognized by either the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education or another state's department of education; and

2. (No change.)

(b) An applicant shall also complete a clinical internship, in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 13:44C-3.5, in either audiology, speech-language pathology, or both, as appropriate.

13:44C-3.3 (Reserved)

13:44C-3.4 Licensure without examination due to licensure in another state

(a) (No change.)

(b) An applicant for licensure qualified pursuant to (a) above shall submit to the Committee proof that the applicant has:

1. Graduated from:

i. A doctoral degree program in the area of audiology, speech-language pathology, or both, accredited by either the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association or the Accreditation Council for Audiology Education of the American Academy of Audiology. The college or university awarding the degree shall be recognized by either the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education or another state's department of education; or

ii. A master's degree program in the area of audiology, speech-language pathology, or both, accredited by either the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association or the Accreditation Council for Audiology Education of the American Academy of Audiology. The college or university awarding the degree shall be recognized by the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education or another state's department of education; and

2. (No change.)

(c) An applicant shall also complete a clinical internship, in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 13:44C-3.5, in either audiology, speech-language pathology, or both, as appropriate.

13:44C-3.5 Requirements for clinical internship

(a) An applicant who completed a doctoral degree shall have completed a clinical internship that met the requirements of (b) through (h) below during ***or after*** the doctoral degree program. An applicant who completed a master's degree shall have completed a clinical internship that met

the requirements of (b) through (h) below after he or she completed the master's degree program.

Recodify existing (a)-(g) as (b)-(h) (No change in text.)