

Adopt Sphe 300 to read as follows:

CHAPTER Sphe 300 CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION, AND LICENSING REQUIREMENTS

Statutory Authority: RSA 326-F:5, RSA 328-F:11, III

PART Sphe 301 DEFINITIONS AND APPLICATIONS

Sphe 301.01 “Direct supervision” means in-view observation and guidance by an SLP while an assigned activity is performed by an individual being supervised, provided in person or via real time telecommunication technology, and includes but is not limited to:

- (a) Observation of a portion of the screening or treatment procedures performed by the speech-language assistant;
- (b) Coaching the supervisee; and
- (c) Modeling for the supervisee.

Sphe 301.02 “Indirect supervision” means supervision where the supervisor is not required to be in the same facility or in close proximity to the individual being supervised, but is available to provide supervision by electronic means, including but not limited to:

- (a) Demonstration;
- (b) Record review;
- (c) Review and evaluation of audio or videotaped sessions; and
- (d) Interactive television and supervisory conferences conducted by telephone, e-mail, or live webcam.

Sphe 301.03 Application. Any person seeking licensure, certification, registration, provisional licensure, or conditional licensure under RSA 326-F or RSA 328-F shall apply by completing and submitting the following to the office of professional licensure and certification (OPLC):

- (a) A “Universal Application for Initial License” in accordance with Plc 304.01, that includes the information required by Plc 304.03 and Plc 304.04, and that is signed and attested to as required by Plc 304.05;
- (b) A criminal history record release form and fingerprints as required by RSA 328-F:18-a; and
- (c) The fee required by Plc 1002 for the credential sought.

PART Sphe 302 INITIAL CERTIFICATION AS A SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY ASSISTANT

Sphe 302.01 Qualifications for Initial Certification as a Speech-Language Pathology Assistant (SPLA). The qualifications for applicants seeking initial certification as a speech-language pathology assistant shall be a 2-year associate’s degree or a higher degree in speech-language pathology, communication sciences and disorders, or communication disorders, awarded by an educational program recognized by the U.S Department of Education, or its successor organization.

Sphc 302.02 Eligibility for Certification by Endorsement as a Speech-Language Pathology Assistant. For purposes of obtaining a license by endorsement as a speech-language pathology assistant, the current requirements of the licensing jurisdiction are stated in Plc 313.56(c).

PART Sphc 303 INITIAL LICENSURE AS A SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST

Sphc 303.01 Qualifications for Initial Licensure as a Speech-Language Pathologist.

(a) Applicants for initial licensure shall hold a currently valid certificate of clinical competence issued by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), or its successor organization.

(b) Applicants who do not hold a valid certificate of clinical competence shall meet the qualifications (1) through (3), and apply for a provisional license for the purposes of completing a postgraduate professional experience as required by RSA 326-F:3, II(c), in accordance with Sphc 307.

(1) A master's or higher degree in speech-language pathology, communication sciences and disorders, or communication disorders; and

(2) Successful completion of a supervised clinical practicum experience required by RSA 326-F:3, II(b), inclusive of the following:

(1) At least 25 clock hours of supervised clinical observation:

a. Concerning the evaluation and treatment of children and adults with disorders of speech, language, or hearing, and

b. Under the direct supervision of a supervisor holding a valid certificate of clinical competence in speech-language pathology; and

(2) At least 375 clock hours of supervised clinical practice:

a. Approved by the institution providing the educational program; and

b. Including direct evaluation and treatment of clients with speech, language, or hearing disorders; and

(3) Pass the Praxis Examination in Speech-Language Pathology required in Sphc 303.03.

(d) Demonstrate evidence of good professional character and reliability sufficient to indicate that the applicant will faithfully and conscientiously avoid professional misconduct and adhere to this chapter, RSA 326-F and the board's rules.

Sphc 303.02 Examination for Speech-Language Pathologist.

(a) Applicants who do hold a valid certificate of clinical competence issued by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association shall register directly with the testing organization, including paying any fee(s) required by the testing organization; and request the testing organization to transmit the results directly to the licensing bureau, as required by Plc 303.04.

(b) The approved examination for speech-language pathology applicants is the Praxis Examination in Speech-Language Pathology (5331).

Sphc 303.02 Eligibility for Licensure by Endorsement as a Speech-Language Pathologist For purposes of obtaining a license by endorsement as a speech-language pathologist, the current requirements of the licensing jurisdiction are governed by Plc 313.56(a).

PART Sphc 304 INITIAL LICENSURE AS AN AUDIOLOGIST

Sphc 304.01 Qualifications for Full License as an Audiologist.

(a) The qualifications for initial licensure as an audiologist for applicants who have graduated prior to January 1, 2007, shall be:

(1) A master's degree in audiology from an educational institution accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation (CAA), as evidenced by an official transcript verifying:

- a. At least 75 semester credit hours of study covering:
 - i. The biological and physical sciences and mathematics;
 - ii. The behavior sciences or social sciences; and
 - iii. The nature, prevention, evaluation, and treatment of speech, language, hearing, and related disorders;
- b. At least 27 of the 75 semester credit hours shall be in basic science course work;
- c. At least 36 of the 75 semester credit hours shall be in professional course work; and
- d. Completion of a supervised postgraduate professional experience at an educational institution or its cooperation programs; and

(2) Pass the examination required by Sphc 304.03.

(b) The qualifications for initial licensure as an audiologist for applicants who have graduated on or after January 1, 2007, shall be:

(1) A doctorate degree in the specialized area of audiology from an educational institution accredited by the the Accreditation Commission for Audiology Education (ACAE), or Council on Academic Accreditation (CAA), or its successor organization; and

(2) Pass the examination required by Sphc 304.03.

(c) Applicants shall demonstrate evidence of good professional character and reliability sufficient to indicate that the applicant will faithfully and conscientiously avoid professional misconduct and adhere to this chapter, RSA 326-F and the board's rules.

Sphc 304.02 Eligibility for Initial Licensure by Endorsement as an Audiologist For purposes of obtaining a license by endorsement as an audiologist, the current requirements of the licensing jurisdiction are governed by Plc 313.56(b).

Sphc 304.03 Audiology Examination Required.

(a) Each audiologist applicant shall register for examination directly with the testing organization, including paying any fee(s) required by the testing organization; and request the testing organization to transmit the results directly to the licensing bureau, as required by Plc 303.04.

(b) Applicants shall register for the examination no earlier than the completion of their graduate coursework and graduate clinical practicum or during their first year of clinical practice following graduation.

(c) The approved examination for audiology is the Praxis Audiology test (5343) administered by PSI, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Educational Testing Service (ETS), or successor organization.

PART Sphc 305 INITIAL REGISTRATION AS A HEARING AID DEALER

Sphc 305.01 Eligibility for Initial Registration as Hearing Aid Dealer.

- (a) Applicants shall be at least 18 years of age; and
- (b) Successfully complete the examination as required by Sphc 305.02.

Sphc 305.02 Hearing Aid Dealer Written Examination Required.

(a) Each applicant for initial licensure as a hearing aid dealer shall successfully pass the International Licensing Examination (ILE) for Hearing Healthcare Professionals administered by the ILS.

(b) Applicants shall register directly with the testing organization, including paying any fee(s) required by the testing organization; and request the testing organization to transmit the results directly to the OPLC, as required by Plc 303.04.

Sphc 305.04 Eligibility for Initial License by Endorsement as a Hearing Aid Dealer. For purposes of obtaining a license by endorsement as an audiologist, the current requirements of the licensing jurisdiction are governed by Plc 313.56(d).

PART Sphc 306 SUPERVISED CLINICAL PRACTICUM

Sphc 306.01 Supervised Clinical Practicum. Applicants who do not hold a valid certificate of clinical competence shall demonstrate successful completion of a supervised clinical practicum experience required by RSA 326-F:3, II(b) by completing the following while under the direction and supervision of a New Hampshire licensed speech-language pathologist:

- (a) At least 25 clock hours of supervised clinical observation:
 - (1) Concerning the evaluation and treatment of children and adults with disorders of speech, language, or hearing, and
 - (2) Under the direct supervision of a supervisor holding a valid certificate of clinical competence in speech-language pathology; and
- (b) At least 375 clock hours of supervised clinical practice:
 - (1) Approved by the institution providing the educational program; and
 - (2) Including direct evaluation and treatment of clients with speech, language, or hearing disorders.

Sphc 306.02 Supervisor Eligibility and Duties.

(a) Speech-language pathologists licensed in this state are eligible to provide supervision to students fulfilling their supervised clinical practicum.

(b) At the conclusion of the supervised clinical practicum, the supervisor shall document the details and outcomes of the practicum by completing the “Supervised Clinical Practicum Attestation” effective xx/2026, and available as Appendix B, and providing a copy to the student.

PART 307 PROVISIONAL LICENSURE AS A SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST

Sphc 307.01 Function of a Provisional License. Pursuant to RSA 326-F:4, a provisional license shall permit an individual to practice speech-language pathology while completing the post-graduate professional experience required for full licensure as required by RSA 326-F:3, II(c).

Sphc 307.02 Requirements of Post-Graduate Professional Experience; Clinical Fellowship (CF).

(a) Each CF experience is divided into 3 segments, each at least 12 weeks long and representing one third of the total experience.

(b) A minimum of 1008 of the required 1,260 hours of CF experience shall be spent in direct clinical contact related to the management of disorders.

(c) Up to 250 hours of the CF experience may be spent doing other activities such as attending in-services or providing training and presentations.

(d) Provisional licensees with multiple CF supervisors or experiences, shall complete all required CF segments within 48 months of the date of the first CF experience.

Sphc 307.03 Supervisors of Provisional Licensees: Eligibility.

(a) A supervisor of a provisional licensee shall:

(1) Throughout the period of the provisional licensee's practice be licensed in New Hampshire;

(2) Not be related to the provisional licensee as:

- a. Spouse or civil union partner;
- b. Parent, step-parent, or parent-in-law;
- c. Natural, foster, or adopted child;
- d. Sibling, step-sibling, or sibling-in-law; or
- e. First or second cousin; and

(b) The supervision provided by the supervisor shall be sufficient to enable the provisional licensee, in the course of the post-graduate professional experience to become competent to practice speech-language pathology without supervision in each skill outlined in the “Clinical Fellowship Skills Inventory” effective 2020, and incorporated in Appendix C.

(c) Supervisors shall provide to the provisional licensee documentation of the successful completion of the post-graduate professional experience within 4 weeks of its completion by completing a “Clinical Fellowship Skills Inventory” effective 2020 and incorporated in Appendix C that includes an attestation from the supervisor that the provisional licensee meets expectations of the post-graduate professional experience.

PART Sphc 308 MILITARY EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Sphc 308.01 Military Education and Training. Pursuant to RSA 332-G:7, the board shall consider military education, training, or service related to licensure as a speech-language pathologist, a speech-language assistant, an audiologist, or hearing aid dealers when determining whether an applicant meets the educational or experience requirements for licensure.

APPENDIX A: Statutes Implemented

Rule	Statute Implemented
Sphc 301.01 and Sphc 301.02	RSA 326-F:5, VI; RSA 328-F:5, VI;
Sphc 301.03	RSA 310:4; RSA 310:5; RSA 326-F:3, I(a) and III(a); RSA 328-F:18-a
Sphc 302.01	RSA 326-F:3; RSA 326-F:5, V 2026, 224:4 effective August 31, 2026
Sphc 302.02	RSA 310:17
Sphc 303.01	RSA 326-F:3, I and II
Sphc 303.02	RSA 326-F:3, I
Sphc 303.03	RSA 326-F:3, II(d)
Sphc 304.01	RSA 326-F:3, III
Sphc 304.02	RSA 310:17
Sphc 304.03	RSA 326-F:3, III(d)
Sphc 305.01 – Sphc 305.03	RSA 328-F:11, III; RSA 326-F:9
Sphc 306	RSA 326-F:3, II(b)
Sphc 307	RSA 326-F:4
Sphc 308	RSA 326-F:4