

**DISTRICT OF
COLUMBIA
MUNICIPAL
REGULATIONS
for
SPEECH-LANGUAGE
PATHOLOGY
CLINICAL
FELLOWS**

CHAPTER 84 SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY CLINICAL FELLOWS

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8400 GENERAL PROVISIONS

8400.1 This chapter shall apply to applicants for and holders of a registration to practice as speech-language pathology clinical fellow.

8400.2 Chapters 40 (Health Occupations: General Rules), 41 (Health Occupations: Administrative Procedures), and 79 (Speech-Language Pathology) of this title shall supplement this chapter.

8400.3 Except as provided in § 8400.4, no person may practice as a clinical fellow in speech-language pathology in the District unless duly registered under this chapter.

8400.4 The registration requirement under this chapter shall not be applicable to a clinical fellowship initiated and ongoing as of the effective date of this chapter provided that the clinical fellowship was initiated and conducted in accordance with the Certification of Clinical Competence standards of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA).

8401 TERM OF REGISTRATION

8401.1 Except as provided otherwise, a registration issued pursuant to this chapter shall expire one (1) year from the date of issuance or on the expiration date shown on the registration.

8401.2 A registration issued pursuant to this chapter shall not be valid for more than eighteen (18) months, unless the Board extends the period for good cause shown. In any event, the clinical fellowship shall be completed within a period of no more than twenty-four (24) months.

8401.3 A registration shall not be issued unless the applicant is seeking to begin the clinical fellowship in speech-language pathology within two (2) years of the

conferral of the applicant's qualifying degree. In any event, the clinical fellowship shall be completed within three and a half (3.5) years from the date of conferral of the degree.

8402 EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

8402.1 To qualify for registration under this chapter, an applicant shall have graduated with a Master's or Doctoral Degree in speech-language pathology from a recognized educational institution whose speech language pathology program is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology, an accrediting body recognized by the United States Department of Education, or an equivalent accrediting body as determined by the Board.

8403 APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION

8403.1 An applicant for registration shall submit a complete application in accordance with § 4001 of this title, which shall also include:

- (a) Satisfactory evidence of the applicant's graduation with the requisite degree in accordance with § 8402.1;
- (b) A notification of clinical fellowship supervision submitted by a speech-language pathologist licensed in the District, meeting the requirement of § 8404.2.

8403.2 A clinical fellow shall notify the Board within ten (10) business days of any change in the supervision, supervisor, or clinical fellowship.

8404 SUPERVISION OF CLINICAL FELLOWS

8404.1 A clinical fellow registered under this chapter may practice only under general supervision of a speech-language pathologist licensed in the District in accordance with Chapter 78 of this title.

8404.2 To qualify as supervisor of a clinical fellow, a speech-language pathologist shall meet the following requirements:

- (a) Holds a valid District of Columbia license in speech-language pathology;
- (b) Be engaged in a lawful practice of speech-language pathology for a minimum of two (2) years;
- (c) Not be the subject of a public disciplinary action by a board or regulating body within the previous two (2) years; and

- (d) Not supervise more than three (3) clinical fellows at any given time.

8404.3 A clinical fellow supervisor shall provide:

- (a) A minimum of thirty-six (36) hours of supervisory activities during the clinical fellowship, including a minimum of two (2) hours of monitoring activities each month;
- (b) Ongoing mentoring, which shall include on-site observations and other mentoring activities; and
- (c) Formal evaluations of the clinical fellow's performance of clinical and other related activities.

8405 SCOPE OF PRACTICE

8405.1 The clinical fellowship shall consist of an employment, with or without direct compensation, as a professional in the field of speech-language pathology under general supervision with a minimum of thirty-five (35) hours of work per week. This requirement may also be met with part-time employment as follows:

- (a) Fifteen (15) to nineteen (19) hours a week, for a period of eighteen (18) months;
- (b) Twenty (20) to twenty-four (24) hours a week, for a period of fifteen (15) months; or
- (c) Twenty-five (25) to twenty-nine (29) hours a week, for a period of twelve (12) months.

8405.2 At least eighty percent (80%) of the clinical fellowship shall involve direct client contact, which includes the following:

- (a) Assessment, diagnosis, evaluation, and treatment;
- (b) Screening;
- (c) Habilitation and rehabilitation; and
- (d) Activities related to case management.

8405.3 The remaining twenty percent (20%) may be composed of supervised activities such as writing, research or planning.

8405.4 The activities included in a clinical fellowship shall consist of the following:

- (a) Conducting evaluations and treatment procedures;
- (b) Interpreting test results;
- (c) Determining case selections;
- (d) Designing treatment programs;
- (e) Collecting data and documenting performance;
- (f) Maintaining clinical records;
- (g) Providing written or oral reports (progress notes, diagnostic reports) regarding patients' or clients' status;
- (h) Making referrals; and
- (i) Participating in case conferences.

8406 STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

- 8406.1 A registered clinical fellow shall abide by the Code of Ethics adopted by the American-Speech-Hearing Association (ASHA).
- 8406.2 A registered clinical fellow shall identify himself or herself as a clinical fellow at all times when providing speech-language pathology services.

8499 DEFINITIONS

- 8499.1 The following terms and phrases shall have the meanings ascribed:

Applicant – a person applying for a registration to practice as a speech-language pathology clinical fellow under this chapter.

Board – the Board of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology, established by Section 841 of the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Amendment Act of 2006, effective March 6, 2007 (D.C. Law 16-219; D.C. Official Code § 3-1208.41 (2007 Repl.)).

Clinical fellow – a person who is registered pursuant to this chapter and completing the clinical fellowship requirements set forth under 17 DCMR § 7903.

Clinical fellow supervisor – a speech-language pathologist who is the supervisor of a clinical fellow.

Clinical fellowship – a period of supervised and mentored professional experience in the practice of speech-language pathology engaged by a person with a graduate degree in speech-language pathology in order to qualify for independent practice or licensure.

General supervision – supervision in which the clinical fellow supervisor is available to the clinical fellow under supervision, either in person or by a communications device.

Good cause – serious illness of the applicant, the death or serious illness of a member of the applicant’s immediate family, or other cause sufficient to the Board.

Supervision – on-site or other personal and direct oversight and involvement of a clinical fellow supervisor in any and all ways that will permit the supervisor to monitor, improve, and evaluate the clinical fellow’s performance in professional employment according to the degree of oversight and involvement necessary to support the particular clinical fellow’s development in self-recognition of clinical and professional strengths and areas requiring additional development of skills.