



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Department of Public Health
Board of Registration in Speech-Language
Pathology and Audiology
250 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108-4619

MAURA T. HEALEY
Governor

KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL
Lieutenant Governor

KATHLEEN E. WALSH
Secretary

ROBERT GOLDSTEIN, MD, PhD
Commissioner

Tel: 617-624-6000
www.mass.gov/dph

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, §2 and M.G.L. c. 13, §87, that the **Board of Registration in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (Board)** within the Department of Public Health (Department), will hold a public hearing on amendments to the following regulations: 260 CMR 1.00: *Standards, Complaint and Grievance Procedure* and 260 CMR 2.00: *Application and Licensing Requirements*.

The proposed amendments update the regulations that govern the practice of speech-language pathology and audiology in the Commonwealth. The proposed amendments implement Chapter 263 of the acts of 2022, which authorize the Board to issue a provisional speech-language pathologist license and requires that applicants pay a fee to the Board. The proposed amendments establish licensure requirements for the new license category of Speech-Language Pathologist Provisional Licensee and align the new license type with existing regulation. The proposed amendments also update language in the regulation.

The hearing will be concurrent with the Executive Office for Administration and Finance's public hearing regarding proposed changes to 801 CMR 4.02: *Fees for Licenses, Permits and Services to be Charged by State Agencies*. The proposed changes to 801 CMR 4.02 set the application fee for the new provisional speech-language pathologist license issued by the Board.

The public hearing will be held at **10:00 a.m. on Thursday, October 31st 2024**. The hearing will be conducted on a **moderated conference call**. The information for the moderated conference call is:

Dial-in Telephone Number: **800-988-9538**
Participant Passcode: **5999893**

A copy of the proposed amendments to 260 CMR 1.00: *Standards, Complaint and Grievance Procedure* and 260 CMR 2.00: *Application and Licensing Requirements* may be viewed on the Department's website at <http://mass.gov/dph/proposed-regulations> or requested from the Office of the General Counsel by calling 617-624-5220.

Speakers who testify at the public hearing are requested to provide a copy of their oral testimony. The Department encourages all interested parties to submit testimony electronically to the following address: Reg.Testimony@mass.gov, or by mail to William

Anderson, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Public Health, 250 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108. All submissions must include the sender's full name and address. When electronically submitting comments, type "SLP/AUD Board Regulations" in the subject line and attach a Word document with your comments or type your comments in the body of your email. All submissions must include the sender's full name and address.

The Department will post all testimony that complies with these instructions on its website. **All comments must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 31st 2024.** All comments received by the Department may be released in response to a request for public records.

If you are deaf or hard of hearing, or are a person with a disability who requires accommodation, please contact Alex Gomez at least 5 days before the hearing at Tel # 617-624-5928, Fax # 617-624-5075, email Alex.Gomez@mass.gov, or TTY # 617-624-6001.



Small Business Impact Statement
(As required by M.G.L. c. 30A §§ 2, 3 & 5)

CMR No.: 260 CMR 1.00

Estimate of the Number of Small Businesses Impacted by the Regulation: 6,326 Speech-Language Pathologists

Select Yes or No and Briefly Explain

Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will small businesses have to create, file, or issue additional reports? <i>No, the regulation imposes no requirement that Speech-Language Pathologists create, file, or issue additional reports.</i>
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will small businesses have to implement additional recordkeeping procedures? <i>No, Speech-Language Pathologists are already required to maintain patient/client records, and these proposed amendments do not impose any additional recordkeeping requirements.</i>
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will small businesses have to provide additional administrative oversight? <i>No, the amended regulation does not require small businesses to provide additional administrative oversight.</i>
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will small businesses have to hire additional employees in order to comply with the proposed regulation? <i>No, the amended regulation does not require small businesses to hire additional employees.</i>
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does compliance with the regulation require small businesses to hire other professionals (e.g. a lawyer, accountant, engineer, etc.)? <i>No, the amended regulations does not require small businesses to hire other professionals.</i>

Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Does the regulation require small businesses to purchase a product or make any other capital investments in order to comply with the regulation?</p> <p><i>No, the amended regulation does not require small businesses to purchase a product or make any other capital investments in order to comply with the regulation.</i></p>
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Are performance standards more appropriate than design/operational standards to accomplish the regulatory objective? (Performance standards express requirements in terms of outcomes, giving the regulated party flexibility to achieve regulatory objectives and design/operational standards specify exactly what actions regulated parties must take.)</p> <p><i>No- state law requires the Board of Registration for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology to license and establish minimum practice standards for licensees. M.G.L. c. 13, § 86</i></p>
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Do any other regulations duplicate or conflict with the proposed regulation?</p> <p><i>No, the Board has exclusive authority over the licensing and regulation of Speech-Language Pathologists.</i></p>
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Does the regulation require small businesses to cooperate with audits, inspections or other regulatory enforcement activities?</p> <p><i>No, the regulation does not require small businesses to cooperate with any regulatory enforcement activities.</i></p>
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Does the regulation require small businesses to provide educational services to keep up to date with regulatory requirements?</p> <p><i>No, Speech-Language Pathologists will continue to be required to meet continuing education requirements, but the regulation does not require small businesses to provide these educational services to licensees.</i></p>
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Is the regulation likely to <i>deter</i> the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts?</p> <p><i>There is no provision in the amended regulation that should deter the formation of small business in the Commonwealth.</i></p>
Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Is the regulation likely to <i>encourage</i> the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts?</p> <p><i>Yes, provisional licensure may encourage the formation of small business by codifying an additional license type.</i></p>

Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation provide for less stringent compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses? <i>No, this regulation does not establish separate compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses.</i>
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation establish less stringent schedules or deadlines for compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses? <i>No, this regulation does not establish separate compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses.</i>
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Did the agency consolidate or simplify compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses? <i>No, this regulation does not establish separate compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses.</i>
Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Can performance standards for small businesses replace design or operational standards without hindering delivery of the regulatory objective? <i>Yes - the amended regulation sets performance standards, not design or operation standards.</i>
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Are there alternative regulatory methods that would minimize the adverse impact on small businesses? <i>No, state law requires the Board to license and establish minimum practice standards for licensees. M.G.L. c. 13, § 86.</i>

Small Business Impact Statement <i>(As required by M.G.L. c. 30A §§ 2, 3 & 5)</i>		
CMR No.: 260 CMR 2.00		
Estimate of the Number of Small Businesses Impacted by the Regulation: 6,326 speech-language pathologists		
Select Yes or No and Briefly Explain		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will small businesses have to create, file, or issue additional reports? <i>No, the regulation imposes no requirement that Speech-Language Pathologists create, file, or issue additional reports.</i>
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will small businesses have to implement additional recordkeeping procedures? <i>No, Speech-Language Pathologists are already required to maintain patient/client records, and these proposed amendments do not impose any additional recordkeeping requirements.</i>
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will small businesses have to provide additional administrative oversight? <i>No, the amended regulation does not require small businesses to provide additional administrative oversight.</i>
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will small businesses have to hire additional employees in order to comply with the proposed regulation? <i>No, the amended regulation does not require small businesses to hire additional employees.</i>
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does compliance with the regulation require small businesses to hire other professionals (e.g. a lawyer, accountant, engineer, etc.)? <i>No, the amended regulations does not require small businesses to hire other professionals.</i>
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation require small businesses to purchase a product or make any other capital investments in order to comply with the regulation? <i>No, the amended regulation does not require small businesses to purchase a product or make any other capital investments in order to comply with the regulation.</i>
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Are performance standards more appropriate than design/operational standards to accomplish the regulatory objective? (Performance standards express requirements in terms of outcomes, giving the regulated party flexibility to achieve regulatory objectives and design/operational standards specify exactly what actions regulated parties must take.) <i>No- state law requires the Board of Registration for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology to license and establish minimum practice standards for licensees. M.G.L. c. 13, § 86</i>

Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do any other regulations duplicate or conflict with the proposed regulation? <i>No, the Board has exclusive authority over the licensing and regulation of Speech-Language Pathologists.</i>
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation require small businesses to cooperate with audits, inspections or other regulatory enforcement activities? <i>No, the regulation does not require small businesses to cooperate with any regulatory enforcement activities.</i>
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation require small businesses to provide educational services to keep up to date with regulatory requirements? <i>No, Speech-Language Pathologists will continue to be required to meet continuing education requirements, but the regulation does not require small businesses to provide these educational services to licensees.</i>
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Is the regulation likely to <i>deter</i> the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts? <i>There is no provision in the amended regulation that should deter the formation of small business in the Commonwealth.</i>
Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Is the regulation likely to <i>encourage</i> the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts? <i>Yes, provisional licensure may encourage the formation of small business by codifying an additional license type.</i>
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation provide for less stringent compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses? <i>No, this regulation does not establish separate compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses.</i>
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation establish less stringent schedules or deadlines for compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses? <i>No, this regulation does not establish separate compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses.</i>
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Did the agency consolidate or simplify compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses? <i>No, this regulation does not establish separate compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses.</i>

Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Can performance standards for small businesses replace design or operational standards without hindering delivery of the regulatory objective? <i>Yes - the amended regulation sets performance standards, not design or operation standards.</i>
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Are there alternative regulatory methods that would minimize the adverse impact on small businesses? <i>No, state law requires the Board to license and establish minimum practice standards for licensees. M.G.L. c. 13, § 86.</i>