



KENTUCKY BOARD OF SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY

Andy Beshear
Governor

P. O. Box 1360
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602
Phone (502) 782-8801
Fax (502)564-4818
<http://slp.ky.gov>

MEMORANDUM FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TO: All Licensees, Temporary Licensees, and Applicants
FROM: Kentucky Board of Licensure for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology
RE: Executive Orders 2020-215, 2020-243, and 2020-257, and Senate Bill 150
DATE: June 25, 2020

By Executive Order 2020-215 dated March 6, 2020, Governor Andy Beshear declared a State of Emergency in the Commonwealth of Kentucky due to the novel coronavirus (COVID-10). On March 18, 2020, Governor Beshear issued Executive Order 2020-243, “State of Emergency Relating to Social Distancing.” This Executive Order has direct implications on the operations, and statutes and regulations, under which the Kentucky Board of Licensure for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (“Board”) is governed. Executive Order 2020-243 ordered all boards to take actions necessary to ensure appropriate social distancing and stated that any state statute or regulation that conflicts with the provisions of Executive Order 2020-243 was suspended.

On March 25, 2020, Governor Beshear issued Executive Order 2020-257, which required the closure of businesses that are not life sustaining, mandated the institution of social distancing and hygiene practices for businesses that remained open, and mandated teleworking for those business that can accommodate it. All of the Executive Orders, including the Healthy at Work Executive Orders and the Cabinet for Health and Family Services Orders implementing the new requirements that are now in effect, are available at the Healthy at Work website –

<https://healthyatwork.ky.gov>.



SB 150

On March 26, 2020, the General Assembly enacted Senate Bill (SB) 150. SB 150 became effective on March 30, 2020, when it was signed by the Governor. A copy of the bill can be found at: <https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/recorddocuments/bill/20RS/sb150/bill.pdf>. SB 150 allows boards to waive or suspend the fees or administrative obligations required to engage in business regulated by the board during the State of Emergency. The law provides that all current licenses remain in effect during the State of Emergency and all administrative requirements to keep licenses active are stayed for **thirty (30) days** after the State of Emergency is lifted. This includes all fees, fines, renewal applications, and continuing education requirements. SB Bill 150 also allows boards to waive or suspend the fees or administrative obligations required to engage in business regulated by the board during the state of emergency.

The Board has determined that the following Board statutes and regulations are affected by Executive Orders 2020-215, 2020-243, and 2020-257, and Senate Bill 150 and issues the following guidance. This Guidance supplements the telehealth guidance provided March 25, 2020 and located at: <http://slp.ky.gov/Documents/Memorandum.pdf>.

The following statutes and regulations require “direct supervision,” “direct clinical practicum,” “supervised direct clinical practicum,” “direct contact,” “direct supervision or direct contact,” “direct services,” “direct client contact consultations,” or “on-site observation of direct client contact:”

- KRS 334A.033(1)(b)(1), License for speech-language pathology assistant.
- KRS 334A.050(2)(b), Qualifications of applicant for license.
- KRS 334A.183(1)(b), Licensure requirements for speech-language pathologist.
- 201 KAR 17:025. Requirements for an interim license as a speech-language pathology assistant. Section 2 (5), (6), (7), (11), and (12) and Section 3 (3)
- 201 KAR 17:027 Supervision requirements and caseload limitations of Speech-Language Pathology Assistants. Section 5 and Section 6
- 201 KAR 17:032 Requirements for interim licensure as an audiologist. Section 1 (6)(b)(1) and (7)(b).

- 201 KAR 17:034 Requirements for licensure as a Speech-Language Pathology Assistant. Section 2 (6), (7)(a), (11), and (12).

Pursuant to the above listed Executive Orders, and SB 150, these requirements may all be accomplished by simultaneous virtual electronic means. Please note that these changes are only in place during the State of Emergency announced in Executive Order 2020-215 and will expire when the State of Emergency has ceased.

If you have any questions, please contact the Board Administrator at slpa@ky.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Christina LaCharite".

Christina LaCharite
Board Chair