



# Spring Newsletter

## Ohio Speech and Hearing Professionals Board

### Board Members:

#### Board President:

Tammy H. Brown, M.A., CCC-A, Board  
Certified in Audiology

#### Board Secretary:

Barbara L. Prakup, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

Lisa Dodge Burton, Public Member

Helen L. Mayle, Public Member

Karen Mitchell, Au.D., CCC-A

Michael R. Pratt, H.A.S.

Ann M. Slone, M.A., CCC-SLP

Carrie Spangler, Au.D., CCC-A

Matthew Starner, H.A.S.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Message from the Board  
Chairperson - p. 1

Message from the Executive  
Director - p. 1

Updating Your Contact Info. - p. 2  
Licensure Statistics - p. 2

Board Operations - p. 3

COVID-19 Updates & Resources - p. 4  
Continuing Education Resources - p. 5

OMNIE Module Resources - p.5  
CE Broker - p. 5

Summer/Fall Calendar - p. 6  
Ask the Board - p. 6

### Message from the Board President

I would like to welcome everyone to this edition of the Ohio Speech and Hearing Professional Board's eNewsletter. I hope everyone is staying safe and healthy during this unprecedented period of our lives. I realize many of you are dealing with disruptions, challenges, and situations related to the COVID-19 crisis. On behalf of the Board, we are working hard each day to make sure we are providing you and our stakeholders with information and resources to navigate through this difficult time. The best way to stay updated with us is through our board website and Facebook page. During this national emergency, the board staff is working remotely and continues to be able to assist with any

questions. Additionally, the board will continue to accept and process licensure applications and issue licenses.

We have important updates and resources inside this edition. I urge you to visit our website for the most up-to-date information that will be released going forward. If you are using social media, please "Like" our Facebook page and accept notifications to ensure you will receive the latest updates. Working together and supporting each other during this time, we will all get through this and be a stronger community.

Best Regards,  
Tammy H. Brown, M.A., CCC-A  
Board Certified in Audiology  
Board President

### Message from the Executive Director

I would like to welcome everyone to this edition of the Ohio Speech and Hearing Professional Board's eNewsletter. I would like to reiterate the comments made by our Board President, Tammy Brown. Our board members and staff are here to assist with any questions, concerns, or issues during this national state of

emergency due to COVID-19. We are posting regular updates on our website as well as our Facebook page, and this will be the best way to find information and resources. Our contact information is inside this edition. Please do not hesitate to call or e-mail us with any questions or concerns.

(Continued on next page)

## Message from the Executive Director

(continued from page 1)

We remain committed to maintaining our board operations and providing the best service to all of our constituents. We will come out of this crisis with a renewed focus and strength for those that we serve.

Best Regards,  
Gregg B. Thornton, Esq.  
Executive Director

### OSHPB Staff:

#### Executive Director:

Gregg B. Thornton, Esq.  
gregg.thornton@shp.ohio.gov

#### Investigator:

Connie J. Allen  
connie.allen@shp.ohio.gov

#### Licensing Administrator:

Brandy R. Thomas  
brandy.thomas@shp.ohio.gov

#### Administrative Professional:

Amanda Townsend  
amanda.townsend@shp.ohio.gov

#### Principal Assistant Attorney General:

Cheryl R. Hawkinson, Esq.

## Important Information

### Has your contact information changed?

Updating your contact information is now a self - service process in the eLicense Ohio license management system.

All licensees can update any change of name, place of business, mailing address, or e-mail address at within thirty days of said change at:

[https://elicense.ohio.gov/OH\\_HomePage](https://elicense.ohio.gov/OH_HomePage)

### Licensure Statistics

As of February 12, 2020

Audiologists:	1055
Audiology Aides:	84
Conditional SLPs:	379
Dual-Aud. & SLP	33
Hearing Aid Dealers:	221
Hearing Aid Satellites:	379
Hearing Aid Fitters:	440
Inactive Audiology:	54
Inactive Speech-Language Path.:	303
Speech-Language Pathologists:	7667
SLP Aides:	3
Trainee Permit Holders	39
<b>Total Licenses:</b>	<b>10,747</b>

### Board's Contact Information

Vern Riffe Center for  
Government & the Arts  
77 South High Street, Suite 1659  
Columbus, Ohio 43215-6108

Phone: 614-466-3145  
Fax: 614-995-2286  
E-mail: [board@shp.ohio.gov](mailto:board@shp.ohio.gov)

Office Hours:  
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Monday through Friday

Board office is closed during  
observance of state holidays

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Reminder: Board and Committee meetings are open to the public.
- Public comment is welcome at all Board meetings.
- Please visit our website at [www.shp.ohio.gov](http://www.shp.ohio.gov) for the latest updates and information.

## Ohio Speech and Hearing Professionals Board

### Board Operations - Update

Visit: <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/> for the latest information and updates about Ohio's preparedness to COVID-19.



#### Board Operations

All staff and operations of the licensure board will be available remotely. Licensure applications will continue to be processed as usual and complaints will continue to be investigated. Board staff will be available to answer telephone calls and e-mails during our normal business hours, e.g., Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Board members are accessible when necessary to assist staff with responding to any questions. You can contact the Board at (614) 466-3145 (select option #2) or via e-mail at: [board@shp.ohio.gov](mailto:board@shp.ohio.gov). The Board email will be monitored during evening hours and on weekends.

#### Service Requests

Until further notice, the Board will process service requests in eLicense for wall certificates and license verification letters electronically. Anyone submitting these requests will receive an e-mail with the item(s) attached.

#### Complaints

During this period, the Board requests that complaints not be sent via mail to the board office. Complaints should be submitted through the complaint portal in the eLicense Ohio license management system at: [https://elicense.ohio.gov/oh\\_filecomplaint](https://elicense.ohio.gov/oh_filecomplaint).

#### Mail

The Board is requesting that any correspondence be sent to the board's e-mail address at: [board@shp.ohio.gov](mailto:board@shp.ohio.gov). If needing to send correspondence to the Board's mailing address, it should be sent via regular mail and not require a signature. Remember, this is because the board's staff is working remotely and not in the office as frequently.

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## Ohio Speech and Hearing Professionals Board

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### COVID-19 Updates and Resources

Visit: <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/> for the latest information and updates about Ohio's preparedness to COVID-19.



#### COVID-19 Resources

The following are great resources for updates about Ohio's preparedness to COVID-19:

##### Ohio Speech and Hearing Professionals Board (SHP)

SHP-COVID-19 FAQ: <https://shp.ohio.gov> (Latest FAQ posted on March 17, 2020)

SHP Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/OhioSpeechandHearingProfessionalsBoard/>

##### Ohio Governor Mike DeWine

Governor's COVID-19 updates website: <https://governor.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/governor/>

##### Ohio Department of Health (ODH)

ODH Coronavirus.Ohio.gov: <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/>

ODH Facebook Page: [www.facebook.com/OHdeptofhealth/](http://www.facebook.com/OHdeptofhealth/)

ODH Twitter: [www.twitter.com/OHdeptofhealth](http://www.twitter.com/OHdeptofhealth)

##### Ohio Department of Education (ODE)

ODE's Homepage: <https://education.ohio.gov/>

ODE's Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information website for Ohio's Schools and District:

<http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Student-Supports/Coronavirus>

ODE's Considerations for Students with Disabilities During Ohio's Ordered School-Building Closure:

<https://shp.ohio.gov/Portals/0/Considerations-for-Students-with-Disabilities-During-Ohios-Ordered-School-Building-Closure.pdf>

## Ohio Speech and Hearing Professionals Board

### Continuing Education and Ethics Requirement Reminder

**Continuing Education & Ethics Resources Available at: <http://shp.ohio.gov/ce-ethics>**

The Board would like to remind all licensees about their respective continuing education requirements.



#### Requirements for Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists

Audiologists and speech-language pathologists are required to complete twenty hours of continuing education, including two hours related to ethics pursuant to Ohio Administrative Code section 4753-4-01. At least ten hours of continuing education must be specific to the clinical practice in the area the person is licensed. A licensee is not required to obtain continuing education for the first renewal. Licensed audiologists and speech-language pathologists required to complete continuing education have until December 31, 2020 to complete their hours.

#### Requirements for Hearing Aid Fitters

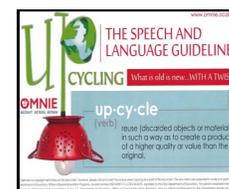
Hearing aid fitters are now required to complete twenty hours of continuing education, including two hours related to ethics pursuant to Ohio Administrative Code section 4747-1-11. Continuing education clock hours must be acquired in subjects related to hearing aid fitting or audiology. A licensee is not required to obtain continuing education for the first renewal. Licensed hearing aid fitters required to complete continuing education have until December 31, 2020 to complete their hours.

#### CE Broker - Sign-up Today!

Please visit the Board's website at: <http://shp.ohio.gov/continuing-education> to sign-up with CE Broker, the licensure board's official continuing education tracking system and begin the easy process of reporting your CE hours. Several thousand licensees are now signed-up and tracking their continuing education hours. CE Broker is available to licensees on a voluntary basis. Licensees may register for a free basic account. Additional information is also available from CE Broker's website at: <https://cebroker.com/oh/plans>.

#### Benefits of reporting your continuing education to CE Broker

- *Track your continuing education hours required to renew your Ohio license*
- *Know precisely how many hours you've completed and how many hours are remaining*
- *Exemption from a continuing education audit once your 20 hours are reported*



### OMNIE—UpCycling Speech and Language Guidelines

Just a reminder that topic modules are still maintained and accessible on the Ohio Master's Network Initiatives in Education (OMNIE) website at: <https://omnie.ocali.org/>. The topics are maintained and updated by practitioners regarded for their expertise, knowledge and experience over the subject areas addressed. The guidelines and resources support school based practitioners, including intervention specialists, teachers, administrators and parents. Accessing the modules will require you to register for a free account which will only take a few minutes, and is highly encouraged to ensure that funding continues in order to maintain and develop additional modules.

## OSHPB SPRING/SUMMER CALENDAR—2020



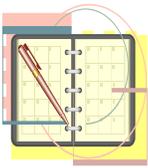
April 1  
April 15  
May 1  
**May 11**  
May 15  
**May 25**

Application Review and Approval  
Application Review and Approval  
Application Review and Approval  
**Board & Committee Meetings**  
Application Review and Approval  
**State Holiday - Memorial Day - Board Office Closed**



June 1  
June 15  
**June 22**  
July 1  
**July 4**

Application Review and Approval  
Application Review and Approval  
**Board and Committee Meetings**  
Application Review and Approval  
**State Holiday - Independence Day**



July 15  
August 1  
**August 5**  
August 15

Application Review and Approval  
Application Review and Approval  
**Board and Committee Meetings**  
Application Review and Approval



**Reminder - On December 31, 2020 licenses will expire for aides, audiologists, hearing aid dealers, hearing aid fitters, and speech-language pathologists. The Board will send licensure renewal information to licensees in October 2020.**

*Note: Board & Committee meeting dates are subject to change. Visit our website to confirm dates.*

Please visit the Board’s website at [www.shp.ohio.gov](http://www.shp.ohio.gov) for the specific time and location of the Board and committee meetings. In addition, you may also download the Board’s agenda and meeting minutes.

Please note that this calendar is subject to change without notice.



### Ask the Board:

#### Regular Feature

Frequently asked questions will appear in each quarterly newsletter.



#### **What is the best way to receive information from the Board during this emergency?**

The best way to stay informed is to visit our board website at: <https://www.shp.ohio.gov> or “Like” us on our Facebook page. We are posting updates on Ohio’s preparedness to COVID-19 on a regular basis from Governor Mike DeWine, Ohio Department of Health, Ohio Department of Education, and other state agencies as their information is received.



The Board is on Facebook. Please visit our Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/OhioSpeechandHearingProfessionals-Board/> or by clicking on the icon above and “Like” us to receive our notifications and information.