



Spring eNewsletter

Ohio Speech and Hearing Professionals Board

Board Members:

Board President:

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

Board Secretary:

Carrie L. Spangler, Au.D., CCC-A

Lisa Dodge Burton, Public Member

Steven M. Griffin, M.A., CCC-SLP

Nancy L. Mills, Au.D.

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

Michael R. Pratt, H.A.S.

Matthew Starner, H.A.S.

Stephen M. White, Esq., Public Member

Message from the Board President

Welcome to this spring edition of the Ohio Speech and Hearing Professional Board’s eNewsletter. I hope everyone is continuing to stay safe and healthy as we’re finally starting to turn the corner with the COVID-19 pandemic. As many of you know the month of May is recognized nationally as Better Hearing and Speech Month, and the theme for this year is “Building Connections.” Indeed we likely are reconfiguring and refining what helped us remain in touch with our consumers as essential providers. We may be becoming “better” at speech and hearing as we reinforce our foundations and add new perspectives, techniques, and procedures with pandemic hindsight. Invariably, we will grow through building connections. We hope everyone engaged in the

provision of speech and hearing services will help raise awareness about communication disorders and how our professions directly impact consumers to help them achieve their maximum vocational and social independence. I am finding more consumers are asking us to do exactly that. In fact they have raised the bar of common knowledge thanks to masks and distance often opening the door to sharing audiological, hearing and speech language expertise. I hope you also receive and accept these invitations to “building connections” through our common experiences during the pandemic.

There are important licensure updates (Continued on next page)

Message from the Executive Director

I would like to welcome everyone to this edition of the Ohio Speech and Hearing Professional Board’s eNewsletter. We have important updates and information inside this edition. As we celebrate the month of May as Better Hearing and Speech

Month, we would to highlight Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost’s news release issued on May 3, 2021, alerting consumers about over-the-counter hearing aids; refer inside this issue for more details.

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Message from the Board President

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inside this edition. We also continue to provide information and resources on our website and Facebook page about Ohio's preparedness to the COVID-19 pandemic and vaccine distribution plan. Additionally, please review the important information about our state specific guidelines for hearing test procedures, telehealth, licensure requirements and statistics.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to, once again, express our appreciation for everything that each of you are doing to ensure that the health and welfare of your patients, clients, and students are being met. We have come a long way since a year ago when the pandemic impacted our lives. We will continue to work hard each day to provide you and our stakeholders with information and resources. The best way to stay updated with us is through our board website and Facebook page. If you are using social media, please "Like" our Facebook page and accept notifications to ensure you will receive the latest updates. Our board staff continues to work remotely and are available to assist with any questions.

We are truly all in this together. We are "connected". As we recognize the month of May as Better Hearing and Speech Month, let us all continue to work together and support each other. There is finally a light at the end of the tunnel.

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

Message from the Executive Director

(continued from page 1)

We are posting regular updates on our website as well as on our Facebook page, about Ohio's preparedness to the COVID-19 pandemic, and this will be the best way to find information and resources. We have important information about the licensure application process for spring graduates. Also inside this edition will be updates about the duty to report, recent passage of HB442 changing the pupil service license issued by the Ohio Department of Education for school-based licensees, professional experience year supervision requirements, reminders about the FDA red flags for the sale of hearing aids, the licensure renewal extension, and much more. If you have a question, issue, or concern, please do not hesitate to contact us. We invite you to visit our homepage at www.shp.ohio.gov, and also visit us on Facebook to stay updated throughout the year.

If you recently contacted the Board for services or information, please take a moment to complete our customer service [survey](#) and let us know your opinion about that experience.

I'd like to echo our Board President's great message that we are truly all in this together. Through continued collaboration, we will reach the finish line with this global pandemic.

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

Board's Contact Information

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

Important Information

Has your contact information changed?

Updating your contact information is now a self service process in the new eLicense Ohio system. See the update inside this edition for details on how to register and access your license through your new eLicense Ohio dashboard.

All licensees are required to update any change of name, place of business, or mailing address within thirty days of said change.

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 for the latest updates and information.

Phone: 614-466-3145
Fax: 614-995-2286
E-mail: 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

Ohio Speech and Hearing Professionals Board



May is Better Hearing and Speech Month

Across the country, the month of May is widely regarded as Better Hearing and Speech Month (BHSM). In 2012, Ohio passed a law officially recognizing this month as BHSM. Now, more than ever, preventing or managing communication disorders at this challenging time is important. While we meet the challenges of COVID-19, this is a great opportunity to promote this year's BHSM theme, "Building Connections." Hopefully through all of this, more people will realize that better hearing and speech means better health and wellness.

The Board encourages everyone to raise awareness about communication disorders and the importance of early intervention, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. Many organizations have posted BHSM resources on their website. (Note: the information and links below do not constitute an endorsement by the Board.)

The American Academy of Audiology has resources such as posters and fact sheets posted at:

<https://www.audiology.org/get-involved/public-awareness/may-is-better-hearing-month>.

The American Speech-Language Hearing Association has posted resources to help you recognize BHSM all month long at:

<https://www.asha.org/bhsm/>.

The International Hearing Society has posted BHSM resources at:

http://www.ihinfo.org/IhsV2/News_Info/BHSM%20Press%20Release.cfm

The National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders has BHSM information at:

<https://www.nidcd.nih.gov/news/multimedia/may-better-hearing-and-speech-month>.

Ohio law designating May as Better Hearing and Speech Month:

<http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/gp5.2281v1>.

Licensure Statistics

As of May 5, 2021

Audiologists:	1100
Audiology Aides:	99
Conditional SLPs:	350
Dual-Aud. & SLP	32
Hearing Aid Dealers:	237
Hearing Aid Satellites:	420
Hearing Aid Fitters:	469
Inactive Audiology:	67
Inactive Speech-Language Path.:	375
Speech-Language Pathologists:	8157
SLP Aides:	5
Trainee Permit Holders	47
Total Licenses:	11,358

OSHPB Staff:

Executive Director:

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

Investigator:

Connie J. Allen
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Administrative Professional:

Amanda Townsend
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Principal Assistant Attorney General:

Cheryl R. Hawkinson, Esq.

Ohio Speech and Hearing Professionals Board

Licensure Renewal Update - Renewal Deadline Approaching July 1, 2021 For Audiologists, Speech-Language Pathologists, Aides, Hearing Aid Dealers, and Hearing Aid Fitters



House Bill 404 was signed by Governor Mike DeWine on November 23, 2020. Please note the following provisions related to the license renewal extension due to the COVID-19 emergency. Additional information may be found on the Board's license renewal page at www.shp.ohio.gov/renewal. If you have already renewed your license and completed your required continuing education hours for the 2019-2020 practice period, no further action is required on your part, and your license will remain valid until your next renewal on or before December 31, 2022.

- Pursuant to House Bill 404, Ohio Speech and Hearing Professional Board licensees whose licenses will expire during the period of emergency (March 27, 2020 – April 1, 2021) now have until July 1, 2021 to renew their license and complete any required continuing education hours for the 2019-2020 practice period.
- If you have already renewed your license and completed your required continuing education hours, no further action is required on your part, and your license will remain valid until your next renewal on or before December 31, 2022.
- If you renew your license between January 1, 2021 and July 1, 2021, your next renewal expiration will remain on or before December 31, 2022.

If you renew after December 31, 2020 and need the extension until July 1, 2021 to complete your required hours of continuing education for the 2019-2020 practice period, any continuing education you complete during the extension period for the 2019-2020 practice period will only be counted towards the 2019-2020 renewal cycle. Thus, you will have less time to complete your continuing education hours for the 2021-2022 renewal. If you completed all of the required continuing education hours for the 2019-2020 practice period between January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2020 and renew your license during the extension period, any hours you complete after January 1, 2021 will be counted towards meeting your continuing education requirements for the 2021-2022 practice period.

Ohio Speech and Hearing Professionals Board

Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost Issues Consumer Alert on Over-the-Counter Hearing Aids



On May 3, 2021, Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost issued a press release warning consumers about companies that claim to offer over-the-counter hearing aids. The Board would like to reiterate Attorney General Yost's alert and ask licensees who dispense hearing aids to help raise awareness for consumers. As Attorney General Yost noted, it is important that consumers are aware of some misleading tactics by over-the-counter hearing aid companies that make false claims of performance, and claims that their over-the-counter devices have the government's approval. Although Congress authorized the sale of over-the-counter (OTC) hearing aids in 2017, currently there are no such products that have the approval of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. As Attorney General Yost noted, this has not stopped some companies from making false claims that they have been FDA-approved.

As we celebrate May as Better Hearing and Speech Month, it is important to raise awareness that when consumers are considering the purchase of hearing aids, that a licensed audiologist or hearing aid specialist are licensed and qualified to test, select, program, and fit the hearing aid for the consumer. The FDA has not approved ANY OTC hearing aids at this time but is expected to announce proposed rules later this year. The licensure board will continue to provide updates. Attorney General Yost's press release may be accessed at the following hyper-link: [Attorney General Yost Press Release on OTCs](#).

Important Reminder About FDA Red Flags

The Board would like to remind practitioners about the importance of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) Reg Flags as it relates to the sale of hearing aids to consumers. The FDA Reg Flags are a series of medical conditions that, when revealed during the testing and evaluation, should prompt a medical referral.

The FDA has identified the following as Red Flags:

1. Visible congenital or traumatic deformity of the ear
2. Active drainage from the ear in the past 90 days
3. Sudden hearing loss within the past 90 day
4. Reported acute or chronic dizziness
5. Unilateral hearing loss of sudden or recent onset within 90 days
6. Air-bone gap greater than 15dB at 500, 1 & 2k
7. Reported pain or discomfort
8. Excessive cerumen or foreign body in the ear

When any of these Red Flags occur, the patient/client should be referred on to a physician for medical clearance.

Ohio Speech and Hearing Professionals Board

Spring Graduates - Important Reminders

The Board would like to congratulate everyone who is graduating this spring from their audiology and speech-language pathology graduate programs. We would like to remind all graduates planning to practice in Ohio to submit your licensure applications at least a few weeks prior to graduation in order to allow enough time to process your application. The Board has an online application process through the Ohio eLicense license management system. The online application is available at the following link: <https://shp.ohio.gov/elicenseohiogov>. For individuals applying for their conditional speech-language pathology license, this is a reminder that the Plan for supervised professional experience is due within thirty calendar days of your start date of employment. The SPE Plan and other forms for the supervised professional experience may be downloaded from the board's website at: <https://shp.ohio.gov/forms>. The Board has dedicated staff ready to assist if you have any questions or need assistance. Please feel free to contact the board office at (614) 466-3145 or via e-mail at: board@shp.ohio.gov.



Important Reminder - Supervised Professional Experience Report and Contact Log

The Board would like to remind supervised professional experience supervisors that supervision of the conditional licensee must continue after the Report and Contacts log is submitted to the board office. Ohio Administrative Code sections 4753-3-07 (D)(2) and (G)(2) state in relevant part:

(D) - Supervisor qualifications and responsibilities.

(2) The supervisor shall agree to supervise the practice of speech-language pathology or audiology experience of the applicant according to a plan approved by the board.

(G) - Supervised professional experience report and supervision contacts log.

(G)(2) After submission of the "Supervised Professional Experience Report" and "Supervision Contacts Log," the conditional licensee shall abide by the requirements for conditional licensure until full licensure is granted.

When the conditional licensee and professional experience year supervisor have signed the Report and Contacts Log, the conditional licensee must submit the document within thirty calendar days of completion of the professional experience. The professional experience year supervisor shall continue to supervise the conditional licensee until the Board approves the Report and Contacts Log and issues the conditional licensee their speech-language pathology license. Supervisors should check with the conditional licensee to verify timely submission of the Report and Contacts log. The status of the conditional licensees license should be verified from the eLicense Ohio website, license look-up page at: <https://shp.ohio.gov/license-lookup>. If there are any issues or concerns found, the licensure board should be contacted at: (614) 466-3145 or via e-mail at: board@shp.ohio.gov.

Ohio Speech and Hearing Professionals Board

ODE Pupil Service License - HB 442

House Bill 442 amended Section 3319.221 of the Ohio Revised Code to create a new option for individuals who hold a professional license as a speech-language pathologist, audiologist, registered nurse holding a bachelor's degree in nursing, physical therapists, occupational therapists, physical therapy assistants, occupational therapy assistants, and social workers. These individuals will be able to apply, through the CORE licensing system, for a registration to allow them to serve in their given occupation on either a full time or substitute basis, without the need to hold the previously available pupil services license. The registration will cost \$150.00 dollars and be valid for five years. It will require validation of the professional license, and a transcript showing the appropriate degree for school nurses only, as well as our required background checks. After five years, they will only require validation of continuing to hold the required professional license and background checks to renew, there are no other renewal requirements. The bill went into effect on April 7, 2021 and the Ohio Department of Education's Department of Educator License has information about the new registrations posted on their website at: <http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Teaching/Licensure/Apply-for-Certificate-License/Pupil-Services-Licenses>.



It very important to understand that the Pupil Services License is not going away and practitioners who hold their pupil service license can continue to renew it or switch to the registration. The fee for the Pupil Services License is \$200.00. Each applicant is going to need to make their own decision as to whether or not to renew the pupil service license or switch to the pupil service registration depending on their needs. The Board urges licensees to check with their school district or educational service center to verify whether they will continue to require that related service personnel hold the pupil service license or will accept the registration as a condition of employment.

The Board has been informed that the Department of Education is forming a cross-agency team to address questions that have arisen about registration and how to provide training to those who are pursuing registration and do not have a school background or training. For more information, please visit the Office for Exceptional Children's website at: <http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Special-Education/Office-of-Exceptional-Children-Contact-Information>.

Board Appoints Steven Griffin to Ohio Dyslexia Committee

The Board is pleased to announce the appointment of Steven Griffin, M.A., CCC-SLP, to the Ohio Dyslexia Committee. The Ohio Dyslexia Committee was created after passage of House Bill 436 at the end of last year. Pursuant to the new law, the licensure board is charged with determining its selection process for the appointment of one speech-language pathologist to serve on the committee, along with ten other individuals. At its meeting on January 27, 2021, the Board determined as its selection process for the appointment, to appoint a qualified speech-language pathologist serving on the licensure board. We are honored to appoint Mr. Griffin to the committee. Mr. Griffin brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise in the areas of universal screening, intervention, and remediation for children with dyslexia and children displaying dyslexic characteristics and tendencies. Not later than December 31, 2021, the Ohio Dyslexia Committee shall develop a guidebook regarding the best practices and methods for universal screening, intervention, and remediation for children with dyslexia or children displaying dyslexic characteristics and tendencies using a multi-sensory structured literacy program.

Ohio Speech and Hearing Professionals Board

Rep. Andrea White introduces HB 252 - ASLP-IC

On April 12, 2021, Reps. Andrea White (House District 41, Kettering) and Phil Plummer (House District 40, Dayton) co-sponsored House Bill 252, authorizing Ohio to enter into the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact, commonly referred to as the ASLP-IC. The bill was referred to the House Health committee on April 14, 2021, and after sponsor's testimony and a first hearing on April 27, 2021, passed unanimously out of committee. On May 6, 2021, the House unanimously passed (96-0) HB 252. The bill will be referred for consideration by the Senate Health Committee and is expected for consideration by the full Senate by the end of June. If passed by the General Assembly, Ohio will join at least ten other states that have already passed the ASLP-IC. Those states include Alabama, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Nebraska, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Utah, West Virginia, and Wyoming. With at least ten states having approved the ASLP-IC, the interstate compact is officially activated. The licensure board has served on the ASLP-IC advisory group since 2018 and supports the ASLP-IC as an effective way for consumers to receive appropriate and competent speech-language pathology and audiology services by practitioners across state lines. The compact would permit audiologists and speech-language pathologists to provide services to populations currently underserved or geographically isolated. The compact also would allow military personnel and spouses to more easily maintain their professional license when relocating. The ASLP-IC ensures the ethical and legal provision of services and reduces regulatory barriers while still protecting the public.



Board Reminds Practitioners of Duty to Report

The Board would like to remind practitioners of their duty to report direct, first-hand knowledge, of violations under Ohio Revised and Administrative Code sections 4744, 4747 and 4753. All licensees practice under a Code of Ethics. For hearing aid dealers, fitters, and trainees, the duty to report is specified under Ohio Administrative Code section [4747-1-23](#) (B)(10), which states: licensees shall report to the board any violation of the board rules or any breach of the code of ethics that the licensee is aware of. For audiologists, speech-language pathologists, conditional speech-language pathologists, and aides, the duty to report is specified under Ohio Administrative Code section [4753-9-01](#) (B)(10), which also states: licensees shall report to the board any violation of the board rules or any breach of the code of ethics that the licensee is aware of. Licensees have a duty and responsibility to report known violations of the practice act and breach of the code of ethics. Licensees can report violations by submitting a complaint on the eLicense Ohio website: [File a Complaint–Duty to Report](#). You may also contact the Board office and request to speak with the Executive Director, Gregg Thornton, if you have questions about whether a situation should be reported. The Duty to Report requirement is an important component to a practitioner's responsibility under their license, as well as ensuring consumer protection.

Ohio Speech and Hearing Professionals Board

Board Welcomes New Member—Stephen M. White, Esq. and Announces Board Reappointments



The Board would like to welcome Stephen M. White, Esq. on his appointment as a public member on March 3, 2021. Mr. White serves as the Vice President of Strategic Initiatives, Business Development and External Affairs, and In-House Counsel for the Center for Science and Industry (COSI) in Columbus. Prior to his position at COSI, Mr. White served as the Central Ohio Director and General Counsel for the United States Senate - Office of U.S. Senator Rob Portman. He is a licensed attorney and received his Juris Doctorate degree for The Ohio State University Michael E. Moritz College of Law. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and English/Pre-Law also from The Ohio State University. He also holds a Master of Arts in Public Policy and Management from The Ohio State University John Glenn School of Public Affairs.



The Board would also like to announce the reappointment of audiology member Tammy Brown, M.A., CCC -A, FAAA, Board Certified in Audiology, and public member Lisa Burton. The Board has all nine board member positions filled for 2021.

Board Extends Public Comment Period on Proposed Rules

The Board announced earlier this year that it was accepting public comment on proposed rules. The proposed rules are listed below:

[Ohio Administrative Code section 4747-1-11](#)

[Ohio Administrative Code section 4747-1-14](#)

[Ohio Administrative Code section 4747-1-17](#)

The Board received comments during the public comment period between March 12, 2021 through April 16, 2021. The Rules Committee met on May 6, 2021 and reviewed the comments. The Board will be proposing additional changes to the rules, which will be posted on our website. Another period of public comment will occur from May 15, 2021 through June 15, 2021. Please visit the Board's website from more information at: <https://shp.ohio.gov/enforcement/laws-and-rules>.

HIPAA Compliance - Considerations When Sending Test Results - Important Reminder

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) is a federal law that sets forth the requirements and standards for the protection of certain health information. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights has responsibility for implementing and enforcing the Privacy Rule with respect to compliance activities and civil monetary penalties. Practitioners must be mindful that when sending patient/client test results or other information protected under HIPAA to another entity, the release of the protected information should only be done with the knowledge and consent of the patient/client. The Board would like to remind licensees that although HIPAA is a federal requirement, licensees can be subject to disciplinary action by the Board for HIPAA violations, such as the unauthorized release of patient/client health information protected by HIPAA. A summary of the HIPAA Privacy Rule can be accessed from HHS' website at: [HIPAA Privacy Rule](#).

Ohio Speech and Hearing Professionals Board

Hearing Test Procedures During COVID-19 - Important Reminder



With Ohio's vaccine distribution plan well under way, Ohioans, including businesses, governmental entities, and schools, are implementing responsible restart plans to resume daily activities and services. During the Stay-At-Home order that went into effect from March 23 through May 29, 2020, certain exceptions allowed individuals to leave their residence to work for or obtain essential services. This exception included all individuals licensed under our Board's Ohio Revised and Administrative Code Chapters 4744, 4747, and 4753. The Board received inquiries regarding whether or not in-person testing requirements for the dispensing of hearing aids were waived due to Ohio's Stay-At-Home order issued in response to the Coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19). The Board addressed this question in its special edition eNewsletter released in May 2020, clarifying that the measurement and testing of human hearing is a requirement for the fitting and sale of a hearing aid.

Even though the Stay-At-Home order is lifted and the vaccine is now available to all age groups between sixteen years of age and older, the Board would like to remind licensees that appropriate test procedures must continue to be followed. In Ohio, for an audiologist, the measurement and testing of human hearing by means of an audiometer or by any other means is a requirement for the purpose of selecting, adapting, and selling a hearing aid to any person. Best practice would include an otoscopic examination. For a hearing aid fitter, the rules specifically state the required hearing tests that shall be completed before recommending, selling or fitting of a hearing aid. A screening for hearing loss does not meet the Board's rules/requirements for selecting, adapting, and selling of a hearing aid.

Ohio Department of Education Issues Telehealth Guidelines For Service Providers

The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) issued telehealth guidelines for service providers, which includes school-based speech-language pathologists and educational audiologists. As ODE noted, "One of Ohio's top priorities is to support the mental health and well-being of all Ohio's students." The Board's school-based practitioners must hold an ODE Pupil Service License in order to deliver appropriate services to students with disabilities. During the spring 2020 ordered school-building closure period as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, schools remotely supported continued learning and related services virtually when feasible. As schools reopen, whether remote, in-person, or using a hybrid approach, school-based practitioners will face important considerations when providing related services via telehealth to meet students' needs. The Board addresses telehealth communication for audiologists and speech-language pathologists under [Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 4753-2](#). ODE's telehealth guidelines addresses other important considerations for school-based practitioners, such as permission forms, telehealth platforms, privacy and confidentiality considerations, to name just a few. ODE has addressed these considerations in the form of FAQs, which the Board urges all school-based practitioners to review at the following link: <http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Reset-and-Restart/Telehealth-Guidelines-for-Service-Providers>. You will also find related resources addressing [Students with Disabilities Guidance](#), [Additional Considerations for Special Education](#), and [Students with Disabilities Compendium of Resources](#).

Ohio Speech and Hearing Professionals Board

Board Operations During COVID-19

Board Operations

All staff and operations of the licensure board will be available remotely. Licensure applications will continue to be processed 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.

Update for Spring and Summer Graduates

ETS - Praxis Exam

Individuals graduating from the university programs who intend to practice in Ohio should submit their application to the Board approximately 4-6 weeks prior to their graduation date. ETS offers candidates alternative options to take the exam remotely. Applicants who have not yet taken their PRAXIS exam should contact ETS directly for further information.

Criminal Background Checks

The Ohio Attorney General's Office oversees the FBI and BCI criminal background check that is required for initial licensure. Web-check entities, such as police departments, county sheriff's office, and authorized web-check entities are not closed, but operating under reduced hours due to COVID-19. We recommend that applicants visit the Ohio Attorney General's website for information on locating an authorized web-check vendor in their area at:

<https://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Business/Services-for-Business/WebCheck/Webcheck-Community-Listing>

The Attorney General's Office is recommending that applicants call ahead before traveling to any location to verify they are providing fingerprinting services. Many web-check locations are open but observing limited hours and have specific restrictions in order to adhere to social distancing requirements. If you cannot find a location in your county, you may find better results by calling an authorized web-check entity in a surrounding county.

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

Complaints should be submitted through the complaint portal in the eLicense Ohio license management system at: https://elicense.ohio.gov/oh_filecomplaint.

Ohio Speech and Hearing Professionals Board

COVID-19 Updates and Resources

Visit: <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/> or call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH 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 and the vaccine distribution plan:

Ohio Speech and Hearing Professionals Board (SHP)

- SHP Website: <https://www.shp.ohio.gov>
- 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/
- ODH Twitter: 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>
- ODE's Telehealth Guidelines for Service Providers: <http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Student-Supports/Coronavirus/Telehealth-Guidelines-for-Service-Providers>

Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD)

- DODD COVID-19 Guidance and Resources: <https://ohioearlyintervention.org/covid-19>

Ohio Department of Medicaid

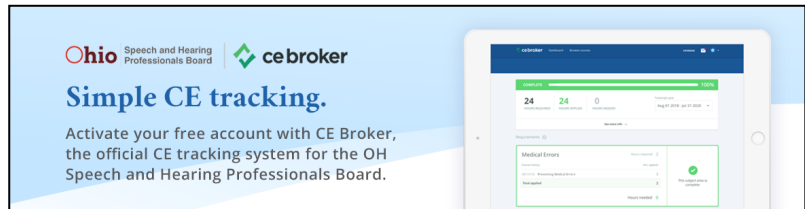
- Ohio Department of Medicaid's COVID-19 Resources: <https://www.medicaid.ohio.gov/COVID>

Ohio Speech and Hearing Professionals Board

CE Broker - Sign-up Today!

[CE Broker](#) is the official CE tracking system of the Ohio Speech and Hearing Professionals Board. You will never have to pay for a CE Broker Basic Account. However, licensees do

have the option to subscribe to an upgraded account, which offers additional CE tracking tools. Please visit the Board's website at <https://shp.ohio.gov/continuing-education> to learn more.



HOW TO ACTIVATE YOUR FREE CE BROKER ACCOUNT?

1. Visit www.cebroke.com/oh/plans
2. Select the Basic Account option
3. Enter your license number and get started tracking your continuing education!

Comprehensive Course Search

The [CE Broker Course Search](#) helps you find every course you need to complete your license renewal. To find courses, visit courses.cebroke.com/search/oh and select your profession.

Helpful Support Center

CE Broker's dedicated support center is available 8AM-8PM ET Monday - Friday with a team of experts trained on the rules and regulations of the Ohio Speech and Hearing Professionals Board. Reach them by phone at 877-434-6323 or via [email and live chat](#).

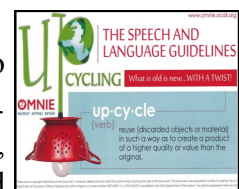
Benefits of using CE Broker

- 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
- Bring CE compliance wherever you go with the CE Broker mobile app. Available on iPhone and Android from the [App Store](#) or [Google Play](#).

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—2021



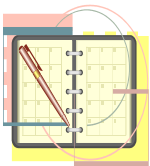
May 1
May 6
May 12
May 15
May 24

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



June 1
June 15
June 21
July 1
July 4

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



August 1
August 4
August 15
September 1
September 4
September 15
October 1

Application Review and Approval
Application Review and Approval
Board and Committee Meetings
Application Review and Approval
Application Review and Approval
State Holiday - Labor Day - Board Office Closed
Application Review and Approval
Application Review and Approval



Reminder—licenses covered under HB 404 expire on July 1, 2021.

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 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 and updates from the Board about Ohio’s preparedness to COVID-19?

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.