



THE OHIO BOARD OF SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY

NEWSLETTER

MAY 2004

MESSAGE FROM

Jane Kukula, AuD
Board Chairperson

I want to take this opportunity to welcome new Board Member Susan O'Brien. She has attended her first two Board and meetings and we are pleased to have her participation. Her appointment brings us back to a full Board. We have had many changes including personnel, proposed rule changes and the coming of on-line license renewal. We are pleased with the changes in staff, upgrade of systems and new office procedures. The office has become more user friendly and we anticipate the regulatory process becoming even smoother.

There have been recent changes affecting renewal. First, hopefully everyone is aware this is a renewal year and that renewal and continuing education are due **December 31, 2004**. The **change in renewal date to September 30 takes effect in 2006**. At that time both renewal and continuing education will be due on September 30. To qualify for renewal, continuing education must be obtained between October 1, 2004 and September 30, 2006. Continuing education obtained between October 1, 2004 and December 31, 2004 can be applied to renewal in 2004 or 2006 but not to both. Your license will remain current from January 1 of odd years to December 31 of even years.

As you know, Ohio is experiencing daunting fiscal challenges. The Board and Board staff have kept expenditures within budget. We strive to keep costs down and are pleased that there is no increase renewal fees. The bad news is that we will be increasing the **fee for late renewal to \$150.00**. Please renew early or at least on time!

If you have any questions regarding these changes please contact the Board office.

Lastly, I want to extend my thanks to the OSLHA convention committee for accommodating the Board at their recent annual meeting. The Board held a meeting at the OSLHA convention in order to further familiarize licensees with its function. Further, the Board presented on Friday afternoon on licensure and ethics. The presentation included discussion of current issues in licensure. The Board always appreciates the opportunity to meet with licensees to discuss issues and receive comments. We are looking forward to hearing comments on the proposed rule changes.

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BOARD APPOINTMENT

Governor Bob Taft recently appointed Susan G. O'Brien to serve as a Public Member of the Board. Susan is a Columbus resident. She joins Patricia Zurlinden, M.A. and Davida Parsons, M.A. who were newly appointed in January 2004. All three are serving their first year of their first term.

2004 RULES

Proposed changes in the Rules (Administrative Code 4753) for the Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology will be filed in May. Significant changes have been proposed in **Professional experience requirements for licensure** (4753-3-07) and the **Code of ethics** (4753-9-01) along with changes in license application process and late renewal fees.

Please check our website slpaud.ohio.gov for notices of Public Hearings (in June) and detailed publication of the proposed rule changes.

LICENSE DATA SYSTEM UPDATE

The Board recently completed phase I of the new **E License** web based system. This system will eventually cover all licensed individuals in the state of Ohio. Currently seven licensing Boards are operational on the website license.ohio.gov/lookup. Visit this website and look up your license on line.

Phase II of the **E-License** system will provide our licensed professionals electronic access to their file. Additionally, we will be offering **On Line License Renewal for 2004** on this system. Details on these upgrades will be published in our Summer Newsletter and in the 2004 Renewal notices.

SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS PERFORMING HEARING SCREENINGS

The Board has received several inquiries into the scope of practice for speech pathologists in the area of hearing screening. Speech-language pathologists can perform pure tone air conduction screening, acoustic reflex screening, and tympanometry screening limited to a pass/fail determination for the identification of individuals with other disorders of communication. "Pure tone air conduction screening" means a pass/fail procedure performed at 20 dB HL at the frequencies of 1000, 2000, and 4000 Hz. Verbal or written indications or descriptive statements about the results of a screening shall be limited to whether the individual passed or failed the screening procedure. For more information on audiologic screenings, see Ohio Administrative Code 4753-6-01 posted on our website www.slpaud.ohio.gov under Laws and Rules.

FREE CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS

The **National Center for Speech-language Pathology in Schools** has developed a website that features multiple resources for speech pathologists. A main feature of the website is the **FREE ASHA Approved CEUs**. The web address is www.uc.edu/ncslps/project/freeceu.htm. This is the result of a project undertaken by the University of Cincinnati and Miami University team comprised of Wayne Secord, Ph.D., Nancy A. Creaghead, Ph.D., Ann Glaser, M.S., Linda Wellman, M.A., Jo-Anne Prendeville, Ed.D., and Stacy L. Williams, M.A.

SCHOOL BASED SPEECH PATHOLOGISTS

Are your district's speech pathologist and audiologist licensed with the Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology? They should be. Beginning January 1, 2002 the law required speech pathologist and audiologist employed by public schools to be licensed through the Ohio Board. This license is required in addition to the Ohio Department of Education Teaching Certificate and must be obtained before the individual begins practicing. The board has seen numerous cases in which a school-based speech pathologist is practicing unlicensed. If your school board or superintendent has any questions, they can contact the Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology at (614) 466-3145 or visit our web site at <http://slpaud.ohio.gov>

NEWSLETTER MAILING

This is the last Newsletter that will be routinely sent to our licensees. Newsletters will be posted on the Board's website, www.slpaud.ohio.gov in the future. If you would like to be mailed future newsletters, write the Board at:

Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

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