



# Spring Quarter eNewsletter

## Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

### Board Members:

#### Chairperson:

Amy Thorpe Wiley, M.Ed., CCC-SLP

#### Vice Chairperson:

Karen K. Mitchell, Au.D.

Tammy H. Brown, M.A., CCC-A, ABA, FAAA

Lisa A. Froehlich, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

Linda L. Wellman, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

Helen L. Mayle, Public Member

### Message from the Board Chairperson

I would like to extend a warm welcome to everyone receiving this edition of the Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (OBSLPA) eNewsletter. As many of you know, May is Better Hearing and Speech Month – a time to raise awareness about communications disorders and benefits from early intervention. I would like to encourage our licensees to spread the word that communication disorders are treatable. For this edition, we have information regarding an upcoming program for continuing education. Also, be sure to check out two human interest stories, which we strive to include for our consumers and

employers who receive our eNewsletter as well. We have important updates regarding the new ICD-10 implementation, as well as the National Provider Identifier Numbers, recently announced by Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Finally, we have information regarding licensure renewal for the upcoming 2015-2016 practice biennium, which begins on January 1, 2015. This is an excellent time to review your continuing education hours and also sign-up with CE Broker to report your hours and be exempt from a continuing education audit. More details about the licensure renewal process will be featured in

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### Message from the Executive Director

I would like to welcome everyone to this spring edition of the Board’s eNewsletter. We have some exciting news and important licensure updates inside this edition. The Board’s eNewsletter is prepared to cover topics of interest to licensees,

consumers, and those who employ speech-language pathologists and audiologists. May is Better Hearing and Speech Month. We’ve included information and resources to assist with raising awareness about communication disorders.

(Continued on Page 2)



## Message from the Board Chairperson

(continued from page 1)

future editions of our eNewsletter later this year and on the Board’s website by September.

We encourage and invite your feedback. If there is a specific topic or question you would like us to address in a future edition, please feel free to let us know by e-mailing the Board at: Board@slpauld.ohio.gov

Thank you,  
Amy Thorpe Wiley, M.Ed., CCC-SLP

## Message from the Executive Director

(continued from page 1)

We also have important licensure updates regarding new continuing education requirements taking effect on January 1, 2015, licensure renewal, and CE Broker, the Board’s official continuing education tracking system. The positive feedback for CE Broker, in terms of its ease of use and benefits, is overwhelming. If you have not signed up for an account to begin reporting your continuing education hours for the 2013-2014 practice biennium, there is still time to do so and be exempt from a continuing education audit. Information on how to register with CE Broker is featured in this edition. Finally, online licensure renewal for the 2015-2016 practice biennium will be available, beginning in September. Be sure to check out the complete details about licensure renewal inside this edition. If there are any questions, feedback, or concerns, please feel free to contact me directly at gregg.thornton@slpauld.ohio.gov.

Thank you,  
Gregg B. Thornton, Esq.

## Important Information

### Has your contact information changed?

You may submit a written request to update your contact information at board@slpauld.ohio.gov. Please include your license number. You may also update your information at any time using your assigned User ID/Password.

All licensees are required to notify the Board in writing of any change of name, place of business, or mailing address within thirty days of said change per OAC section 4753-3-03.

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### Board’s Contact Information

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E-mail: board@slpauld.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.slpauld.ohio.gov for the latest updates and information.

## Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

### Licensure Renewal 2014 - Update

#### Licensure Renewal Available in September

The Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology would like to remind licensees that all active speech-language pathology and audiology licenses expire on December 31, 2014, at midnight, and must be renewed prior to January 1, 2015, to avoid a late fee of \$150.00. The renewal fee for a speech-language pathology or audiology license will be \$120.00. The renewal fee for dual license holders will be \$170.00. The renewal fee for aides will be \$50.00.

The Board will mail renewal notification letters to all licensees by September 2014. We strongly encourage licensees to continue to renew their license online through our secure website. The online licensure renewal website will be available in September. Online renewal will not be available for dual license holders and aides.

Licensed speech-language pathologists or audiologists are required to earn twenty hours of continuing education between January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2014. At least ten continuing education hours shall be acquired in the area of licensure. For a speech-language pathology license the ten hours shall be specific to the clinical practice of speech-language pathology; for an audiology license the ten hours shall be specific to the clinical practice of audiology. Ten continuing education hours may be acquired in areas related to speech-language pathology or audiology or both.

An individual licensed as both an audiologist and speech-language pathologist shall earn twenty continuing education hours for each license within the two-year licensure period immediately preceding the licensee's renewal application. Appropriate continuing education hours may be used for both licenses. Ten continuing education hours shall be acquired in each area of licensure. Please note that the two hour ethics requirement is not effective until January 1, 2015 for the 2015-2016 practice biennium. Ethics is not required for this current practice biennium. We will have more information about the ethics requirement in a future newsletter edition.

A licensee is not required to obtain continuing education for their first renewal. Please refer to the continuing education requirements under Ohio Administrative Code section 4753-4-01 for more information. <http://codes.ohio.gov/oac/4753-4>

The Board would like to take this opportunity to remind licensees that anyone interested in placing their license in 'Inactive Status' must submit an application during the renewal period. The application fee for inactive status is \$25.00. The application will be available to download from our website in September. A license holder currently in inactive status must submit a new application and a fee of \$25.00 during this biennial renewal to remain inactive. (Continued, next page)

#### Licensure Statistics

As of May 8, 2014

Audiologists:	942
Speech-Language Pathologists:	6691
Dual Licensees (SLP & AUD):	40
Conditional Licensees:	311
Student Permits:	0
SLP Aides:	10
AUD Aides:	63
Inactive Speech-Language Path.:	156
Inactive Audiology:	26
<b>Total Licenses:</b>	<b>8,239</b>



## Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

### Licensure Renewal 2014 - Update (Continued)

Additionally, all licensees will be asked to update their practice setting on the renewal application. The Board will continue to utilize this information to track shortages in specific practice settings across Ohio and share that information with stakeholders.

Finally, please ensure that your contact information is current. If you changed your mailing address, e-mail address, or name since the last renewal in 2012, please take a moment to submit your updated information in writing to [board@slpaud.ohio.gov](mailto:board@slpaud.ohio.gov). You may also update your contact information using your user ID/password at any time at the following link on our website: <http://slpaud.ohio.gov/changes.stm>. If you do not have your assigned user ID/password, please submit a written request to the Board office via mail, fax or e-mail. Updating your contact information will ensure that you receive renewal notices in a timely manner. We look forward to renewing your license beginning in September.

### May is Better Hearing and Speech Month

Every May across the country is designated Better Hearing and Speech month. In 2012, Ohio passed a law officially recognizing the month of May to raise awareness about communication disorders and benefits of early intervention. The theme for this year is “Communication disorders are treatable.” There is a wealth of information and resources available via the Internet to learn about recognizing the signs of communication disorders. Visit these websites to learn more:

American Speech-Language Hearing Association  
<http://www.asha.org/bhsm/>

American Academy of Audiology  
<http://www.audiology.org/resources/consumer/BHM/Pages/default.aspx>

Key word search: “Better Hearing and Speech Month”



### National Provider Identifier Numbers Required - Update

The Board was informed that due to federal changes to conform with standardization of transactions reported under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), school based speech-language pathologists and educational audiologists must apply for a National Provider Identifier (NPI) number. The NPI is provided by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). The Ohio Department of Education Medicaid School Program (MSP) coordinates the federal Medicaid matching funding for specific direct services occurring in school districts. The MSP program is coordinated jointly with the Ohio Department of Medicaid (formerly Department of Job and Family Services). The NPI is a 10-position, intelligence-free numeric identifier (10-digit number). Intelligence-free means the number does not carry





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## Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

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### **New Public Member Appointed to Board**

On March 28, 2014, public board member Elizabeth Tracy resigned her position on the board. Ms. Tracy was appointed to serve as a board member on the Ohio Ethics Commission. At the May 8 board meeting, Board Chairperson Amy Thorpe Wiley thanked Ms. Tracy for her service on the board, as well as her dedication and public member perspective. Ms. Thorpe Wiley welcomed Mrs. Helen Mayle, whom Governor John R. Kasich appointed to complete the remainder of Ms. Tracy's term, which will end on September 26, 2016. Mrs. Mayle has been a resident of Pickerington since 1990, and was appointed President of the Pickerington Area Chamber of Commerce (PACC) in 2004. As President of PACC, Mrs. Mayle has worked with Senator Schaffer and Representative Stebleton to organize several Economic Development and Education Summits, and with a focus on local business community she has organized many successful events to feature local businesses.

A founding member of the Pickerington Violet Festival, Fairfield County 33 Development Alliance, Pickerington's Relay for Life and the Olde Pickerington Village Business Association (OPVBA); Mrs. Mayle and her family have been long time supporters of the community and fund raisers for The American Cancer Society (ACS), with Mrs. Mayle serving as an Ambassador traveling to Washington DC to represent ACS. Also, Mrs. Mayle was the first Pickerington business women to receive the prestigious ATHENA award.

Mrs. Mayle and her husband David have been blessed with three extraordinary children and three exceptional grandchildren. Mrs. Mayle enjoys her week-end adventures with her children and grandchildren that include exploring our great State of Ohio.

Board Chairperson Amy Thorpe Wiley stated that the Board is looking forward to Mrs. Mayle serving on the Board.

### **Third Grade Reading Guarantee for Students with Disabilities FAQ Posted**

The Ohio Department of Education – Office for Exceptional Children recently posted Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) regarding the Third Grade Reading Guarantee for students with disabilities. If you practice in a school setting, be sure to check out these links to valuable information and resources:

[Students with Disabilities and the Third Grade Reading Guarantee FAQ](#)

[Third Grade Reading Guarantee Guidance for Students with Disabilities Web Page](#)



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## Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

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### Hearing Loss Conference 2014 Announced

Nationwide Children's Hospital Hearing program presents:

“What the Pediatric Provider Needs to Know about Hearing Loss”

**Nationwide Children's Hospital  
August 1, 2014**

Goal: To present information to the general provider about the process of early identification of hearing loss in children, appropriate evaluation and interventions by pediatric hearing specialists, and provide resources and methods to empower children with hearing loss to achieve their highest potential.

Learning objectives:

- Describe the integral role that a primary care provider has in caring for children with hearing loss.
- Review the rationale for and process of early identification of hearing loss in children.
- Identify the roles played by specialists involved in the evaluation of a child after identification of hearing loss.
- Become familiar with the interventions that can help children with hearing loss achieve their highest potential.
- Learn about available resources, and how best to advocate for children with hearing loss.

Target audience: Pediatricians, Family Physicians, Allied Health Professionals, Medical Students, Residents, Audiology Students, and any providers (e.g., Help Me Grow, county and state providers) who have an interest in pediatric hearing loss or who take care of children with hearing loss. Audiologists, Otolaryngologists, Speech-Language Pathologists and other specialists are welcome to attend as well.

Gap Analysis:

After the implementation of universal newborn hearing screening, more than half of newborns with positive screens are lost to follow up and are at risk of delayed diagnosis of hearing loss.

*Ref: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. MMWR Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report. March 5, 2010 / 59(08); 220-223. Identifying Infants with Hearing Loss — United States, 1999–2007. Available at: [http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/hearingloss/documents/EHDI\\_MMWR\\_2010.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/hearingloss/documents/EHDI_MMWR_2010.pdf)*

While pediatricians identify themselves as the medical home for children with hearing loss, less than half agree that they are well informed of services and paths for follow up for these children and less than half regularly coordinate care.

*Ref: Medical Home for Children With Hearing Loss: Physician Perspectives and Practices. Carol Dorros, Ellen Kurtzer-White, Marianne Ahlgren, Peter Simon and Betty Vohr. Pediatrics 2007; 120; 288*

The complete conference program may be viewed on our website at: <http://slpaud.ohio.gov/ceprog.stm>



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## Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

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### **University of Akron Admits Five Men into Graduate Level Communication Disorders Program**

By Jeffrey Brewer

Ryan Holmes has plenty of experience breaking through doors.

Stationed in Iraq in 2004, Holmes assisted his platoon in house-to-house searches during Operation Iraqi Freedom 2.

Now, as a first-year graduate student in the University of Akron's School of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, Holmes and four other men are breaking through stereotypical barriers as the largest group of males ever to enroll in the same year in the traditionally female-dominated program.

"I guess I'll need to change my dress code speech," clinic director Andrea Brewer said.

Brewer and her colleagues are thrilled to see such a capable group of men integrate their program.

According to the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), less than four percent of industry professionals are male.

"We are so pleased to have five wonderful young men in our graduate program this year. The male perspective in the classroom is a welcome addition to class discussions and projects," said School Director Dr. Roberta DePompei.

On the advice of a friend, who received both her Bachelor's and Master's degrees from UA in Speech-Language Pathology, Holmes came to UA as a non-traditional undergraduate student.

Tricia Kline Halenar '05, '07 pointed the U.S. Army veteran in the direction of the Polsky Building five years ago. His career ambition is to assist former soldiers in a VA or military hospital setting. Holmes had worked for Brinks security in Akron and was considering a career in law enforcement or fire protection before acting on his friend's suggestion.

Each man brings an interesting and varied background into the program.

Joseph Holodnak is from North Royalton, Ohio, and completed his undergraduate degree at Ohio University.

"There was something about brain injury that fascinated me," he said.

A shadow experience while in high school piqued his interest in the profession. Holodnak enjoys snowboarding and does so he said, "With a helmet!"



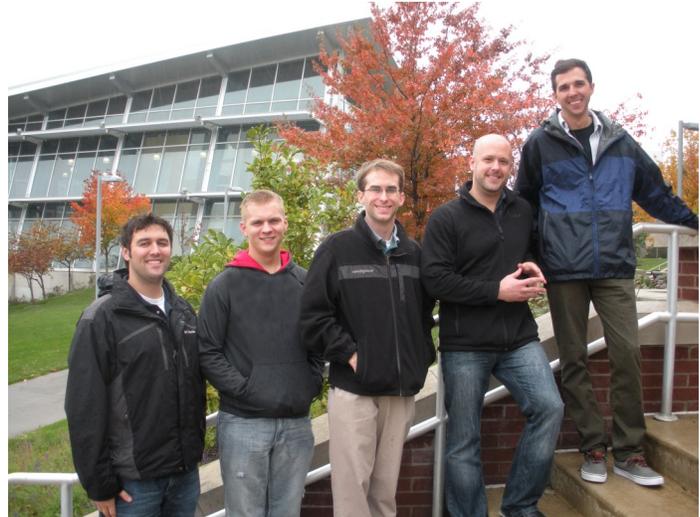
## Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

### University of Akron Admits Five Men into Graduate Level Communication Disorders Program (Continued)

Pittsburgh, Pa., native Mitchell Warmbein earned his Bachelor's degree in vocal performance at Otterbein University. He has sung with the Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh and sees professional voice rehabilitation as a specialized interest.

Like father, like son. Paul Sabo was introduced to the profession by his father, a speech-language pathologist, and now envisions working with a geriatric population. He is a UA graduate from Hiram, Ohio.

Formerly a speech-language aide for two Burlington, Vt., middle schools, Johnathan Merwin hails from Massillon, Ohio, and is fascinated by the science of communication. He graduated from the University of Pittsburgh.



Left to right: Johnathan Merwin, Paul Sabo, Mitchell Warmbein, Ryan Holmes, and Joseph Holodnak.

The licensure board was delighted to receive this news from the University of Akron. We invite other university programs to share similar stories with us for publication in our eNewsletter. This particular story, which noted that Ryan Holmes is a military veteran, underscores the Board's commitment to streamlining its application process for military veterans and their spouses, pursuant to Governor Kasich's Executive Order 2013-05. Legislation is also pending under HB488. We will have more updates to share regarding this important initiative in a future eNewsletter edition.



## Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

### Licensed Audiologist Will Be Ohio's 6th to Serve American Academy of Audiology as New President

The Board wishes to congratulate Ohio licensed audiologist, Erin Miller, Au.D., on recently being elected to serve as president of the American Academy of Audiology (AAA). Dr. Miller served as the chair of the Ohio Speech and Hearing Governmental Affairs Coalition, which has collaborated with the Board on several statewide initiatives, such as inactive licensure. The Board has also given licensure presentations to many of Dr. Miller's students over the years, at the University of Akron, where she serves as a clinical faculty member and coordinator of the university's hearing aid dispensary.



Dr. Erin Miller, Au.D.

The American Academy of Audiology describes itself on its website as "the world's largest professional organization of, by, and for audiologists ... dedicated to providing quality hearing care services through professional development, education, research, and increased public awareness of hearing and balance disorders." Because the Board requires all licensees to practice within established standards of practice and training recognized by AAA, as well as the American Speech-Language Hearing Association – see board rule 4753-9-01(A)(5), the Board maintains professional relationships with these organizations as part of its mission to ensure consumer protection.

Dr. Miller, now serving a third year on the academy's board of directors, will act as president-elect from July 2013 to June 2014 and begin her yearlong presidency in July 2014. As she embarks upon her presidency, we asked Dr. Miller what steps audiologists can take to advance the profession of audiology in Ohio and nationally. The Board believes that a strong audiology profession protects consumers, and it is our pleasure to present what Dr. Miller had to say:

After 26 years in clinical practice I feel very fortunate to have chosen a profession that excites me today as much as it did when I first graduated. My continued satisfaction is not only related to patient interactions, and their success, but to the professional volunteerism I have immersed myself in for more than a decade. My enthusiasm for all things political made legislative and regulatory matters a good fit for my volunteer activities. I became involved in work at both the state and national level on legislative issues that impact the profession of audiology. Perhaps this isn't your interest, but there are so many other ways to become involved at both the state and national level. Volunteer to be on a committee that plans a continuing education event, provide your clinical expertise by commenting on a practice guideline, and yes, even run for a position on the board of your state or national association. We are a small profession and everyone must do their part to advance the profession of audiology.

As a clinical instructor for the Northeast Ohio Au.D. Consortium, I remind my students that there will be times in your lives when you can become more active professionally and times when family obligations will need to take precedence. At a minimum, every practicing audiologist (or for that matter, speech language pathologist) should belong to both their state AND national association. Why both? Our national associations set the stage for our scope of practice, provide clinical guidelines, advocate on Capitol Hill, fight for increased, or in this economic climate at least no reductions to reimbursement, and so much more. Our state academies must remain vigilant to protect our scope of practice; they work with our licensure board to ensure consumers are protected and our professional standards are updated and they provide a local resource for quality continuing education. There are so many opportunities for each of you to become part of the solution to advance the profession of audiology here in Ohio and nationally. *(Continued on next page)*



## Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

### Licensed Audiologist Will Be Ohio's 6th to Serve American Academy of Audiology as New President (Continued)

So here's your action plan. First, be a member of your state and national association. Second, when a call to action is made to send an email to your state legislator or Member of Congress to support an initiative, take a few minutes and send the email! It really does make a difference. Senator Sherrod Brown is sponsoring S. 2046, the Access to Hearing Healthcare Act of 2014, this congressional session because Ohio audiologists, in particular those attending the Ohio Audiology Conference, signed 100's of letters seeking his support. Our elected officials listen, but they want to hear from constituents! That's you...our associations can only do so much without your involvement. Third, attend the annual Legislative Reception hosted by the Ohio Speech and Hearing Governmental Affairs Coalition. This is your opportunity to connect with your Ohio representatives or members of their staff and talk about the issues that impact the profession. And the final step in the action plan, set aside some time to volunteer for your state or national organization. You will reap more rewards than what you give! Wishing each of my fellow audiologists in Ohio, and my colleagues in speech-language pathology, much success in the coming year and every year.

#### Ohio Audiologists\* Elected President of AAA

Robert Keith, 1994-1995  
Carol Flexer, 1995-1996  
Robert Glaser, 1999-2000  
Gail Whitelaw, 2005  
Kristina English, 2009  
Erin Miller, 2014

There have been 24 presidents of AAA since its founding in 1988; six currently hold active\* audiology licensure in Ohio. The term of office is one year.

Source: American Academy of Audiology website at: <http://www.audiology.org/about/leadership/boardofdirectors/Pages/presidents.aspx>

### Board Announces Audiology Board Member Vacancy

The Governor's Office is currently accepting applications to fill an audiology board member vacancy. If you are an audiologist, who has been actively engaged in the practice of audiology for at least five years and are interested in serving on the board, a board member application may be submitted online directly to the Governor's Office by clicking on the following link:

[Boards and Commissions Application](#)

(The website address is: <http://governor.ohio.gov/Administration/BoardsandCommissions.aspx>)

Serving on the Board is an excellent way to serve your community and profession. If there are any questions about serving on the board, please feel free to contact the Board's Executive Director at: [gregg.thornton@slpaud.ohio.gov](mailto:gregg.thornton@slpaud.ohio.gov).



## Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

### Licenses Continue To Sign-up With CE Broker

CE Broker is the Board's Official Continuing Education Tracking System. The system was launched in January 2013. The continuing education tracking system will improve the random audit selection process. For example, the Board will exempt licensees from the continuing education audit who have reported their 20 hours to CE Broker. The most frequent question the Board receives is the following:

#### **Do I need CE Broker if I have already subscribe to a CE Registry, such as ASHA or AAA?**

The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) has partnered with CE Broker to transfer course credits (ASHA CEUs) to CE Broker on behalf of Ohio licensees who use the ASHA CE Registry. ASHA has notified their members about the steps to have continuing education hours obtained from ASHA approved CE providers transmitted to CE Broker. Rest assured that all ASHA CEUs earned by Ohio licensees on or after 01/01/2013 will be submitted to CE Broker.

The American Academy of Audiology will only submit Academy courses to CE Broker upon request of the member. You need to be a current Academy member and email them your Ohio license number. For Academy approved courses offered by a third party (CE Providers) there is a \$5/course fee.

Please visit the Board's website at: <http://slpaud.ohio.gov/cebroke.htm> for additional details and to sign-up.

#### *Benefits of 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 in each category, i.e., specific to clinical practice and related*
- *Exemption from continuing education audit*

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

Creating an account only takes a few minutes. Click on the CE Broker link below to register.

[CE Broker](#)



## OBSLPA SPRING/SUMMER CALENDAR—2014



May 1  
**May 8**  
**May 8**  
 May 15  
**May 26**  
**May 27**

Application Review and Approval  
**Board & Committee Meetings**  
**Documents Received Deadline for Next Review**  
 Application Review and Approval  
**State Holiday - Memorial Day - Board Office Closed**  
**Documents Received Deadline for Next Review**



June 2  
**June 9**  
 June 16  
**June 24**  
**June 24**

Application Review and Approval  
**Documents Received Deadline for Next Review**  
 Application Review and Approval  
**Documents Received Deadline for Next Review**  
**Board & Committee Meetings**



July 1  
**July 4**  
**July 8**  
 July 15  
**July 25**

Application Review and Approval  
**State Holiday - Independence Day - Board Office Closed**  
**Documents Received Deadline for Next Review**  
 Application Review and Approval  
**Documents Received Deadline for Next Review**



August 1  
**August 8**  
**August 15**  
 August 15

Application Review and Approval  
**Documents Received Deadline for Next Review**  
**Board & Committee Meetings**  
 Application Review and Approval

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

Please visit the Board’s website at [www.slpaud.ohio.gov](http://www.slpaud.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.



**I work in a school setting. Can I see the same children in a private setting over the summer?**

Yes, under the following conditions:

- Person served professionally shall be fully informed of services available in both settings and given the option to choose whether and from whom they will obtain services;
- The costs associated with providing services from both settings shall be made clear;

- Practitioners accepting cases in a private setting from their primary place of employment shall inform the administrator at their primary employment setting of the intent.

See Ohio Administrative Code section 4753-9-01(B)(1)(d)(i-ii)