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CATALOG YEAR 2009
(Please use separate form for each add/change)

COLLEGE/SCHOOL : College of Education

Current Catalog Page(s) Affected _____ New
Course: Add: _____ Delete: _____
(Check all that apply) Change: Number _____ Title _____ SCH _____
Description _____ Prerequisite _____

If new, provide Course Prefix, Number, Title, SCH Value, Description, prerequisite, and lecture/lab hours if applicable. If in current catalog, copy and paste the text from the on-line catalog and indicate changes in red.

Program: Add: X Change: _____ Attach new/changed Program of Study description and 4-year plan. If in current catalog, copy and paste the text from the on-line catalog and indicate changes in red.

Certificate: Assistant Speech-Language Pathologist
This course of study fulfills the requirements for the Assistant Speech-Language Pathologist License from the State of Texas. The course of study includes 24 academic credit hours and two practicum courses. All students entering this program must have a Baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university.

Supporting documentation is attached.

Minor: Add: _____ Delete: _____ Change: _____ Attach new/changed minor.
If in current catalog, copy and paste the text from the on-line catalog and indicate changes in red.

Faculty: Add: _____ Delete: _____ Change: _____ Attach new/changed faculty entry.
If in current catalog, copy and paste the text from the on-line catalog and indicate changes in red.

College Introductory Pages: Add information: _____ Change information: _____
Attach new/changed information. If in current catalog, copy and paste the text from the on-line catalog and indicate changes in red.

Approvals:

Signature

Date

Chair
Department Curriculum Committee

Alfredo Ramirez, Jr.

Digitally signed by Alfredo Ramirez, Jr.
DN: cn=Alfredo Ramirez, Jr., ou=Texas A&M International University, ou=Department of Professional Programs, email=aramirez@tamui.edu, c=US
Date: 2009.02.20 08:27:41 -0600

Chair

Alfredo Ramirez, Jr.

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Department

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College Curriculum Committee

Dean

Dr. Humberto Gonzalez

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Texas A&M International University
College of Education
Department of Professional Programs
5201 University Blvd
Laredo, Texas 78051

February 2, 2009

To: Humberto Gonzalez, PhD
Dean

From: Alan Seitel, PhD
Program in Communication Disorders

Subject: Request for authorization to issue the Certificate of Completion: Assistant in Speech-Language Pathology

1. The State of Texas (Statute 741.64 as Attachment A) issues the Assistant in Speech-Language Pathology license through the Board of Examiners in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology within the Texas Department of Health. That statute defines the minimal academic and clinical practicum requirements for that license. Those requirements include a baccalaureate degree and a minimum of 24 academic hours and 50 observation and practicum clock hours within specified minimum areas.
2. Since the inception of the Communication Disorders Program at TAMIU we have had a large number of students who have taken our courses to complete the qualifications for that license. At this time approximately half of our students fall within that classification. Unfortunately, we as a university have not formally acknowledged the completion of the course of study leading to the issuance of that license.
3. I would like to propose that we use the course of study in Attachment B as a certificate program and more formally acknowledge our students completion of this important program. All of the courses are currently offered and have been approved by the university curriculum committee.
4. This would also assist our students in obtaining financial aid, which many need to continue their enrollment at TAMIU.
5. Thank you very much for your consideration.

**Professional Certificate
Assistant Speech-Language Pathologist**

Requirements

1. Bachelor's Degree
2. Admission to the College of Education

Required Coursework*

CSDO 3305	Introduction to Communication Disorders	
CSDO 3313	Introduction to Audiology	
CSDO 3321	Anatomy and Physiology of the Speech Mechanism	
CSDO 3122	Observation in Speech-Language Pathology	26 SCH
CSDO 3126	Clinical Practice in Speech-Language Pathology	
CSDO 3325	Phonetics	
CSDO 4321	Articulatory and Phonological Disorders	
CSDO 4331	Speech and Hearing Science	
CSDO 4333	Normal Language Acquisition	
CSDO 4335	Language Disorders in Children and Adults	

TOTAL		26 SCH
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* Based on the student's background other courses may be recommended upon a transcript review.

Appendix A

§741.64. Requirements for an Assistant in Speech-Language Pathology License.

- (a) An applicant for an assistant in speech-language pathology license shall meet the requirements set out in the Act, and this section within 10 years of the date of application for the assistant license. The applicant for the assistant license must:
- (1) possess a baccalaureate degree with an emphasis in communicative sciences and disorders;
 - (2) have acquired no fewer than 24 semester hours in speech-language pathology and/or audiology, at least 18 of which must be in speech-language pathology core curriculum as follows:
 - (A) at least three semester hours in language disorders;
 - (B) at least three semester hours in speech disorders; and
 - (C) excludes clinical experience and course work such as special education, deaf education, or sign language; and
 - (3) have earned no fewer than 25 hours of clinical observation in the area of speech-language pathology and 25 hours of clinical assisting experience in the area of speech-language pathology obtained within an educational institution or in one of its cooperating programs or under the direct supervision at their place of employment.
- (b) The baccalaureate degree shall be completed at a college or university which has a program accredited by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Council on Academic Accreditation or holds accreditation or candidacy status from a recognized regional accrediting agency.
- (1) Original or certified copy of transcripts shall be submitted and reviewed as follows:
 - (A) only course work completed within the past 10 years with a grade of "C" or above is acceptable;
 - (B) a quarter hour of academic credit shall be considered as two-thirds of a semester credit hour; and
 - (C) academic courses, the titles of which are not self-explanatory, shall be substantiated through course descriptions in official school catalogs or bulletins or by other official means.
 - (2) In the event the course work and clinical experience set out in subsection (a) of this section were earned more than 10 years before the date of application for the assistant license, the applicant shall submit proof of current knowledge of the practice of speech-language pathology to be evaluated by the board's designee. Within 15 working days of receipt, the board's designee shall evaluate the documentation and shall either approve the application, request additional documentation, or require that additional coursework or continuing professional education be earned. If necessary, the applicant may reapply for the license when the requirements of this section are met.
- (c) An applicant who possesses a baccalaureate degree with a major that is not in communicative sciences and disorders may qualify for the assistant license. The board's designee shall evaluate transcripts on a case-by-case basis to ensure equivalent academic preparation and shall determine if the applicant satisfactorily completed 24 semester credit hours in communicative sciences or disorders which may include some leveling hours. Within 15 working days of receipt, the board's designee shall approve the application, request additional documentation, or require that additional coursework or continuing professional education be earned. If necessary, the applicant may reapply for the license when the requirements of this section are met.
- (d) Degrees and/or course work received at foreign universities shall be acceptable only if such course work and clinical practicum hours may be verified as meeting the requirements of subsection (a) of this section. The applicant must bear all expenses incurred during the procedure. The board's designee shall evaluate the documentation within 15 working days of receipt of all documentation, which shall include an original transcript and an original report from a credential evaluation services agency acceptable to the board.
- (e) An applicant who has not acquired the hours referenced in subsection (b)(3) of this section shall not meet the minimum qualifications for the assistant license. Other than acquiring the 25 hours of clinical observation and the 25 hours of clinical assisting experience through an accredited college or university, there are no other exemptions in the Act, for an applicant to acquire the hours. The applicant shall first obtain the assistant license by submitting the forms, fees, and documentation referenced in §741.112(e) of this title (relating to Required Application Materials) and include a clinical deficiency plan to acquire the clinical observation and clinical assisting experience hours lacking.
- (1) The licensed speech-language pathologist who will provide the assistant with the training to acquire these hours shall submit:

(A) the supervisory responsibility statement form; and
(B) a clinical deficiency plan that shall include the following:
(i) name and signature of the assistant;
(ii) name, qualifications, and signature of the licensed speech-language pathologist who will provide the training;
(iii) number of hours of observation and/or assisting experience lacking;
(iv) statement that the training shall be conducted under 100% direct, face-to-face supervision of the assistant; and
(v) list of training, consistent with subsection (h) of this section, that shall be completed.

(2) The board office shall evaluate the documentation and fees submitted to determine if the assistant license shall be issued. Additional information or revisions may be required before approval is granted.

(3) The clinical deficiency plan shall be completed within 60 days of the issue date of the license or the assistant shall be considered to have voluntarily surrendered the license.

(4) Immediately upon completion of the clinical deficiency plan, the trainer identified in the plan shall submit:

(A) a supervision log that verifies the specific times and dates in which the hours were acquired with a brief description of the training conducted during each session;

(B) a rating scale of the assistant's performance; and

(C) a signed statement that the assistant successfully completed the clinical observation and clinical assisting experience under his or her 100% direct, face-to-face supervision of the assistant. This statement shall specify the number of hours completed and verify completion of the training identified in the clinical deficiency plan.

(5) Board staff shall evaluate the documentation required in paragraph (4) of this subsection and inform the assistant and trainer if acceptable.

(6) An assistant may continue to practice under supervision of the trainer while the board office evaluates the documentation identified in paragraphs (4) of this subsection.

(7) In the event, another licensed speech-language pathologist shall supervise the assistant after completion of the clinical deficiency plan, a supervisory responsibility statement form shall be submitted to the board office seeking approval for the change in supervision. If the documentation required by paragraphs (4) of this subsection has not been received and approved by the board office, approval for the change in supervision shall not be granted.

(f) A supervisory responsibility statement form shall be completed and signed by both the applicant and the licensed speech-language pathologist who agrees to assume responsibility for all services provided by the assistant. The supervisor shall have practiced for at least three years and shall submit a signed statement verifying he or she has met this requirement. If the supervisor does not have the required experience, the supervisor shall submit a written request outlining the supervisor's qualifications and a justification for the request for an exception. The board's designee shall evaluate the request and approve or disapprove it within 15 working days of receipt by the board.

(1) Approval from the board office shall be required prior to practice by the assistant. The supervisor responsibility statement shall be submitted upon:

(A) application for a license;

(B) license renewal when there is a change in supervisor;

(C) other changes in supervision; and

(D) the addition of other supervisors.

(2) In the event more than one licensed speech-language pathologist agrees to supervise the assistant, the primary and secondary supervisor shall be identified on the supervisor responsibility statement.

(3) An assistant may renew the license if there is a change in supervision, but may not practice until a new supervisory responsibility statement form is approved.

(4) In the event the supervisor ceases supervision of the assistant, the supervisor shall notify the board, in writing, and shall inform the assistant to stop practicing immediately. The board shall hold the supervisor responsible for the practice of the assistant until written notification has been received in the board office.

(5) Should the assistant practice without approval from the board office, disciplinary action may be initiated against the assistant. If the supervisor had knowledge of this violation, disciplinary action against the supervisor may also be initiated.

(g) A licensed speech-language pathologist shall assign duties and provide appropriate supervision to the assistant.

- pathologist.
- (1) Initial diagnostic contacts shall be conducted by the supervising speech-language pathologist.
 - (2) Following the initial diagnostic contact, the supervising speech-language pathologist shall determine whether the assistant has the competence to perform specific duties before delegating tasks.
 - (3) Indirect methods of supervision may include audio and/or video tape recording, report review, telephone or electronic communication, or other means of reporting.
 - (4) The supervising speech-language pathologist shall provide a minimum of two hours per week of supervision, at least one hour of which is face-to-face supervision, at the location where the assistant is employed. This applies whether the assistant's practice is full or part-time.
 - (5) An exception to paragraph (3) of this subsection may be requested. The supervising speech-language pathologist shall submit a proposed plan of supervision for review by the board's designee. Within 15 working days of receipt of the request, the board's designee shall accept or reject the plan. The plan shall be for not more than one year's duration and shall include:
 - (A) the name of the assistant;
 - (B) the name and signature of the supervisor;
 - (C) the proposed plan of supervision;
 - (D) the exact time frame for the proposed plan;
 - (E) the length of time the assistant has been practicing under the requestor's supervision; and
 - (F) the reason the request is necessary.
 - (6) If the exception referenced in paragraph (5) of this subsection is approved and the reason continues to exist, the licensed supervising speech-language pathologist shall annually resubmit a request to be evaluated by the board's designee. Within 15 working days of receipt of the request, the board's designee shall approve or reject the plan.
 - (7) Supervisory records shall be maintained for a period of three years by the licensed speech-language pathologist that verify regularly scheduled monitoring, assessment, and evaluation of the assistant's and client's performance. Such documentation may be requested by the board.
 - (A) An assistant may conduct assessments which includes data collection, clinical observation and routine test administration if the assistant has been appropriately trained and the assessments are conducted under the direction of the supervisor. An assistant may not conduct a test if the test developer has specified that a graduate degreed examiner should conduct the test.
 - (B) An assistant may not conduct an evaluation which includes diagnostic testing and observation, test interpretation, diagnosis, decision making, statement of severity or implication, case selection or case load decisions.
 - (h) Although the licensed supervising speech-language pathologist may delegate specific clinical tasks to an assistant, the responsibility to the client for all services provided cannot be delegated. The licensed speech-language pathologist shall ensure that all services provided are in compliance with this chapter.
 - (1) The licensed supervising speech-language pathologist need not be present when the assistant is completing the assigned tasks; however, the licensed speech-language pathologist shall document all services provided and the supervision of the assistant.
 - (2) The licensed supervising speech-language pathologist shall keep job descriptions and performance records. Records shall be current and made available to the board within 30 days of the date of the board's request for such records.
 - (3) The assistant may execute specific components of the clinical speech, language, and/or hearing program if the licensed speech-language pathologist determines that the assistant has received the training and has the skill to accomplish that task, and the licensed speech-language pathologist provides sufficient supervision to ensure appropriate completion of the task assigned to the assistant.
 - (4) Examples of duties which an assistant may be assigned by the speech-language pathologist who agreed to accept responsibility for the services provided by the assistant, provided appropriate training has been received, are to:
 - (A) conduct or participate in speech, language, and/or hearing screening;
 - (B) implement the treatment program or the individual education plan (IEP) designed by the licensed speech-language pathologist;
 - (C) provide carry-over activities which are the therapeutically designed transfer of a newly acquired communication ability to other contexts and situations;
 - (D) collect data;

- (E) administer routine tests as defined by the board if the test developer does not specify a graduate degreed examiner and the supervisor has determined the assistant is competent to perform the test;
- (F) maintain clinical records;
- (G) prepare clinical materials; and
- (H) participate with the licensed speech-language pathologist in research projects, staff development, public relations programs, or similar activities as designated and supervised by the licensed speech-language pathologist.
- (i) A licensed speech-language pathology assistant may represent special education and speech pathology at Admission, Review and Dismissal (ARD) meetings with the following stipulations.
- (1) The speech-language pathology assistant shall have written documentation of approval from the licensed, board approved SLP supervisor.
- (2) The speech-language pathology assistant shall have three years experience as a speech pathology assistant in the school setting.
- (3) The speech-language pathology assistant may attend, with written approval of the supervising speech-language pathologist, a student's annual review ARD meeting if the meeting involves a student for whom the assistant provides services. If an assistant attends a meeting as provided by this rule, the supervising speech-language pathologist is not required to attend the meeting. A supervising speech-language pathologist must attend an ARD meeting if the purpose of the meeting is to develop a student's initial individual educational plan or if the meeting is to consider the student's dismissal, unless the supervising speech-language pathologist has submitted their recommendation in writing on or before the date of the meeting.
- (4) The speech-language pathology assistant shall present Individual Educational Plan (IEP) goals and objectives that have been developed by the supervising SLP and reviewed with the parent by the SLP.
- (5) The speech-language pathology assistant shall discontinue participation in the ARD meeting, and contact the supervising SLP, when questions or changes arise regarding the IEP Document.
- (j) The licensed, board approved supervisor of the assistant, prior to the ARD, shall:
- (1) notify the parents of students with speech impairments that services will be provided by an SLP assistant and that the SLP assistant will represent Speech Pathology at the ARD;
- (2) develop the student's new IEP goals and objective and review them with the SLP assistant;
- and
- (3) maintain undiminished responsibility for the services provided and the actions of the assistant.
- (k) The assistant shall not:
- (1) conduct evaluations, even under supervision, since this is a diagnostic and decision making activity;
- (2) interpret results of routine tests;
- (3) interpret observations or data into diagnostic statements, clinical management strategies, or procedures;
- (4) represent speech-language pathology at staff meetings or at an admission, review and dismissal (ARD), except as specified in this section;
- (5) attend staffing meeting or ARD without the supervisor being present except as specified in this section;
- (6) design or alter a treatment program or individual education plan (IEP);
- (7) determine case selection;
- (8) present written or oral reports of client information, except as provided by this section;
- (9) refer a client to other professionals or other agencies;
- (10) use any title which connotes the competency of a licensed speech-language pathologist;
- (11) practice as an assistant in speech-language pathology without a valid supervisory responsibility statement on file in the board office;
- (12) perform invasive procedures;
- (13) screen or diagnose clients for feeding and swallowing disorders;
- (14) use a checklist or tabulated results of feeding or swallowing evaluations;
- (15) demonstrate swallowing strategies or precautions to clients, family, or staff;
- (16) provide client or family counseling; or
- (17) write or sign any formal document relating to the provision of speech-language pathology services (e.g., treatment plans, diagnostic reports, reimbursement forms).

(l) In any professional context the licensee must indicate the licensee status as a speech-language pathology assistant.

(m) The board may audit a random sampling of licensed assistants for compliance with this section and §741.44 of this title (relating to Requirements, Duties, and Responsibilities of Supervisors).

(1) The board shall notify an assistant and supervisor by mail that he or she has been selected for an audit.

(2) Upon receipt of an audit notification, the assistant and the licensed speech-language pathologist who agreed to accept responsibility for the services provided by the assistant shall mail the requested proof of compliance to the board.

(3) A licensee and supervisor shall comply with the board's request for documentation and information concerning compliance with the audit.

§741.65. Requirements for a Temporary Certificate of Registration in Speech-Language Pathology.

(a) An applicant for a temporary certificate of registration in speech-language pathology shall meet the requirements of the Act and §741.61(a)-(d) of this title (relating to Requirements for a Speech-Language Pathology License).

(b) If issued, this certificate entitles an applicant approved for examination as required by §741.121 of this title (relating to Examination Administration) to practice speech-language pathology under supervision of an approved speech-language pathologist for a period of time ending eight weeks after the next scheduled examination.

(c) A temporary certificate of registration is not renewable.