

**Louisiana Board of Examiners for
Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology**

May 24, 2024

Attending:

**Jerrilyn Frasier Vaughan, L-AUD/SLP, Chairperson
Deanna B. Hardy, Public Board Member, Vice Chairperson
Courtney Cheek Couvillon, L-SLP, Secretary/Treasurer
Celeste R. Parker, L-SLP, Board Member**

Absent:

**Erica A. Chatelain, L-SLP, Board Member
Annette E. Hurley, L-AUD, Board Member**

Board's Mission Statement:

The Board exists because the legislature declared that "in order to safeguard the public health, safety, and welfare, to protect the public from incompetent, unscrupulous, and unauthorized persons, and from unprofessional conduct by speech-language pathologists, audiologists, and speech-language pathology assistants, it is necessary to provide regulatory authority over persons offering speech-language pathology and audiology services to the public."

The board meeting was called to order and the mission statement was read by Jerrilyn Frasier Vaughan at 7:36 a.m. in the conference room of the Board office, located in Prairieville, Louisiana. Jolie Jones, Executive Director, was present for the entirety of the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

No one was present to provide public comment.

AGENDA:

Motion was made by Courtney Cheek Couvillon, seconded by Celeste Parker and unanimously carried, to adopt the agenda as amended to add e. KM to Review of Applications in Executive Session and LAA Sponsorship Request to Conferences.

MINUTES:

1. Minutes of April 19, 2024

Motion was made by Deanna Hardy, seconded by Celeste Parker and unanimously carried, to adopt the minutes of the meeting held February 2, 2024.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion was made by Courtney Cheek Couvillon, seconded by Deanna Hardy and unanimously carried, to go into Executive Session at 7:37 a.m. for the following reasons:

to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of a person, provided that such person is notified in writing at least twenty-four hours before the meeting, and

for investigative proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct or any other matter now provided for or as may be provided for by the legislature.

Votes for going into Executive Session: Deanna Hardy, yes; Celeste Parker, yes; Courtney Cheek Couvillon.

Motion was made by Celeste Parker, seconded by Courtney Cheek Couvillon and unanimously carried to come out of executive session at 8:07 a.m. and make the following motions:

1. Review of New Complaint(s)

No new complaints were received since the last board meeting.

2. Review of Pending Complaints

a. Complaint #2024-03

Motion was made by Deanna Hardy, seconded by Jerrilyn Frasier Vaughan, and unanimously carried, to move forward to offer Respondent a Consent Agreement and Order, as recommended by the board member consultant in this case. Recused: Celeste Parker and Courtney Cheek Couvillon.

b. Complaint #2024-11

Motion was made by Deanna Hardy, seconded by Courtney Cheek Couvillon, and unanimously carried, to pre-approve the following continuing education courses as per the Consent Agreement and Order: 10234, 9246, 10747, 9627, 10255, 10130, and 9588.

3. Review of Applications

a. LL

Motion was made by Celeste Parker, seconded by Courtney Cheek Couvillon, and unanimously carried, to grant LL's Speech-Language Pathology license.

b. BW

Motion was made by Celeste Parker, seconded by Deanna Hardy, and unanimously carried, to grant BW's Speech-Language Pathology license.

c. MS

Motion was made by Courtney Cheek Couvillon, seconded by Celeste Parker and unanimously carried, to grant MS's Audiology license.

d. CL

Motion was made by Celeste Parker, seconded by Courtney Cheek Couvillon, and unanimously carried, to require CL to complete an

additional 14 weeks of double supervision as a Provisional SLP Assistant. Upon completion, CL can submit a request to upgrade and request to lift conditions.

e. KM

Motion was made by Celeste Parker, seconded by Deanna Hardy, and unanimously carried, to accept the notarized statement submitted by KM.

Motion was made by Deanna Hardy, seconded by Celeste Parker and unanimously carried, to approve the following applications for **Full or Provisional Speech-Language Pathology and/or Audiology licenses**:

<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>License No.</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>License No.</u>	<u>Type</u>
Alleman	Morgan	9591	PL-SLP	Peek	Kolby	9589	PL-SLP
Burch	Amanda	9583	PL-SLP	Rosenbohm	Alexandra	9597	PL-SLP
Coxe	Reygan	9592	PL-SLP	Rubino	Elizabeth	9578	PL-SLP
Duhon	Lindsey	9598	PL-SLP	Slayden	Mitzie	9595	L-AUD
Dupre	Joanie	9587	PL-SLP	Smith	Abby	9564	L-AUD
Dupre	Macy	9600	PL-SLP	Stanton	Audrey	9575	PL-SLP
Ebel	Mckenzie	9567	L-SLP	Stephenson	Brenda	9588	PL-SLP
Estay	Tori	9599	PL-SLP	Taylor	Torea	9590	PL-SLP
Files	Avery-grace	9579	PL-SLP	Thompson	Rebecca	9584	PL-SLP
Govind	Nirali	9565	L-AUD	Tice	Megan	9603	L-AUD
Guthrie	Elisabeth	9571	L-AUD	Weddle-Coats	Mckenzie	9568	PL-SLP
Hanks	Emily	9585	PL-SLP	Williamson	Laura	9577	PL-SLP
Hayes Williams	Brenda	9596	L-SLP	Wingate	Ty	9576	PL-SLP
Long	Kennedy	9582	L-SLP	Wolfe	Makenzie	9601	L-SLP
Lowery	Loren	9602	L-SLP	Zanco	Sabrina	9580	PL-SLP
Mengis	Maria	9594	PL-SLP	Zaunbrecher	Laurie	9586	PL-SLP
Nyantakyi	Kwaku	9573	PL-SLP				

Motion was made by Courtney Cheek Couvillon, seconded by Celeste Parker and unanimously carried, to approve the following applications for **Speech-Language Pathology Assistant and/or Provisional Speech-Language Pathology Assistant licenses**:

<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>License No.</u>	<u>Type</u>
Bogard	Lindsey	9566	PROVISIONAL SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY ASSISTANT
Clark	Camille	9593	PROVISIONAL SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY ASSISTANT
Watts	Kayla	9581	PROVISIONAL SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY ASSISTANT
Baker	Hedaya	9572	SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY ASSISTANT
Carter	Christen	9569	SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY ASSISTANT
Hinds Dwight	Erin	9574	SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY ASSISTANT
Kintigh	Paulina	9570	SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY ASSISTANT

Motion was made by Deanna Hardy, seconded by Celeste Parker and unanimously carried, to **upgrade** the following licenses:

<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>License No.</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>License No.</u>	<u>Type</u>
Adams	Molly	9332	L-SLP	Iem	Leilani	9289	L-SLP
Baudoin	Leah	9365	L-SLP	Israel	Allyson	9403	L-SLP
Beyer	Katherine	9301	L-SLP	Kramer	Emily	9348	L-SLP
Bourg	Paige	9394	L-SLP	Marks	Courtney	9229	L-SLP
Briley	Caitlin	9299	L-SLP	Miller	Emilee	9437	L-SLP
Canizares	Bianca	9341	L-SLP	Razin	Ashley	9455	L-SLP
Chamberlain	Garrett	9327	L-SLP	Reviel	Sarah	9357	L-SLP
Doiron	Reaghan	9304	L-SLP	Robertson	Peyton	9306	L-SLP
Eppinette	Jenna	9318	L-SLP	Robertson	Anna	9342	L-SLP
Fitzpatrick	Meghan	9307	L-SLP	Smith	Julia	9395	L-SLP
Harper	Alden	9402	L-SLP	Stickell	Molly	9418	L-SLP
Haymon	Sydney	9287	L-SLP	Tallia	Brindley	8295	L-SLP
Hebert	Hannah	9441	L-SLP				

<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>License No.</u>	<u>Type</u>
Assavedo	Lauren	9337	SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY ASSISTANT

Motion was made by Deanna Hardy, seconded by Celeste Parker and unanimously carried, to **reinstate** the following licenses:

<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>License No.</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>License No.</u>	<u>Type</u>
Essa	Amna	6606	L-SLP	Olsen	Brandie	4327	L-SLP
Lope	Leslie	4083	L-SLP	Thibodaux	Annie	6381	L-SLP

FINANCIALS:

1. Financial Statements for the month ended January 31, 2024

Board members were provided a copy of the Financial Statements prepared by Griffin and Furman, for the month ended January 31, 2024. Monthly budget to actual comparisons are attached.

2. Covalent Logic – quote for texts blasts

Board members reviewed the quote from Covalent Logic regarding text blasts. Board staff will begin pursuing the \$5,000.00 text options. The Board would like to know if we can do surveys; can we narrow down to date of birth; what is the difference between the two options; will technology changes in several years effect the system; if we choose the \$5,000 option and later want the \$11,000 option, will it roll into that cost?

Motion was made by Deanna Hardy, seconded by Courtney Cheek Couvillon, and unanimously carried, to create an SLP Assistant Committee, which consists of Jerrilyn Frasier Vaughan, Courtney Cheek Couvillon, and Celeste Parker. This committee will explore the need for SLP Assistants and Provisional SLP Assistant licenses.

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW:

1. Executive Director Update

Jolie Jones discussed with the Board the possibility of holding up supervisor's renewal waiting on supervision forms. The system does not currently allow for this, but the Board would like to work towards this in the future.

2. Procedural Changes regarding practice without a license

Motion was made by Deanna Hardy, seconded by Celeste Parker, and unanimously carried, to adopt the following policy for practice without a license:

LBESPA's history of dealing with renewal/reinstatement applications after an individual has practiced without a license has been to handle by way of application denial and appearance at a Compliance Hearing, and typically resulted in a Consent Agreement and Order. This thinking will pivot to instead consider the reinstatement application, application fees, and continuing education in light of the requirements of Rule 125 (LAC 46:LXXV § 125).

The issue of the applicant practicing without a current license (or with a lapsed license), will now be treated as a basis for discipline separate and apart from the reinstatement process. The Board will grant the licensure reinstatement, if all the requirements are met, and will file a Board-initiated complaint against the applicant to address the violation of the rules through that case. Board staff will notify the applicant of the administrative complaint and include a list of standard questions relative to the practice without a license (timeline; billing; signature; representation; etc.), requesting a response within 15 days.

Standard questions:

1. Please provide the timeline of employment, hours employed, along with job title(s) and dates, during the time that your license was lapsed.
2. Did you bill during the time that your license was lapsed (even if not processed)? If so, provide details, including entities you billed – private pay, Medicare, Medicaid).
3. How did you sign your name during the time that your license was lapsed?
4. How did you represent yourself to the public, in medical records, etc. during the time that your license was lapsed?
5. Did you complete continuing education during the time that your license was lapsed?
6. Did you supervise students or licensees?

3. Federal Military licensure laws

Motion was made by Deanna Hardy, seconded by Celeste Parker, and unanimously carried, to adopt the following policy:

Federal law, 50 USC 4025a, was adopted in January 2023.

Upon receipt of an application from someone who is either military or a military spouse, we are looking at a different set of criteria. They will not be required to meet the individual qualifications in our law and rules, but instead will be based on licensure reciprocity.

We need to request:

1. Military orders
2. Criminal Background Check
3. Verification of Licensure in other state(s) (must be in good standing)
4. If not indicated on the application, the board staff will need to request information to ensure that the professional license has been actively used during the two years immediately preceding the relocation.

We do not need to ask for transcript, clock hours or other forms of qualifications. We are not looking at qualifications in these cases, only that they have a license and it's in good standing.

Based on Rule 109.R.3., military members/spouses will be given a 60-day grace period for submission of official documentation from the date their notarized application and license fee are received by the Board.

4. Board Operations/LBESPA Processing

The Board reviewed data for the period of April 2, 2024 – May 16, 2024. The summary is as follows:

- Initial applications – 106
- Upgrade requests – 46
- Applications approved – 21
- Applications denied – 0
- Upgrades approved – 27
- Upgrades denied – 0
- Telehealth Registration – AUD – 0
- Telehealth Registration – SLP – 0
- Conditional Licenses – 0
- English Proficiency Assessment – 0
- National Practitioner Data Bank queries – 30
- National Practitioner Data Bank reporting – 0
- National Practitioner Data Bank – revision to action - 0
- Online license renewals – 603
- Telehealth renewals – 5
- Complaints received – 0

5. Louisiana Legislative Session 2024 Bill Update

Board members reviewed the Louisiana Legislative Session 2024 Bill document. HB867 was unsuccessful this session.

6. Provisional SLPs Designation Email

Board members reviewed the email that was sent to all Provisional Speech-Language Pathologists on April 26, 2024 regarding licensure designation.

The Board would like to add the word “must” to future rules for designations.

7. Renewal Date Change Committee Recommendation

Motion was made by Celeste Parker, seconded by Courtney Cheek Couvillon and unanimously carried, to accept the committee’s recommendations to change the renewal dates for Provisional SLPs, SLP Assistants and Provisional SLP Assistants to renew by birth date. The committee will meet again to create rules to make this change effective January 1, 2026.

CONFERENCES:

NCSB (National Council of State Boards of Examiners)

1. 37th Annual Workshop and Conference, September 26-28, 2024, San Antonio, Texas

Motion was made by Deanna Hardy, seconded by Celeste Parker and unanimously carried, to send Celeste Parker to the NCSB Conference.

Motion was also made by Deanna Hardy, seconded by Celeste Parker and unanimously carried, to send any new board members appointed prior to the conference, to the NCSB conference and new board member training.

SPALS (Speech Pathologists & Audiologists in Louisiana Schools)

1. Sponsorship Request for the 2024 SPALS Annual Conference

Motion was made by Courtney Cheek Couvillon, seconded by Celeste Parker and unanimously carried, to sponsor the SPALS 2024 Annual Conference, in the amount of \$3,000.00.

2. Exhibit Request

Celeste Parker volunteered to work the exhibit table for the SPALS Conference in Baton Rouge.

LAA (Louisiana Academy of Audiology)

1. Sponsorship Request for the LAA 2024 Convention

Motion was made by Courtney Cheek Couvillon, seconded by Deanna Hardy and unanimously carried, to sponsor the LAA 2024 Annual Convention, in the amount of \$3,000.00.

Motion was made by Deanna Hardy, seconded by Celeste Parker and unanimously carried, to adjourn the meeting at 9:31 a.m.

MINUTES APPROVED BY:


Jerrilyn Frasier Vaughan, Au.D., L-AUD/SLP
Chairperson


Courtney Cheek Couvillon, L-SLP
Secretary/Treasurer

LA Board of Examiners for Speech-Language, Pathology, & Audio
Statement of Revenues & Expenses - Budgetary Comparison -
Modified Cash Basis
For the Seven months ending January 31, 2024

	Jul '23-Jan '24	Budget	\$ Variance	% of Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
601 · License Fees	24,250.00	24,500.00	-250.00	98.98%
602 · Renewal Fees	80,610.00	72,240.00	8,370.00	111.59%
603 · Restitutions	1,155.77	875.00	280.77	132.09%
604 · Miscellaneous Income	184.68	2,916.67	-2,731.99	6.33%
605 · Interest Income-CD	0.00	1,750.00	-1,750.00	0.0%
606 · Interest Income-Checking	209.84	204.17	5.67	102.78%
607 · Renewals - Delinquent	25,740.00	11,666.67	14,073.33	220.63%
608 · Verification Fees	990.00	933.33	56.67	106.07%
609 · Mailing Lists	900.00	1,750.00	-850.00	51.43%
610 · Open Book Exam	40.00	35.00	5.00	114.29%
611 · License Fees - Upgrades	1,620.00	3,500.00	-1,880.00	46.29%
612 · CE Pre-Approvals	50.00	291.67	-241.67	17.14%
613 · Administrative Fines	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00	100.0%
614 · Telehealth	150.00	583.33	-433.33	25.71%
615 · Telehealth Renewals	175.00	0.00	175.00	100.0%
675 · Administrative Fee - Diet	375.00	0.00	375.00	100.0%
Total Income	137,950.29	121,245.84	16,704.45	113.78%
Gross Profit	137,950.29	121,245.84	16,704.45	113.78%
Expense				
Maintenance	0.00	291.67	-291.67	0.0%
Office Equipment	0.00	583.33	-583.33	0.0%
salary - compensated absences a	0.00	2,916.67	-2,916.67	0.0%
701 · Administrative Expense - Diet	15.00	0.00	15.00	100.0%
702 · Salaries	73,598.49	72,916.67	681.82	100.94%
703 · Retirement	30,429.77	30,333.33	96.44	100.32%
705 · Medicare	910.91	933.33	-22.42	97.6%
706 · Group Insurance	14,915.22	15,750.00	-834.78	94.7%
709 · OPEB Expense	0.00	2,333.33	-2,333.33	0.0%
720 · Admin-Out State-Other	326.07	116.67	209.40	279.48%
721 · Admin-IN State-Mileage	133.75	233.33	-99.58	57.32%
722 · Admin-IN State-Other	48.00	116.67	-68.67	41.14%
723 · Board-In State-Mileage	3,224.65	6,416.67	-3,192.02	50.25%
724 · Board -In State-Other	948.34	1,750.00	-801.66	54.19%
725 · Board-Out State-Other	193.18	583.00	-389.82	33.14%
730 · Conference - Registration	1,950.00	875.00	1,075.00	222.86%
731 · Conferences - Out of State	0.00	583.33	-583.33	0.0%
732 · Conferences In-State	0.00	291.67	-291.67	0.0%
733 · Conferences - flights	3,012.32	1,166.67	1,845.65	258.2%
734 · Conferences Hotels	5,677.79	0.00	5,677.79	100.0%

LA Board of Examiners for Speech-Language, Pathology, & Audio
Statement of Revenues & Expenses - Budgetary Comparison -
Modified Cash Basis
For the Seven months ending January 31, 2024

	Jul '23-Jan '24	Budget	\$ Variance	% of Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense				
735 · Conference - Meals	1,000.97	0.00	1,000.97	100.0%
740 · Meeting Expense	1,535.10	5,833.33	-4,298.23	26.32%
852 · Printing/Reproduction	0.00	875.00	-875.00	0.0%
853 · Insurance	8,542.42	5,658.33	2,884.09	150.97%
855 · Rent	10,125.00	12,833.33	-2,708.33	78.9%
856 · Rules Promulgation	0.00	1,750.00	-1,750.00	0.0%
858 · Dues/Sub & Publication	450.00	583.33	-133.33	77.14%
859 · Postage & Delivery	32.12	583.33	-551.21	5.51%
860 · Telephone	1,197.39	1,575.00	-377.61	76.03%
861 · Utilities	761.87	875.00	-113.13	87.07%
862 · Security	131.04	218.75	-87.71	59.9%
863 · Miscellaneous Exp	2,857.40	875.00	1,982.40	326.56%
864 · Bank Charges/Disc Fee	11,950.50	7,590.00	4,360.50	157.45%
880 · Continuing Education	6,000.00	5,833.33	166.67	102.86%
884 · Equipment Rental	1,237.29	2,041.67	-804.38	60.6%
888 · Office Supplies	1,250.61	2,041.67	-791.06	61.25%
900 · Advertising	9.98	0.00	9.98	100.0%
901 · Accounting	3,075.00	3,208.33	-133.33	95.84%
902 · Payroll Services	854.07	1,166.67	-312.60	73.21%
903 · Legal	2,812.50	20,416.67	-17,604.17	13.78%
904 · Auditor	2,015.00	1,458.33	556.67	138.17%
905 · Investigator	532.50	5,833.33	-5,300.83	9.13%
908 · Computer Consultant	1,866.00	3,208.33	-1,342.33	58.16%
911 · Computer Backup & Hosting	192.75	1,166.67	-973.92	16.52%
913 · Scanning	0.00	1,166.67	-1,166.67	0.0%
915 · Hearing Expense	0.00	1,166.67	-1,166.67	0.0%
920 · IPP Program (HPFL)	940.00	2,916.67	-1,976.67	32.23%
922 · Janitorial	0.00	2,916.67	-2,916.67	0.0%
952 · Computer Software	24,187.02	20,416.67	3,770.35	118.47%
953 · Scanning Equip/License Renewal	0.00	291.67	-291.67	0.0%
Total Expense	218,940.02	252,691.76	-33,751.74	86.64%
Net Ordinary Income	-80,989.73	-131,445.92	50,456.19	61.61%
Net Income	-80,989.73	-131,445.92	50,456.19	61.61%