

HB441 ENROLLED



1 HB441
2 I388DWZ-2
3 By Representatives Standridge, Collins
4 RFD: Health
5 First Read: 18-Mar-25



HB441 Enrolled

Enrolled, An Act,

Relating to the Alabama Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology; to add Section 34-28A-21.1 to the Code of Alabama 1975, to provide further for the minimum qualifications for licensure as a speech-language pathology assistant.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Section 34-28A-21.1 is added to the Code of Alabama 1975, to read as follows:

§34-28A-21.1

(a) Any person not eligible for a license as a speech-language pathologist under this chapter may apply for licensure with the board as a speech-language pathology assistant. Eligible candidates for licensure as a speech-language pathology assistant shall do all of the following:

(1) Practice only under the supervision of a licensed speech-language pathologist.

(2) Have completed either of the following:

a. A bachelor's degree or equivalent in speech and hearing sciences or communication disorders.

b. An associate degree in speech-language pathology assisting with a minimum of 30 semester credit hours at a community college or university in speech and hearing sciences or communication disorders, of which three hours shall be dedicated to studying language disorders, and three hours shall be focused on speech disorders. Additionally, a speech-language pathology assistant in an associate degree



HB441 Enrolled

program shall successfully complete not less than 100 clinical practicum hours under the supervision of a licensed speech-language pathologist under any clinical practicum setting.

(3) If the speech-language pathology assistant has completed the requirements of paragraph (2)b., he or she may only provide services in an educational, private practice, nonresidential health care, early intervention, and other nonhospital settings.

(b) For the purposes of this section, "community college" refers to Wallace State Community College-Hanceville, under the purview of the Alabama Community College System, and "university" refers to any four-year public or private institution of higher education located in this state.

(c)(1) A speech-language pathology assistant shall have a scope of practice as defined by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

(2) The supervising speech-language pathologist shall have held a full, unrestricted speech-language pathologist license for at least two years before supervising the speech-language pathology assistant and shall possess the necessary credentials required by the board. A supervising speech-language pathologist may not supervise more than three full-time equivalent speech-language pathology assistants in any one setting.

(d) Licensure as a speech-language pathology assistant may be renewed annually, pursuant to this chapter, without limitation as to number of times renewed.



HB441 Enrolled

57 (e) The Alabama Board of Examiners for Speech-Language
58 Pathology and Audiology shall adopt rules as necessary to
59 implement this section.

60 Section 2. This act shall become effective on January
61 1, 2026.



HB441 Enrolled

62
63
64
65
66
67
68
69
70
71
72
73
74
75
76
77
78
79
80
81
82
83
84
85
86
87
88
89
90
91
92
93
94
95
96

Speaker of the House of Representatives

President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

House of Representatives

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and
was passed by the House 22-Apr-25, as amended.

John Treadwell
Clerk

Senate	<hr/> 06-May-25 <hr/>	Amended and Passed
House	<hr/> 06-May-25 <hr/>	Concurred in Senate Amendment