



Spring eNewsletter

Ohio Speech and Hearing Professionals Board

Board Members:

Board President:

Tammy H. Brown, M.A., CCC-A, FAAA,
Board Certified in Audiology

Board Secretary:

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Michael R. Pratt, H.A.S.

Stephen M. White, Esq., Public Member

Message from the Board President

A warm welcome everyone to this Spring edition of the licensure board's eNewsletter. We have important updates to share regarding the professions, so please be sure to review our information. Updates of interest include the latest information on the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact and new resources planned for school-based practitioners. The month of May is also Better Hearing and Speech Month and we hope you will join us to help raise awareness about communication disorders throughout the month. We also have updates regarding Madeline's Law and a special tribute to Barbara Conrad, M.A., CCC-SLP.

expertise in maximizing communication skills for Ohioans.

Sincerely yours,

Tammy H. Brown, M.A., CCC-A,
FAAA,
Board Certified in Audiology
Board President

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On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank all of our licensees for your continued professionalism, passion and

Message from the Executive Director

I would like to welcome everyone to this edition of the Ohio Speech and Hearing Professional Board's eNewsletter. We have important updates and information inside this for spring graduates applying for licensure, continuing education requirements, the Audiology and

Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact, duty to report, professional experience requirements for conditional speech-language pathologists, and other updates related to the professions. The newsletter is the best way to stay informed and updated on licensure issues.

(Continued on next page)

Message from the Board President

(continued from page 1)

Message from the Executive Director

(continued from page 1)

If you have a question, issue, or concern, please do not hesitate to contact us. We invite you to visit our homepage at www.shp.ohio.gov to stay updated throughout the year.

If you recently contacted the Board for services or information, please take a moment to complete our customer service [survey](#) and let us know your opinion about that experience.

Best Regards,
Gregg B. Thornton, Esq.
Executive Director

Important Information

Has your contact information changed?

Updating your contact information is now a self service process in the new eLicense Ohio system. See the update inside this edition for details on how to register and access your license through your new eLicense Ohio dashboard.

All licensees are required to update any change of name, place of business, or mailing address within thirty days of said change.

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.shp.ohio.gov for the latest updates and information.

Phone: 614-466-3145
Fax: 614-995-2286
E-mail: board@shp.ohio.gov

Office Hours:
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Monday through Friday

Board office is closed during observance of state holidays

Board's Contact Information

**Vern Riffe Center for
Government & the Arts
77 South High Street, Suite 1659
Columbus, Ohio 43215-6108**

Ohio Speech and Hearing Professionals Board

CE & Ethics Resources Available at: <http://shp.ohio.gov/ce-ethics>

The Board would like to remind all licensees about their respective continuing education requirements for the 2025-2026 practice biennium.

Requirements for Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists

Audiologists and speech-language pathologists are required to complete twenty hours of continuing education, including two hours related to ethics pursuant to Ohio Administrative Code section 4753-4-01. At least ten hours of continuing education must be specific to the clinical practice in the area the person is licensed. A licensee is not required to obtain continuing education for the first renewal. Licensed audiologists and speech-language pathologists required to complete continuing education have until December 31, 2026 to complete their hours. All continuing education hours must be completed between January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2026.

Requirements for Hearing Aid Fitters

Hearing aid fitters are required to complete twenty hours of continuing education, including two hours related to ethics pursuant to Ohio Administrative Code section 4747-1-11. For a hearing aid fitter license, at least ten hours shall be specific to the measurement and testing of human hearing, the making of impressions for earmolds, or selecting and adapting of hearing aids. Continuing education clock hours must be acquired in subjects related to hearing aid fitting or audiology. A licensee is not required to obtain continuing education for the first renewal. Licensed hearing aid fitters required to complete continuing education have until December 31, 2026 to complete their hours. All continuing education hours must be completed between January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2026.

For all licensees required to complete continuing education, proof of completion is not required to be submitted when the license is renewed. The Board randomly selects up to ten percent of licensees for verification of continuing education hours following the license renewal deadline.

eLicense Service Requests

Want to know when your Service Requests have been processed? Go to your [eLicense dashboard](#). Click the “My History” button. Choose "Service Requests" from the 'History Type' drop down and view the status column results.

Licensure Statistics

As of April 29, 2025

Audiologists:	1159
Audiology Aides:	105
Conditional SLPs:	278
Dual-Aud. & SLP	20
Hearing Aid Dealers:	178
Hearing Aid Satellites:	370
Hearing Aid Fitters:	406
Inactive Audiology:	38
Inactive Speech-Language Path.:	226
Speech-Language Pathologists:	8500
SLP Aides:	5
Trainee Permit Holders	58
Total Licenses:	11,343

OSHPPB Staff:

Executive Director:

Gregg B. Thornton, Esq.
gregg.thornton@shp.ohio.gov

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Connie J. Allen
connie.allen@shp.ohio.gov

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Principal Assistant Attorney General:

Crystal R. Richie, Esq.

Ohio Speech and Hearing Professionals Board



May is Better Hearing and Speech Month

Across the country, the month of May is widely regarded as Better Hearing and Speech Month (BHSM). In July 2023, the National Association for Hearing and Speech Action (NAHSA) - the consumer affiliate of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association - announced that starting in 2024, May will be recognized as National Speech-Language-Hearing Month instead of Better Hearing and Speech Month. In 2012, Ohio passed a law officially recognizing this month as BHSM. Until this law is changed to the new name announced by NAHSA, the Board must recognize the month of May in Ohio as “Better Hearing and Speech Month.”

Regardless of the name you choose to use to recognize the month of May, the goal is the same; to help raise awareness about communication disorders and the importance of early intervention. The following organizations have posted BHSM resources on their website. (Note: the information and links below do not constitute an endorsement by the Board.)

The American Academy of Audiology has resources such as posters and fact sheets posted at:

<https://www.audiology.org/get-involved/public-awareness/may-is-better-hearing-month>.

The American Speech-Language Hearing Association has posted resources to help you recognize all month long at:

<https://www.asha.org/bhsm/>.

The International Hearing Society has posted BHSM resources at:

https://myhome.ihsinfo.org/myhome/Better_Hearing_Month_HWSV_Teaser.aspx

The National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders has BHSM information at:

<https://www.nidcd.nih.gov/>

<https://www.nidcd.nih.gov/health>

If you would like to view our state law designating the month of May as BHSM in Ohio, here is the link:

<http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/gp5.2281v1>.

Ohio Speech and Hearing Professionals Board

Board Adopts Professional Standards for Madeline's Law

Madeline's Law was signed into law by Governor Mike DeWine on January 2, 2025. The new law, which took effect on April 2, 2025, requires health benefit plans to provide coverage for the cost of both of the following: (1) one hearing aid per hearing-impaired ear up to \$2,500 every 48 months for a covered person under 21 years of age who is verified as being deaf or hearing impaired by a licensed audiologist or by an otolaryngologist or other licensed physician, and (2) all related services prescribed by an otolaryngologist or recommended by a licensed audiologist and dispensed by a licensed audiologist, a licensed hearing aid dealer or fitter, or an otolaryngologist. The required coverage applies to all health benefit plans, as defined in section 3922.01 of the Ohio Revised Code, and includes a nonfederal government health plan delivered, issued for delivery, modified, or renewed on or after the bill's effective date. The new law also requires the Board to adopt professional standards on hearing aids.

The Board finalized the professional standards concerning prescription hearing aids at its meeting on March 7, 2025. You can access the professional standards from our website at: https://shp.ohio.gov/staying-licensed/professional_standards_concerning_prescription_hearing_aids_madelines_law

Mount St. Joseph University - Graduates First SLP Cohort

The Board would like to congratulate Mount St. Joseph University on the graduation of their first cohort for the master's level speech-language pathology accredited program. The Board provided a licensure presentation to approximately 14 graduate students who will be graduating in May with their master's level degree in SLP and applying for licensure to complete their supervised professional experience. Program Director Dr. Erin Sizemore was instrumental in developing the program and anticipates having at least thirty students graduating next year.



eLicense Service Requests

Licensees must login to their eLicense account and submit a Service Request under "Options" for the following:

- Name changes
- Updating contact information, e.g., mailing address, employment, e-mail address, etc.
- License verification to another state

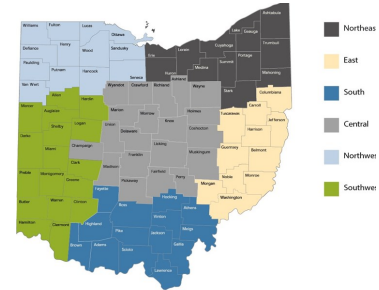
Did you know that you can check eLicense for the status of an application or board office review of documentation you submitted with your service request? The Board utilizes the State of Ohio's license management system, called eLicense Ohio. This licensing system streamlines that application process and allows applicants the check the status of their application without having to contact the licensure board. And **Want to know when your Service Requests have been processed?** Go to your [eLicense dashboard](#). Click the "My History" button. Choose "Service Requests" from the 'History Type' drop down and view the status column results. The system is accessible 24/7.

During busy application periods, such as spring and summer graduations and licensure renewal, the Board highly recommends that applicants and licensees login to eLicense to check the status of an application or a service request. Please allow up to four weeks to process licensure applications.

Ohio Speech and Hearing Professionals Board

Board Welcomes Ohio Department of Education and Workforce Speech-Language Pathology Consultants

At the beginning of the 2024-2025 school year, the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce (ODEW) announced an initiative for regional Speech-Language Pathology and School Psychology Consultants. The dedicated team of Speech-Language Pathology Consultants (SLPCs) and School Psychology Consultants (SPCs) serve districts across the state. Each SLPC, is a highly qualified speech-language pathologist, assigned to specific regions to provide specialized support where it is needed most. In districts without existing regional support, these consultants will play a key role in delivering essential services. Where there are district lead therapists, psychologists, supervisors, or coordinators in place, SLPCs and SPCs will collaborate to strengthen professional development initiatives and enhance district-wide success.



Key responsibilities of the SLPCs and SPCs include:

- Leading professional development for district and regional speech-language pathologists and school psychologists on best practices in evaluation and therapeutic interventions.
- Providing training and support to administrators, general education, and special education staff to ensure a cohesive approach to student services.
- Guiding caseload management by offering personalized advice and practical strategies based on a workload approach. Leveraging their field experience, they will empower professionals to navigate caseload challenges more effectively.

SLPCs and SPCs are committed to supporting the success of districts across the state, ensuring that students receive the high-quality services they deserve.

Angela Brouhard, M.A., CCC-SLP, Johanna Gilland, M.A., CCC-SLP, Allison Hoffman, M.A. CCC-SLP are three of the six SLPCs and presented a topic on Tiered Intervention for Students with Speech and Language Concerns at the Ohio Speech-Language-Hearing Association Spring Conference on April 15, 2025 in Hilliard, Ohio.

East Central Ohio ESC
SLPC: Allison Hoffmann

ESC of Eastern Ohio
SLPC: Kristy Hopkinson

Madison-Champaign ESC
SLPC: Angie Brouhard

Mid-Ohio ESC
SLPC: Johanna Gilland

North Central Ohio ESC
SLPC: Jennifer Treadway

South Central Ohio ESC
SLPC: Jennifer Pyles



For contact information for the SLPC serving your county/region of the state, please visit the ODEW's website at: <https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Special-Education/Related-Services/Regional-Speech-language-Pathology-and-School-Psyc>

Ohio Speech and Hearing Professionals Board

Pillars of a Healthy Caseload Resource Document - Update

The Board reported in the Fall 2024 newsletter that it was in the process of drafting a resource document for school-based practitioners to obtain and maintain a healthy caseload through implementation of the workload determination process. The draft document has been widely distributed to interested parties, including university graduate programs, for feedback. The Board will be working to finalize the document in 2025.

You may access the latest draft of the document by scanning the QR Code or visiting our website to download the document at: [Pillars of a Healthy Caseload](#).



Board Implementing Ohio's Safe Haven Program - Expected Spring 2025 - Update

The Board previously reported in the Fall 2024 newsletter that it will be administering a Safe Haven Program for impaired practitioners through a partnership with the Ohio Professionals Health Program (OhioPHP). The Board held a formal rules hearing on January 24, 2025, and those rules went into effect on May 1, 2025. Look for more information on our website and upcoming newsletters as the Board's Safe Haven Program continues to be promoted. The final rules for impaired practitioners and the Safe Haven Program can be found here:



[For Chapter 4747 licensees](#): Hearing Aid Dealers, Hearing Aid Fitters, Trainee Permit Holders

[For Chapter 4753 licensees](#): Audiologists, Speech-Language Pathologists, Conditional SLPs, Aides

Note: the final rules for Chapter 4753 licensees are still pending posting by the Legislative Service Commission; the link will take you to the Original Filing at the Ohio Register and serve as the final rule until it can be posted to our website.

ASLP-IC - Updates

On July 1, 2021, Ohio became the fourteenth state to join the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact (ASLP-IC) when Governor Mike DeWine signed HB252 into law. The ASLP-IC is an occupational licensure compact which allows audiologists and speech-language pathologists to practice in multiple states without having to obtain additional state licenses. The provisions and requirements for Ohio's ASLP-IC are specified under Ohio Revised Code section 4753.17. As of this edition, there are now 34 states, including one U.S. territory that have joined the compact, with an additional 8 states that have legislation pending. The ASLP-IC is expected to be operational by the fall of 2025. Updates about the ASLP-IC will continue to be shared in future newsletters and on the Board's homepage.



Ohio Speech and Hearing Professionals Board

Board Reminds Practitioners of Duty to Report

The Board would like to remind practitioners of their duty to report direct, first-hand knowledge, of violations under Ohio Revised and Administrative Code sections 4744, 4747 and 4753. All licensees practice under a Code of Ethics. For hearing aid dealers, fitters, and trainees, the duty to report is specified under Ohio Administrative Code section [4747-1-23](#) (B)(10), which states: licensees shall report to the board any violation of the board rules or any breach of the code of ethics of which that the licensee is aware. For audiologists, speech-language pathologists, conditional speech-language pathologists, and aides, the duty to report is specified under Ohio Administrative Code section [4753-9-01](#) (B)(10), which also states: licensees shall report to the board any violation of the board rules or any breach of the code of ethics of which that the licensee is aware. Licensees have a duty and responsibility to report known violations of the practice act and breach of the code of ethics. Licensees can report violations by submitting a complaint on the eLicense Ohio website: [File a Complaint–Duty to Report](#). You may also contact the Board office and request to speak with the Executive Director, Gregg Thornton or our Board Investigator, Connie Allen, if you have questions about whether a situation should be reported. The Duty to Report requirement is an important component to a practitioner’s responsibility under their license, as well as ensuring consumer protection.



Speech Assistants versus Speech-Language Pathology Aides: What is the difference in Ohio and Why Does It Matter?

Support personnel can assist audiologists and speech-language pathologists with their duties to provide services to patients, clients, and students across all work settings. Ohio has licensed support personnel since 1992, when [Ohio Revised Code section 4753.072](#) became law. In Ohio, our licensed support personnel are called Audiology Aides and Speech-Language Pathology Aides. The Board adopted rules delineating the qualifications for licensure and the requirements for their training, allowed duties, and supervision under [Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 4753-7](#).

The educational requirements for a speech-language pathology aide or audiology aide is a high school diploma or equivalent. For states that license speech and audiology assistants, the educational requirements are either a 2-year or 4-year college degree. Aides in Ohio receive customized and hands-on training by their supervisor, perform duties that support specified aspects of record keeping and screenings subject to a pass/fail determination, pursuant to [Ohio Administrative Code section 4753-6-01](#).

Speech Assistants are another type of support personnel licensed in other states to assist speech-language pathologists. Ohio does not recognize or license speech assistants. Speech assistants in other states can provide broader duties, such as managing a caseload and providing direct services to patients, clients, or students under supervision. In Ohio, a speech-language pathology aide cannot perform these duties and cannot work independently.

Employers posting positions for support personnel need to be aware of the type of support personnel that the Ohio licensure board recognizes and licenses. Employers and contract companies should not list “Speech Assistant” or “SLP-A” as these titles misrepresent the type of support personnel that is recognized and licensed in Ohio.

Speech-language pathology and audiology aides serve an important role to supporting speech-language pathologists and audiologists in specified aspects of record keeping and screenings. Please refer to the above referenced laws and rules in order to be compliant with Ohio’s requirements for support personnel for speech-language pathology and audiology.

Ohio Speech and Hearing Professionals Board

Important Reminder for Spring Graduates Applying for Licensure and Conditional SLPs Completing their experience



The Board would like to congratulate individuals who will graduate this Spring and Summer from graduate level programs in audiology and speech-language pathology. Individuals who plan to practice in Ohio should submit their application four to six weeks prior to graduation, to ensure a sufficient amount of time to process your application. Please visit the Board's website to access the eLicense Ohio licensing system to register for your eLicense user account. For individuals applying for their conditional speech-language pathology license, this is a reminder that the supervised professional experience plan, amended plan, and report and contacts log must be submitted within thirty calendar days. For instance, the supervised professional experience plan is due within thirty days of the start date of employment. An amended plan is due within thirty days of a change in the supervised professional experience start or end date, a change in supervisors, or change in employment. The report and contacts log is due within thirty days upon completion of the supervised professional experience or partial completion of the supervised professional experience. The Board's forms and instructions to complete the supervised professional experience are available on our website at: <https://shp.ohio.gov/forms>.

During the months of May through July, those holding a conditional speech-language pathology license are in the process of completing their supervised professional experience. The Board would also like to remind supervised professional experience supervisors that supervision of the conditional licensee must continue after the Report and Contacts log is submitted to the board office. Ohio Administrative Code sections 4753-3-07 (D)(2) and (G)(2) state in relevant part:

(D) - Supervisor qualifications and responsibilities.

(2) The supervisor shall agree to supervise the practice of speech-language pathology experience of the applicant according to a plan approved by the board.

(G) - Supervised professional experience report and supervision contacts log.

(G)(2) After submission of the "Supervised Professional Experience Report" and "Supervision Contacts Log," the conditional licensee shall abide by the requirements for conditional licensure until full licensure is granted.

Supervisors should check with the conditional licensee to verify timely submission of the Plan, Amended Plan, and Report and Contacts log. The status of the conditional licensee's license should be verified from the eLicense Ohio website, license look-up page at: <https://shp.ohio.gov/license-lookup>. If there are any issues or concerns, the licensure board should be contacted at: (614) 466-3145 or via e-mail at: board@shp.ohio.gov.

Board's New IHS Practical Exam

The Board previously announced that beginning August 1, 2024, individuals applying for a training permit to prepare to be a licensed hearing aid fitter will be required to take the new International Hearing Society (IHS) Practical Examination. Any new candidate should be studying for the new practical exam. The IHS Practical Exam Study Guide can be downloaded here: [IHS Practical Exam Study Guide](#)

All candidates applying for an initial trainee permit will be required to complete the new IHS Practical Exam and should be using the IHS Practical Exam Study Guide referenced above.

Ohio Speech and Hearing Professionals Board

Connie's Corner

Connie J. Allen, Board Investigator



Preparing for the Next Continuing Education Audit

The next continuing education (CE) audit is just around the corner. Now is a good time to start preparing and ensure your professional development is on track. The following are tips I'm sharing with you, hopefully to make things go smoothly in the event you are selected for a CE audit for the 2023-2024 practice biennium.



1. **ETHICS** and Review the Board's CE Rules at the end of this article.

- During my review of past audited CE practitioners, I found that some complete their twenty hours; however, they forget that at least 2 hours must be related to ethics. Completing the two hours related to ethics is required for each practice biennium. It's not a "one and done" requirement by the Board. Additionally, if the word **Ethics is not in the title** of the course, practitioners must also provide a course description along with their Certificate of Completion, or CE Transcript, in the event they are audited.



2. **SPAM** Discipline and Respond to the Board's audit notification



- If you are randomly selected for a CE audit, the Board will notify you **via e-mail**. You will only receive a letter via U.S. mail if no response is received to the audit email. It is very important to respond to the audit notification. To assure the email notification arrives to your inbox, add the following email addresses to your email contacts: board@shp.ohio.gov, connie.allen@shp.ohio.gov, notifications@cebroke.com. If you do not add the email addresses, it is your responsibility to periodically check your spam/junk folder for emails from the Board (or from Ce Broker on behalf of the Board) to assure you meet Board deadlines.
 - Licensees who fail to respond to their audit notification may be subject to disciplinary action by the Board, including revocation of their license.
- ### 3. **CE BROKER** – Sign-up for a free basic account with CE Broker.
- CE Broker has been the Board's official CE tracking system since 2012. This is not the same as ASHA's tracking system. Well over half of our licensees are using CE Broker to keep track of their "licensure board" CE hours. Sign-up for free at: <https://cebroke.com/oh/account/basic/>. For information about their paid plans visit <https://cebroke.com/oh/plans>.
 - Click this [Self-reporting hyperlink for instructions](#). **BEFORE** self-reporting, view the hours reported to your 2023-2024 cycle. Look for the following:

At least 10 hours specific in the Clinical Subject Area (for SLPs and AUDs)

At least 10 hours specific to the measurement and testing of human hearing, the making of impressions for earmolds, or selecting and adapting of hearing aids (for HASS)

At least 2 hours in the Ethics Subject Area

Ohio Speech and Hearing Professionals Board

Connie's Corner

Connie J. Allen, Board Investigator

Preparing for the Next Continuing Education Audit (continued)

- Look for duplicate courses. Reporting courses twice may appear like fraud and may result in a failed audit and/or disciplinary action.

If you see duplicates, delete YOUR entry leaving the CE Providers entry. For assistance with deleting or editing an entry, contact **CE Broker Support**, not the Board office, (877) 434-6323, Live Chat www.cebroke.com, Email support@cebroke.com.



4. Did you Receive My Hours?

Why Is It Taking So Long?

Please be patient. *I am only a one-man band for hundreds of audits.*



Below is the order regarding which audits will be reviewed **1st** and obtain notification if Passed or Failed **1st**. If you do not fall within numbers **1 – 6**, your audit will be reviewed **LAST**.



VS



1.	Your CE Broker account for the 2023-2024 cycle shows: <i>At least 10 hours in the Clinical Subject Area</i> <i>At least 2 hours in the Ethics Subject Area</i> <i>At least 8 hours in the Related Subject Area</i>
2.	The CE Provider reported the course(s) on your behalf instead of you self reported, and the required information in # 5 below is provided. Or , if you self-reported, you uploaded a one-page CE Transcript to each of the 3 Subject Areas versus several certificates of completion
3.	In the <i>Clinical Subject Area</i> , it is evident from the course title(s) that they are in fact "Clinical" and not ethics, not related. <u>If it's not evident</u> , you and/or the CE Provider must also upload the course description
4.	In the <i>Ethics Subject Area</i> , the course(s) TITLE(s) list the word ethics. <u>If not</u> , you and/or the CE Provider must also upload the course(s) description proving the course(s) covered 2 full clock hours of ethical content

Ohio Speech and Hearing Professionals Board

Connie's Corner

Connie J. Allen, Board Investigator

Preparing for the Next Continuing Education Audit (continued)

5.	<p>The CE Transcript and/or the Certificates of Completion lists <i>the following info</i>:</p> <p><i>Your name</i> <i>Your license number</i> <i>Course Title</i> <i>Hours completed</i> <i>Date completed</i> <i>CE Provider Name (sometimes the CE Sponsor too)</i> <i>CE Presenter Name</i> <i>A brief course description if it is not evident from the course "Title"</i></p> <p>NOTE: The <i>italicized</i> info above is a Board CE Rule Requirement. Look at each of the courses reported to your CE Broker account. If it does not list the italicized info, delete the entry and upload the corrected version. Until you do this, your audit will NOT be reviewed.</p>
6.	<p>Your "Cell Phone" screen shot of your CE Transcript and/or the Certificates of Completion lists the bulleted information in # 5 above. NOTE: If your screen shot cut off any of the italicized info, your audit will not be reviewed until you delete the entry and upload a correct version.</p>

If you do not fall with in numbers 1 -6 above, do not call the Board office to inform me of this. Instead, you must correct/fix the issue. If this requires you or the CE Provider to delete entries and re-upload correct entries and if you need assistance, contact CE Broker Support for assistance. The Board office cannot help you with CE Broker's system regarding uploading, reporting, deletion, corrections, etc.

5. **FAIL** Audit



vs **PASSED** Audit



and the Consequences



- If you renewed your license timely, by the December 31, 2024 renewal deadline, and attested on your renewal application that you completed all required CE hours by the deadline; however, upon reviewing your CE Broker account it appears you did not complete the required hours, be mindful that you will be assessed a late fee of \$120 for:
 - 1) answering that you completed the hours when in fact did not
 - 2) completing any missing CE hours after the 12/31/2024 renewal deadline
- If you believe you completed the required hours but cannot find proof, e.g., certificate of completion or employer professional development log, this still results in a FAILED Audit. It is the licensee's responsibility, not their employer and not a professional association, to maintain proof of their CE for up to FOUR YEARS after completion.

Ohio Speech and Hearing Professionals Board

Connie's Corner

Connie J. Allen, Board Investigator

Preparing for the Next Continuing Education Audit (continued)



Email proof of completed CE to yourself.

Save the email on your computer and keep an electronic copy on a USB thumb drive as a backup for FOUR years after the date of renewal in the event you are audited. We sometimes hear practitioners say that they do not have proof of their continuing education hours and their employer cannot provide a copy.

Do not rely on your employer or professional association to provide proof of your continuing education hours. It is your responsibility to retain documentation of your continuing education hours for inspection by the Board if you are audited. For hearing aid fitters, see rule 4747-1-11(F)(1); for audiologists and speech-language pathologists, see rule 4753-4-01(C)(5).

- If you did not complete the twenty hours within the 2023-24 practice biennium, **do not call the Board.** Instead do the following:

Make-up the missing hours asap.

Report the make-up hours to the 2025-26 cycle. If your Ethics course does not say Ethics in the title, upload a course description along with proof of CE. If your "Clinical" course(s) title does not indicate clinical type words in the title, also upload a course description. Your make-up hours will not be reviewed until you have provided the required documentation.

Email me at Connie.Allen@shp.ohio.gov to inform me that you reported your missing make-up hours. Wait for my response with instructions regarding paying the \$120 failed audit fee which will be pending in your eLicense Ohio portal account cart. 🛒 Once payment is made, wait for a follow-up e-mail from me.

I hope this information is helpful and informative to ensure a smooth CE audit if you are randomly selected for the next audit. The Board is required to randomly audit up to ten percent of licensees' CE. You may also be interested in knowing that the CE hours for our professional board members are automatically audited each practice biennium. I look forward to working with each of you during the next CE audit.

CE Rules

Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists <https://codes.ohio.gov/ohio-administrative-code/rule-4753-4-01>

Hearing Aid Specialists/Fitters <https://codes.ohio.gov/ohio-administrative-code/rule-4747-1-11>

Special Note from the Executive Director: Connie J. Allen has been the Board's Investigator since 2006 and has managed the CE audits during her entire tenure with the Board. She brings a wealth of knowledge and experience. If you have any questions about the Board's CE audit, please review the information above before contacting Connie.

Ohio Speech and Hearing Professionals Board

Barbara J. Brown Conrad: 1958-2025

The Board recently learned of the passing of Barb Conrad, M.A., CCC-SLP on April 6, 2025, and would like to extend its condolences to her family. Barb was well known and deeply admired by friends and colleagues within in her community in Northeast Ohio, and also at the state and national levels, for her many contributions during her more than 40 years as a licensed speech-language pathologist in the state of Ohio. She was one of the co-founding and charter members of the Ohio School Speech Pathology Educational Audiology Coalition (OSSPEAC), a state professional association established in 1994 that currently supports several hundred school-based practitioners. Before her retirement in 2023, she served as the Supervisor of Speech-Language Therapy Services for the ESC of Lorain County. She mentored countless of undergraduate and graduate students majoring in communications disorders, as well as supervising scores of clinical fellows and conditional SLPs completing their supervised professional experience with the licensure board. She served on numerous statewide workgroups with the licensure board and the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce (ODEW) to address shortages in the school setting. She worked tirelessly in support of initiatives through the Ohio Masters Network Initiatives in Education Project (OMNIE), funded by ODEW, such as the first of its kind distance learning program and resource/guidance modules for practitioners. She willingly shared her knowledge and expertise through professional development activities at local, regional, state, and national conferences.



Barb Conrad, M.A., CCC-SLP at the 2018 NCSB Annual Conference to receive Special Recognition Award

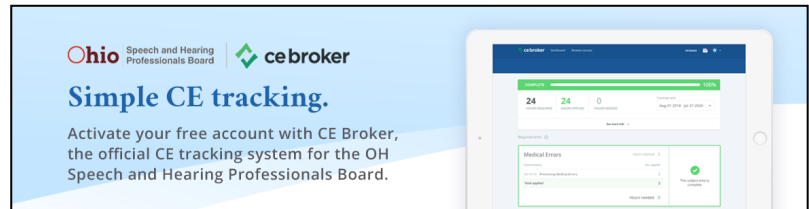
Barb received both her undergraduate and graduate degrees in Speech and Hearing from the University of Akron. She is a recipient of the Rolland VanHattum Award, which is awarded by the American-Speech-Language Hearing Association for excellence in the schools. In 2018, the licensure board nominated Barb for the Special Recognition Award presented by the National Council of State Boards of Examiners in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (NCSB). The photo above is of Barb after receiving this award presented by the NCSB Board of Directors at the NCSB fall conference in Tysons Corner, Virginia on October 5, 2018. NCSB is a national association of state licensing boards that license and regulate the speech and hearing professions. The NCSB Special Recognition Award is given to individuals who have demonstrated exemplary commitment and contributions in the area of regulation at the state level, program development through an innovative and replicable design, extraordinary service and commendable contributions to a state licensure board, and/or recent advocacy activities leading to changes in regulation.

Barb was most certainly at the forefront on advocacy and significant activities that lead to positive changes in regulation in Ohio. Her many contributions to the speech-language pathology profession in our state will continue to be felt for years to come.

Ohio Speech and Hearing Professionals Board

CE Broker - Sign-up Today!

[CE Broker](#) is the official CE tracking system of the Ohio Speech and Hearing Professionals Board. You will never have to pay for a CE Broker Basic Account. However, licensees do have the option to subscribe to an upgraded account, which offers additional CE tracking tools. Please visit the Board's website at <https://shp.ohio.gov/continuing-education> to learn more.



HOW TO ACTIVATE YOUR FREE CE BROKER ACCOUNT?

1. Visit www.cebroke.com/oh/plans
2. Select the Basic Account option
3. Enter your license number and get started tracking your continuing education!

Comprehensive Course Search

The [CE Broker Course Search](#) helps you find every course you need to complete your license renewal. To find courses, visit courses.cebroke.com/search/oh and select your profession.

Helpful Support Center

CE Broker's dedicated support center is available 8AM-8PM ET Monday - Friday with a team of experts trained on the rules and regulations of the Ohio Speech and Hearing Professionals Board. Reach them by phone at 877-434-6323 or via [email and live chat](#).

Benefits of using 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;
- Exemption from a continuing education audit once your 20 hours are reported
- Bring CE compliance wherever you go with the CE Broker mobile app. Available on iPhone and Android from the [App Store](#) or [Google Play](#).

OMNIE: Refreshed - Speech and Language Guidelines

Watch for the new OMNIE: Refreshed coming soon. Until then, topic modules are still maintained and accessible on the Ohio Master's Network Initiatives in Education (OMNIE) website at: <https://omnie.ocali.org/>. The topics are maintained and updated by practitioners regarded for their expertise, knowledge and experience over the subject areas addressed. The guidelines and resources support school based practitioners, including intervention specialists, teachers, administrators and parents. Accessing the modules will require you to register for a free account which will only take a few minutes, and is highly encouraged to ensure that funding continues in order to maintain and develop additional modules.



OSHPB SPRING/SUMMER CALENDAR—2025



May 1

May 15

May 26

June 1

June 15

June 19

July 1

July 4

July 15

August 1

August 6

August 15

September 1

September 2

September 15

October 1

Better Hearing and Speech Month Begins

Board Meeting

Application Review and Approval

State Holiday - Memorial Day - Board Office Closed

Application Review and Approval

Application Review and Approval

State Holiday - Juneteenth Day - Board Office Closed

Application Review and Approval

State Holiday - Independence Day - Board Office Closed

Application Review and Approval

Application Review and Approval

Board Meeting

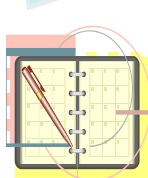
Application Review and Approval

State Holiday - Labor Day - Board Office Closed

Application Review and Approval

Application Review and Approval

Application Review and Approval



Reminder—audiology, audiology aide, hearing aid dealers, hearing aid fitters, speech-language pathology, and speech-language pathology aide licenses do not expire at midnight until December 31, 2026.

Note: Board & Committee meeting dates and locations are subject to change. Visit our website to confirm dates.

Please visit the Board's website at www.shp.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 newsletter.



When should applicants apply for their license?

In order to allow sufficient time for the Board to process an application for a license, it is recommended that individuals submit their application 4 to 6 weeks prior to their graduation or start date of employment. More information about the Board's application process can be found at:

<https://shp.ohio.gov/getting-licensed>