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07/04

TRANSMITTAL SHEET FOR
NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Control No. Department or Agency Alabama Board of Examiners for Speech Language Pathology & Audiology

Rule No. 870-X-7-.02

Rule Title: Speech-Language Pathology Scope Of Practice

New X Amend Repeal Adopt by Reference

Would the absence of the proposed rule significantly harm or endanger the public health, welfare, or safety? NO

Is there a reasonable relationship between the state's police power and the protection of the public health, safety, or welfare? YES

Is there another, less restrictive method of regulation available that could adequately protect the public? NO

Does the proposed rule have the effect of directly or indirectly increasing the costs of any goods or services involved and, if so, to what degree? NO

Is the increase in cost, if any, more harmful to the public than the harm that might result from the absence of the proposed rule? NO

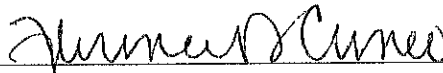
Are all facets of the rulemaking process designed solely for the purpose of, and so they have, as their primary effect, the protection of the public? YES

Does the proposed rule have an economic impact? NO

If the proposed rule has an economic impact, the proposed rule is required to be accompanied by a fiscal note prepared in accordance with subsection (f) of Section 412223, Code of Alabama 1975.

Certification of Authorized Official

I certify that the attached proposed rule has been proposed in full compliance with the requirements of Chapter 22, Title 41, Code of Alabama 1975, and that it conforms to all applicable filing requirements of the Administrative Procedure Division of the Legislative Reference Service.

Signature of certifying officer 

Date 6/12/15

(DATE FILED)
(STAMP)

Alabama Board of Examiners for Speech-Language
Pathology and Audiology (ABESPA)

NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Rule Number & Title: 870-X-7-.02
Speech-Language Pathology Scope of Practice

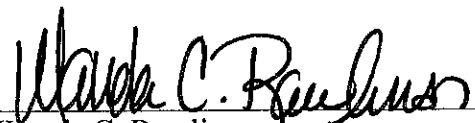
Intended Action: To Amend Chapter

Substance of Amendment: ABESPA proposes to amend chapter to update
language in the rules.

Time, Place, Manner of Presenting Views: Interested person may present their views in writing to the executive secretary of the Board at a time during the 35 day period following the 30th day of June. Any person who wishes to present his or her views orally at the public hearing may notify the Board in writing, before August 14, 2015, to P.O. Box 304760, Montgomery, AL 36130-4760. The public hearing will be held on August 14, 2015 at 400 South Union Street, 4th floor, Montgomery, Alabama at 12:00 p.m.

Final Date for Comment and Completion of Notice: August 14, 2015

Contact Person at Agency: Wanda Rawlinson
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Wanda C. Rawlinson
Executive Secretary

ALABAMA BOARD OR EXAMINERS
FOR SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY
ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

CHAPTER 870-X-7
SCOPE OF PRACTICE

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870-X-7-.01 Preamble. The purpose of this chapter is to define the scope of practice of speech-language pathology and audiology. The scope of practice defined here, and the areas specifically set forth are part of an effort to establish the broad range of services offered within these professions. It is recognized, however, that levels of experience, skill, and proficiency with respect to the activities identified within this scope of practice will vary among individual licensees. By defining the scope of practice of speech-language pathology and audiology, there is no intention to exclude members of other professions from rendering services in common practice areas for which they are competent by virtue of their respective disciplines. It is recognized that speech-language pathology and audiology are dynamic and continuously developing practice areas. In setting forth some specific areas as included within the scope of practice, there is no intention that the list be exhaustive or that other, new, or emerging areas be precluded from being considered as within the scope of practice.

Author: Denise P. Gibbs

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-28A-1, et seq.

History: New Rule: Filed October 18, 1994; effective November 21, 1994.

870-X-7-.02 Speech-Language Pathology Scope Of Practice. The overriding principle is that speech-language pathologists will provide only those services for which they are adequately prepared through their academic and clinical training, and their experience, and their continuing education. The practice of speech-language pathology includes:

(a) Providing screening, identification, assessment, diagnosis, treatment, intervention (i.e. prevention, restoration, amelioration, compensation) and follow-up services for disorders of:

(1) speech: articulation, fluency, voice (including respiration, phonation, and resonance)

(2) language (involving the parameters of phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics; and including disorders of receptive and expressive communication in oral, written, graphic, and manual modalities)

(3) oral, pharyngeal, cervical esophageal, and related functions, (e.g. dysphagia, including disorders of swallowing and oral function of feeding; orofacial myofunctional disorders)

(4) cognitive aspects of communication (including communication disability and other functional disabilities associated with cognitive impairment)

(5) social aspects of communication (including challenging behavior, ineffective social skills, lack of communication opportunities);

(b) Providing consultation and counseling, and making referrals when appropriate;

(c) Training and supporting family members and other communication partners of individuals with speech, voice, language communication, and swallowing disabilities;

(d) Developing and establishing effective augmentative and alternative communication techniques and strategies, including selecting, prescribing, and dispensing aids and devices and training individuals, their families, and other communication partners in their use;

(e) Selecting, fitting, and establishing effective use of appropriate prosthetic/adaptive devices for speaking and swallowing (e.g. tracheoesophageal valves, electrolarynges, speaking valves);

(f) Using instrumental technology to diagnose and treat disorders of communication and swallowing (e.g., videofluoroscopy, nasendoscopy, ultrasonography, stroboscopy);

(g) Providing aural rehabilitation and related counseling services to individuals with hearing loss and their families;

(h) Collaborating in the assessment of central auditory processing disorders in cases in which there is evidence of speech, language, and/or other cognitive-communication disorders; providing intervention for individuals with central auditory processing disorders;

(i) Conducting pure tone air conduction hearing screening and screening tympanometry for the purpose of the initial identification and/or referral of individuals with other communication disorders or possible middle ear pathology;

(j) Enhancing speech and language proficiency and communication effectiveness, including but not limited to accent reduction, collaboration with teachers of English as a second language, and improvement of voice, performance, and singing;

(k) Training and supervising support personnel;

(l) Developing and managing academic and clinical programs in communication sciences and disorders;

(m) Conducting, disseminating, and applying research in communication sciences and disorders;

(n) Measuring outcomes of treatment and conducting continuous evaluation of the effectiveness of practices and programs to improve and maintain quality of services.

Author: Denise P. Gibbs and Richard Talbott

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-28A-42, et seq.

History: New Rule: Filed October 18, 1994; effective November 21, 1994. Revised 6/99.