

CHAPTER 248

PROFESSIONS AND OCCUPATIONS

HOUSE BILL 15-1373

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Singer, Conti, Fields, Ginal, Hamner, Kraft-Tharp, Lebsock, Melton, Moreno, Pettersen, Primavera, Ryden, Salazar, Tyler, Windholz, Young;
also SENATOR(S) Aguilar, Baumgardner, Garcia, Kefalas, Martinez Humenik, Merrifield, Newell, Todd.

AN ACT**CONCERNING THE CREATION OF A PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATION TO PRACTICE SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY.**

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 12-43.7-106.5 as follows:

12-43.7-106.5. Provisional certification - qualifications - application - expiration - practice. (1) **Educational and experiential requirements.** AN APPLICANT FOR A PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATION AS A SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST MUST:

(a) SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE A MASTER'S OR HIGHER DEGREE IN COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS GRANTED BY AN ACCREDITED INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION RECOGNIZED BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION; AND

(b) PASS EITHER:

(I) THE NATIONAL EXAMINATION ADOPTED BY THE AMERICAN SPEECH-LANGUAGE-HEARING ASSOCIATION OR ITS SUCCESSOR ASSOCIATION; OR

(II) ANY OTHER EXAMINATION APPROVED BY THE DIRECTOR.

(2) **Application.** ON OR AFTER SEPTEMBER 1, 2015, AN APPLICANT MAY APPLY FOR PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATION IN THE MANNER REQUIRED BY THE DIRECTOR. THE APPLICANT SHALL SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FEE WITH THE APPLICATION IN AN AMOUNT DETERMINED BY THE DIRECTOR. IF THE APPLICANT WILL PROVIDE

Capital letters indicate new material added to existing statutes; dashes through words indicate deletions from existing statutes and such material not part of act.

SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY SERVICES TO PATIENTS, THE APPLICANT ALSO SHALL SUBMIT PROOF THAT HE OR SHE HAS PURCHASED AND IS MAINTAINING OR IS COVERED BY PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INSURANCE IN AN AMOUNT DETERMINED BY THE DIRECTOR BY RULE. ADDITIONALLY, THE APPLICANT SHALL SUBMIT A PLAN FOR THE COMPLETION OF A SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP, AS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 12-43.7-106 (1) (b).

(3) Provisional certification. (a) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (b) OF THIS SUBSECTION (3), WHEN AN APPLICANT HAS FULFILLED THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTIONS (1) AND (2) OF THIS SECTION, THE DIRECTOR SHALL ISSUE A PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATION TO THE APPLICANT.

(b) THE DIRECTOR MAY DENY A PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATION IF THE APPLICANT HAS COMMITTED ANY ACT THAT WOULD BE GROUNDS FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION UNDER SECTION 12-43.7-110.

(4) Expiration of provisional certification. (a) A PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATION EXPIRES TWENTY-FOUR MONTHS AFTER ISSUANCE OR UPON THE ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATION TO THE APPLICANT UNDER SECTION 12-43.7-106, WHICHEVER OCCURS FIRST.

(b) THE DIRECTOR SHALL NOT RENEW A PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATION.

(c) A PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATE HOLDER MAY APPLY FOR CERTIFICATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 12-43.7-106 UPON COMPLETION OF A SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP.

(5) Practice. A PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATE HOLDER MAY PRACTICE SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY ONLY UNDER THE GENERAL SUPERVISION OF A SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST WHO HOLDS A CERTIFICATE OF CLINICAL COMPETENCE AWARDED BY THE AMERICAN SPEECH-LANGUAGE-HEARING ASSOCIATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP REQUIREMENTS OF THE AMERICAN SPEECH-LANGUAGE-HEARING ASSOCIATION.

SECTION 2. Safety clause. The general assembly hereby finds, determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.

Approved: May 29, 2015