

## **SLPs in School Setting - Credentialing and Licensure May 2014**

### **Question**

Dear CSAPer,

Kentucky would like to know:

- 1) What credentialing is required in your state for SLPs working in school settings?
- 2) What is the licensure and/or certification requirement for your state for SLPs to work in the schools?
- 3) What privileges do those credentials provided (i.e., job advancement, salary rank, retirement)?

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### **Responses Received:**

#### **Illinois**

Kentucky, here is your answer from Illinois: If you go to this link on the ISHA website <http://www.ishail.org/licensing-certification> you will find all of the credentialing/licensing information for Illinois. You need a certificate from the Illinois State Board of Education to practice in the schools, but not a state license from the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation. To confuse matters, ISBE changed the "name" of all teacher credentials last year to "Professional Educator Licenses". As far as privileges, it allows us to be a part of the Teacher Retirement System of the State of Illinois if we hold the ISBE license (formerly certificate). Some districts will pay a stipend for the CCC, but that must be negotiated by each bargaining unit for each separate district. That is tough to get approved in these tough economic times.

Are you going to be in Milwaukee this week? I would love to talk to you more about this since we are neighboring states? ISBE is ever changing for us, so ISHA (and our dear lobbyist) try to keep up with information for our membership.

Hope to see you Friday!

Barbara Goodson, M.S., CCC/SLP President-Elect Illinois Speech-Language-Hearing Association

## **Pennsylvania**

The PA Instructional 1 certificate from the Dept. of Education in Speech and Hearing  
There are no license or certification requirements for working in the schools. Our licensure law provides an exemption for those working in the schools. We have tried to unsuccessfully change this over the years. PA now has a new certification in process—the Education Specialist in SLP which has been passed but there are no regulations established yet. Nurses and psychologists have this title in PA>

Kathy Miller  
PSHA President

## **Rhode Island**

- 1) School-based SLPs must have a masters degree & be certified by Dept. of Ed.
- 2) Masters with teaching certificate as SLP (a support professional-- we've had an ongoing debate about this terminology)
- 3) SLPs are part of the teaching staff, getting similar pay with an increase for having a masters. In public schools most are union employees getting the same benefits as colleagues. Many districts have additional pay for doctorates or additional credits (some are fading this out due to lack of funding..

Hope this helps!!!

Ellen

## **Ohio**

In Ohio, a license from the state board of Speech Pathology and Audiology and a license from the Ohio Department of Education  
There are no additional privileges.

Janice Wright

## **Virginia**

We are in the process of changing our credentialing. As of July 1, the Board of Audiology and Speech Pathology of VA will be licensing all SLPs, rather you are grandfathered in or ASHA certified. There is a school licensure for those grandfathered in before the masters was required and another licensure for those that have a masters. As part of the BASLP, all CEUs have to be met in 2 years rather than 3 as stated by ASHA. There are really no privileges as far as advancement, etc.

Wendy Pulliam  
SHAV president

## **Arizona**

Arizona has both Department of Health licensure and Department of Education certification for SLPs working in schools. An SLP must have both to be in a school setting but just Department of Health in a clinical setting. The requirements to get the Department of Education certificate is pretty simple as it is basically just an application (and fee of course) once the individual has their Department of Health. Having the Department of Education certificate allows for the SLP to participate in the state retirement system for teachers, be subject to all of the "teacher" protections statute provides regarding termination processes, advancement on a salary schedule like teachers, and the opportunity to qualify for administrative credentialing which opens opportunities such as Special Education Director.

Jeffrey C. Meeks, EdD CCC-SLP  
ArSHA President

## **New Mexico**

The SLP working in the public schools must hold a master's degree in the area of communication disorders and have their Certificate of Clinical Competence or working on their CFY. The licenses required to work in the public schools are a professional license, issued by the State of New Mexico Regulation & Licensing Department Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology & Hearing Aid Dispensing Practices Board and a School Personnel Licensure issued by the Public Education Department.

The professional license does not provide you with any advancement. However, the School Personnel Licensure is issued at a Level One, Level Two, or Level Three. The levels are based on the number of years you have worked in the public schools. In some districts the higher your license level the more money you will make. In the district where I work, an SLP going from a level one to a level two license will have a pay increase of \$10,000 annually.

SLP's working in the schools are considered a part of the Educational Retirement System and are eligible to pay into and receive retirement when they retire.

Hope this helps.....  
Michael Kaplan  
President, NMSHA

## **New Jersey**

Dear Tamara,

In New Jersey, regardless of the type of school you work in (e.g., public, charter, private), you need a Speech-Language Specialist certificate. You can find the information on securing the certificate at <http://www.state.nj.us/education/educators/license/endorsements/3462S.pdf> As of now, there are no plans for a license from the Division of Consumer Affairs in Newark to be required in schools; however, some school districts want their SLPs to have licenses for Medicaid purposes. I do not work in the schools but I'm not aware of privileges associated with the SLS certificate.

Linda Tucker-Simpson  
President, NJSHA