

South Carolina Board of Examiners in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

Board Meeting Thursday, October 16, 2025 10:00 A.M.

110 Centerview Drive, Upstate Room, Columbia, SC 29210

Board Members Present

Gwendolyn Wilson, Ed.D. CCC-A, Chairperson

Beth F. Montgomery, CCC-SLP, Vice Chair

Jason Wigand, Au.D., CCC-A

Sarah Davis Emory, CCC-SLP

Michael Leonard, General Public Member

Staff Present

Mack Williams, Board Executive

Brandy Duncan, Advice Counsel

Jonathan Owens, Program Coordinator

LeAnna McMenamin, Esq, Office of Disciplinary Counsel

Bianca Smith, Office of Investigation & Enforcement

Other Attendees

Kelli Caldwell, SCSHA

Public notice of this meeting was properly posted at 110 Centerview Drive Columbia, SC 29210 Board of Examiners in Speech Language Pathology and Audiology office, lobby of the Kingstree Building and provided to all requesting persons, organizations and news media in compliance with Section 30-4-80 of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act. A quorum was present at all times.

Call to Order

Dr. Wilson, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was presented for review and approval.

Motion: Dr. Wigand made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Ms. Emory and passed.

Approval or Disapproval of Absent Members

All Board members were present.

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Meeting Minutes

Motion: Ms. Montgomery made a motion to approve the July 17, 2025 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Dr. Wigand and passed.

Motion: Ms. Emory made a motion to approve the September 16, 2025 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Ms. Montgomery and passed.

Administrative Reports

Office of Investigations Report: Ms. Smith, Office of Investigations & Enforcement, presented the OIE statistical report and training report. The Board accepted the reports as information.

Ms. Smith presented the IRC report to the Board. The IRC recommended for one case dismissal and two cases for Formal Complaint.

Motion: Ms. Emory made a motion to accept IRC recommendations. The motion was seconded by Mr. Leonard and passed.

Office of Disciplinary Counsel (ODC) Report: Ms. McMenamin presented the ODC report. The Board accepted the report as information.

Finance Report: Mr. Williams, Board Executive, presented the finance report to the Board. The Board accepted the report as information.

Application Hearings:

Emily Sherer-SLP: Ms. Sherer made a personal appearance before the Board and was not represented by legal counsel. The purpose of the hearing was to determine whether Ms. Sherer should be granted a license reinstatement as a speech-language pathologist. Dr. Wilson closed the hearing to comply with federal confidentiality.

Mr. Leonard recused himself from the hearing.

Motion: In closed session, Dr. Wigand made a motion to go into executive session to receive legal advice. The motion was seconded by Ms. Montgomery and passed.

No votes were taken during executive session.

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Motion: In closed session, Ms. Montgomery made a motion to come out of executive session. The motion was seconded by Ms. Emory and passed.

Motion: In closed session, Ms. Montgomery made a motion to come out of closed session. The motion was seconded by Ms. Emory and passed.

Motion: Ms. Emory made a motion to grant the speech-language pathology license reinstatement. The motion was seconded by Ms. Montgomery and passed.

Board Member Training:

Motion: Ms. Emory made a motion to go into executive session for board member training where legal advice would be received. The motion was seconded by Mr. Leonard and passed.

No votes were taken during executive session.

Motion: In executive session, Dr. Wigand made a motion to come out of executive session. The motion was seconded by Ms. Montgomery and passed.

ETS-Praxis Confidentiality Breach

Mr. Williams updated the Board on the ETS-Praxis confidentiality breach. The ETS informed ASHA that the SLP Praxis examination was recently compromised, which resulted in a small percentage of candidates, primarily individuals testing in June and July 2025 having their scores cancelled. The compromise resulted from 25 candidates violating ETS's test taker confidentiality agreement by harvesting and distributing Praxis exam questions and answers. The individuals who unlawfully harvested and distributed Praxis exam questions had their exam scores cancelled by ETS. Mr. Williams informed the Board that ETS stated that they did not cancel any exams for this reason where our Board was listed as a designated score recipient.

Review Pocket Card/Wall Certificate:

Mr. Williams presented the new pocket card and wall certificate to the Board.

Motion: Dr. Wigand made a motion to approve the new pocket card and wall certificate. The motion was seconded by Ms. Emory and passed.

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Review Intern Clinical Hours Form:

Mr. Williams presented the current Summary of Clinical Clock Hours form to the Board. The Board reviewed the current form. Several schools requested that the form should be updated to reflect the change from “Subtotal Hours at Graduate Level” to “Subtotal Hours Accepted at Graduate Level”. This change in language would clear up any misunderstanding about the ability to add up to fifty (50) undergraduate clock hours to be accepted for the intern license.

Motion: Ms. Montgomery made a motion to accept proposed change. The motion was seconded by Ms. Emory and passed.

Legal Update (79 FR 66107Home Health Prospective Payment System):

Mr. Williams presented the legal update with the Board. The update involves guidance from CMS to allow provisional licensees, such as clinical fellows or speech interns to bill for services provided to Medicare beneficiaries under Part B.

CAA Action Update:

Dr. Wilson discussed the CAA Action update with the Board. An additional school within South Carolina, MUSC, has been accredited for speech-language pathology.

Delegate Authority to Staff to Approve Applications Regarding Criminal History or Disciplinary Actions:

Ms. Duncan discussed the process to delegate authority to staff to approve applications regarding criminal history or disciplinary actions with the Board.

Motion: Ms. Montgomery made a motion to approve and delegate authority to staff to approve applications regarding criminal history or disciplinary actions for items for which the Board has no authority to deny licensure. The motion was seconded by Ms. Emory and passed.

Resolution Guidelines:

Ms. Duncan presented the draft guidelines for addressing unlicensed practice with the Board. Also, Ms. Duncan presented the new drafts of the consent agreements for unlicensed practice. The Board discussed the sanction guidelines for unlicensed practice. The Board provided feedback for additional work needed on the guidelines. The Board will discuss the draft of the sanction guidelines at the next Board meeting.

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2026 Board Meeting Dates:

The Board discussed the 2026 Board meeting dates. The Board concluded that the 2026 Board meeting date for the October 2026 meeting does not need to be changed.

2025 – NCSB Annual Conference Update:

Dr. Wilson stated thanked the agency for approving the full Board to attend the 2025 NCSB Annual Conference. Ms. Montgomery and Dr. Wigand coordinated breakout sessions which was very well received. Mr. Williams and Ms. Emory presented the state exchange which was very well received. Also, Mr. Leonard was acknowledged as well. Mr. Leonard informed the Board of his experience of attending the annual conference. Dr. Wilson opined that the SC Board was very well represented and respected at the conference. Ms. Montgomery stated that the conference was one of the most well attended in quite some time. There was a lot of positive feedback for the sessions and the meeting locations.

ASLP Compact Update:

Ms. Montgomery, Dr. Wigand, and Ms. Emory discussed the ASLP Compact with the Board. The Compact system is under development and is expected to launch in the future. The fee structure for joining the Compact is complex, with each state having its own fee. The criminal background check process is still an issue for some states, and there is no set launch date for the ASLP Compact Connect system.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Ms. Montgomery motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded and approved by Mr. Leonard and passed.

(The meeting adjourned at 1:29 pm)