



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL
AND FINANCIAL REGULATION
**BOARD OF EXAMINERS ON
SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY & AUDIOLOGY**
35 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
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GOVERNOR

ANNE L. HEAD
DIRECTOR

September 7, 2005

**Informational Letter Regarding Continuing Professional Education Requirements
For Licensed Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists**

Please accept this communication as additional clarification regarding the board's expectations for completing the continuing professional education activities as outlined in Chapter 3 of the board's rules as the license renewal date of February 28, 2006 draws nearer.

First, the board interprets the effect of Chapter 13 (OLR's Audit Rule) to be that the reporting period for the completion of continuing professional education activities begins on the first date of initial licensure and ends on the expiration date of February 28th of every even-numbered years. Therefore, the reporting period for the 2006 renewal cycle is March 1, 2004 through February 28, 2006.

However, in order to transition the current reporting period fairly, the board is providing a **one-time only** exception to allow hours earned between November 1, 2003 and February 28, 2004 for purposes of meeting the continuing professional education requirements for the February 28, 2006 renewal cycle. In addition, please note that anyone granted an earlier extension by the board to complete the 2004 renewal requirements, is not permitted to use those hours as part of this one-time exception.

Finally, since the board is no longer issuing BESPAs, the board wants you to know that it is currently examining the redrafting of Chapter 3 of its rules to identify acceptable settings for meeting the continuing professional education requirements. However, please note that you are still required to complete 25 hours (35 hours if dually licensed as SLP and Audiologist) of continuing professional education activities on a biennial basis pursuant to Chapter 3, Sections 1 and 3 of the board's rules. Specifically, the rule requires that the activities must be clinically or professionally relevant with no more than 12 hours of professionally relevant activities, including up to 10 hours of ASHA-approved self study. (However, please note that for initial licensure only, continuing professional education activities are prorated based upon the date of initial licensure.)



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Suggested sources of continuing professional education activities are available at the following website locations:

Maine Speech Language Hearing Association:

www.mslha.org

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association:

www.asha.org

A full copy of OLR Chapter 13 rule “Uniform Rule for the Substantiation of Continuing Education Requirements” can be accessed at the following website (Ref: 02 041):

www.state.me.us/sos/cec/rcn/apa/02/chaps02.htm

For more information regarding this notification or questions regarding acceptable continuing professional education activities, please contact the Board at (207)624-8626.