

TITLE 21 – OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

CHAPTER 64 - BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF SPEECH AND LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS AND AUDIOLOGISTS

Notice is hereby given in accordance with G.S. 150B-21.2 that the North Carolina Board of Examiners for Speech and Language Pathologists and Audiologists intends to adopt the rule cited as 21 NCAC 64 .0219.

Proposed Effective Date: July 1, 2010

Public Hearing:

Date: April 23, 2010

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Location: Sheraton Imperial Hotel, 4700 Emperor Blvd., Durham, NC 27703

Reason for Proposed Action: To keep up with technology.

Procedure by which a person can object to the agency on a proposed rule: Any person may object to the proposed rule by attending the public hearing on April 23, 2010 and/or by submitting a written objection by April 30, 2010 to John C. Randall, 3101 Tower Blvd., 1315, Durham, NC 27707.

Comments may be submitted to: John C. Randall, 3101 Tower Blvd., 1315, Durham, NC 27707; phone (919) 403-0351

Comment period ends: April 30, 2010

Procedure for Subjecting a Proposed Rule to Legislative Review: If an objection is not resolved prior to the adoption of the rule, a person may also submit written objections to the Rules Review Commission after the adoption of the Rule. If the Rules Review Commission receives written and signed objections after the adoption of the Rule in accordance with G.S. 150B-21.3(b2) from 10 or more persons clearly requesting review by the legislature and the Rules Review Commission approves the rule, the rule will become effective as provided in G.S. 150B-21.3(b1). The Commission will receive written objections until 5:00 p.m. on the day following the day the Commission approves the rule. The Commission will receive those objections by mail, delivery service, hand delivery, or facsimile transmission. If you have any further questions concerning the submission of objections to the Commission, please call a Commission staff attorney at 919-431-3000.

Fiscal Impact:

- State
- Local
- Substantial Economic Impact (\geq \$3,000,000)
- None

SECTION .0200 - INTERPRETATIVE RULES

21 NCAC 64 .0219 TELEPRACTICE

Telepractice means the use of telecommunications and information technologies for the exchange of encrypted patient data, obtained through real-time interaction, from one site to another for the provision of speech and language pathology and audiology services to patients through hardwire or internet connection.

- (1) Licensees of this Board may evaluate and treat patients receiving clinical services in North Carolina by utilizing telepractice.
- (2) The Board requires telepractice to occur in real time and anonymity and in a manner sufficient to ensure and secure patient privacy.
- (3) Telepractice is subject to the same standard of practice as if the person being treated were physically present with the licensee. The standard of practice is the full responsibility of the licensee and cannot be delegated.
- (4) Staff and licensees involved in telepractice must be trained in the use of telepractice equipment and competent in its operation.

Authority G.S. 90-304(a)(3).