

Sixty-third  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1092**

Introduced by

Human Services Committee

(At the request of the Board of Examiners on Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology)

A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 43-37 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to licensing out-of-state audiologists and speech-language pathologists; to amend and reenact section 43-37-04 and subsection 2 of section 43-37-05 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the licensing of audiologists and the composition of the board of examiners on audiology and speech-language pathology; and to provide an effective date.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

**SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 43-37-04 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

**43-37-04. Eligibility for licensure.**

To be eligible for licensure by the board as an audiologist or speech-language pathologist, an applicant shall meet all the following requirements:

1. Be of good moral character.
2. Possess an appropriate degree from an educational institution recognized by the board.
  - a. An applicant for a speech-language pathologist license shall possess at least a master's degree in speech-language pathology.
  - b. An applicant for an audiologist license shall possess at least a master's or a doctorate degree in audiology.
3. Submit evidence showing qualifications prescribed by rules of the board.
4. Pass an examination approved by the board within one year of application. ~~The board may waive the examination requirement if the applicant presents proof of licensure in another state which has professional standards equivalent to those required by the board, except as provided by the board by rule.~~
5. Pay the prescribed fee.

1       **SECTION 2.** A new section to chapter 43-37 of the North Dakota Century Code is created  
2 and enacted as follows:

3       **Licensing of out-of-state practitioners.**

4       1.   The board may adopt rules establishing licensure requirements for applicants who  
5           hold a current license in good standing to practice as an audiologist or  
6           speech-language pathologist in a state or jurisdiction other than this state and who are  
7           not the subject of a pending disciplinary action in any state or jurisdiction.

8       2.   Notwithstanding section 43-37-04, as it relates to the licensure eligibility of an  
9           out-of-state audiologist or speech-language pathologist, the board's rules may allow  
10          for:

11          a.   Waiver of the examination requirement if the applicant meets the requirements  
12              established by the board.

13          b.   Consideration of education and experience in order to meet the education  
14              requirements.

15       **SECTION 3. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 2 of section 43-37-05 of the North Dakota Century  
16 Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

- 17       2.   The board must be composed of eight members appointed by the governor.  
18           Appointees must be residents of this state for at least one year immediately preceding  
19           their appointment and, except for the consumer member, must be engaged in  
20           rendering services to the public, in teaching, or in research in audiology or  
21           speech-language pathology for at least three years preceding their appointment. Two  
22           board members must be audiologists, ~~three~~four must be speech-language  
23           pathologists, one must be an otolaryngologist, ~~one must be a hearing aid specialist,~~  
24           and one must be a consumer.

25       **SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.** Section ~~23~~24 of this Act becomes effective on July 1, 2014.