

**FIRST ENGROSSMENT**

**ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1049**

Introduced by

Human Services Committee

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

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact subsection 2 of section 43-37-02 and section 43-37-04  
2 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to licensure requirements of a speech-language  
3 pathology licensed assistant and temporary licensure.

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

5 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 2 of section 43-37-02 of the North Dakota Century  
6 Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

7 2. "Audiology" means the application of principles, methods, and procedures of  
8 measurement, testing, evaluation, prediction, consultation, counseling, instruction,  
9 habilitation, or rehabilitation related to hearing and disorders of hearing including  
10 vestibular testing, for the purpose of evaluating, identifying, managing, preventing,  
11 ameliorating, or modifying such disorders and conditions in individuals or groups of  
12 individuals.

13 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 43-37-04 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
14 amended and reenacted as follows:

15 **43-37-04. Eligibility for licensure.**

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

- 18 1. Be of good moral character.  
19 2. Possess an appropriate degree from an educational institution recognized by the  
20 board.  
21 a. An applicant for a speech-language pathologist license must possess at least a  
22 master's degree in speech-language pathology.

- 1           b. An applicant for an audiologist license must possess at least a doctorate degree  
2           in audiology.
- 3           c. An applicant for a speech-language pathology assistant license must possess at  
4           least ~~one~~ hundred hours of supervised clinical experience and:
- 5           (1) A bachelor's degree in speech-language pathology or communication  
6           disorders; or
- 7           (2) A two-year degree in speech-language pathology assistants program or a  
8           bachelor's degree in another field with coursework in the following areas:
- 9           (a) Introduction to communication disorders;  
10          (b) Phonetics;  
11          (c) Speech sound disorders;  
12          (d) Language development;  
13          (e) Language disorders; and  
14          (f) Anatomy and physiology of speech and hearing mechanisms.
- 15          d. An applicant for a temporary license must show proof of active licensure within  
16          the past five years in the state or another jurisdiction. Limitations on temporary  
17          licensure length and qualifications to obtain full licensure must be prescribed by  
18          rules of the board.
- 19          3. Submit evidence showing qualifications prescribed by rules of the board.
- 20          4. Within one year of application an applicant for licensure as a speech-language  
21          pathologist, speech-language pathology assistant, or audiologist must pass any  
22          applicable examination prescribed by rules adopted by the board.
- 23          5. Pay the prescribed fee.