APA-4
Revised 1/2018

CERTIFICATION OF EMERGENCY RULES
FILED WITH LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OTHNI LATHRAM, DIRECTOR

Pursuant to Code of Alabama 1975, §§41-22-5(b) and 41-22-6(c)(2) a. and b.

I certify that the attached emergency (amendment, new rule, new chapter, repeal or adoption by reference) is a correct copy as promulgated and adopted on the 11th day of December 2020.

AGENCY NAME: Alabama Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

RULE NO. AND TITLE: 870-X-2-.05 ER Clinical Fellowship or Fourth Year Internship and Requirement

870-X-2-.05 ER Roles and Responsibilities of the Clinical Fellowship or Fourth Year Internship Supervisor

EFFECTIVE DATE OF RULE: December 22, 2020

EXPIRATION DATE (If less than 120 days): Removal of Governor Kay Ivey's Declaration of State of Emergency March 13, 2020, relating to the COVID-19 health emergency or 120 days, whichever is sooner.

NATURE OF EMERGENCY: COVID-19 Crisis

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: Code of Alabama 1975, §34-28A-1 through §34-28A-44

SUBJECT OF RULE TO BE ADOPTED ON PERMANENT BASIS ____ YES __X__ NO

NAME, ADDRESS, AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF PERSON TO CONTACT FOR COPY OF RULE:
Wanda Rawlinson
PO Box 304760
Montgomery, AL 36130-4760
334-269-1434

DEC 22 2020

/s/Wanda C. Rawlinson, Executive Secretary
Signature of officer authorized to promulgate and adopt rules and regulations or his or her deputy

FILING DATE
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870-X-2-.05 Clinical Fellowship or Fourth-Year Internship and Requirements.

(1) Persons fulfilling the clinical experience (Clinical Fellowship or Fourth-Year Internship) are required to apply for a provisional license with the Board within thirty (30) days of beginning employment or an internship. The application process must be completed within sixty (60) days of receipt of application. If requirements listed below are not met within sixty (60) days, the applicant will lose the application fee and must reapply. A license will not be granted until the applicant has successfully applied with the Board and the supervised clinical experience is complete. The following apply to both Clinical Fellowship and Fourth-Year Internship:

(a) Provisional license application.
(b) $200 application fee.
(c) In light of the emerging COVID-19 crisis and the need for consumers to continue to receive speech-language pathology and audiology services, the Alabama Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (ABESPA) has implemented a temporary change to the requirement for a Notary Signature. In addition to the in-person notary signature adjustments provided by Governor Kay Ivey's March 26, 2020 and April 2, 2020 Proclamations, ABESPA is waiving the requirement of a notary signature for ALL documents where a notary signature is required.

The notary signature waiver is necessary to address issues for out-of-state licensees, who are not covered by Governor Ivey's Proclamations that address only Alabama residents and the difficulty to access a notary with video conferencing capabilities. The Notary Waiver is effective immediately and will remain in enforce through the end of any State of Alabama Government orders issued to address the COVID-19 crisis but will not exceed 120 days from the date of this emergency order, whichever comes first.

Because of the continued COVID-19 crisis, this emergency rule is continued until further notice. The rule is continued because ABESPA could not have anticipated the ongoing COVID-19 crisis.

A notarized statement from the applicant's Clinical Fellowship or Fourth-Year Internship supervisor which must include:

(i) Beginning date of Clinical Fellowship or Fourth-Year Internship.
(ii) Expected completion date
(iii) Number of hours to be worked each week.
(iv) Place of employment.
(v) Supervisor's name and Alabama license number.

(d) ALL official undergraduate and graduate transcripts.

(2) The applicant must notify the Board within ten (10) days of any changes in employer or supervisor.

(3) Following approval of the Clinical Fellowship or Fourth-Year Internship, the Board shall issue a provisional license. This provisional license shall reveal the full name of the Clinical Fellowship/Fourth Year Internship, the beginning date of the clinical experience, the expected completion date, the number of hours worked per week, the number of weeks worked, supervisor's name, supervisor's license number (supervision to be provided in accordance with the accrediting Association or Academy guidelines), and shall bear a serial number. The provisional license shall be signed by the chair of the Board or the executive secretary under the

seal of the Board. The purpose of the provisional license is to indicate to the general public legal compliance by the Clinical Fellowship/Fourth Year Internship with the Board rules and regulations for the period of time indicated on the provisional license. The provisional license shall contain the following statement: "This is to certify that (Clinical Fellowship/Fourth Year Internship's name) is engaged in the completion of his/her clinical experience and to further certify that (Clinical Fellowship/Fourth Year Internship's name) is under the supervision of (supervisor's name) a licensed (speech-language pathologist or audiologist) (license number)".

(4) Applicant has thirty (30) days to complete the process to obtain a license in Speech-Language Pathology and/or Audiology following the supervised clinical experience.

(5) The Clinical Fellowship must be completed within a maximum of 36 months. The following is a suggested work schedule that may be used to meet Clinical Fellowship requirements:

(a) Full-time Clinical Fellowship:
30 hours or more per week for 9 months

(b) Part-time Clinical Fellowship:
25-29 hours per week for 12 months
20-24 hours per week for 15 months
15-19 hours per week for 18 months

Professional employment of any less than 15 hours per week will not fulfill any part of this requirement.

(6) For the Fourth-Year Internship, the acquisition of a total 1,820 hours (that include hours obtained prior to the commencement of the Fourth-Year Internship). Total number of clinical practicum hours may vary based on current academic requirements.

(7) Roles and Responsibilities of the Clinical Fellowship/Fourth Year Internship Supervisor.

(a) Provide meaningful mentoring and feedback to the Clinical Fellow/Fourth Year Internship to assist the Clinical Fellowship/Fourth Year Intern in developing independent clinical skills.

(b) <u>In light of the emerging COVID-19 crisis and the need for consumers to continue to receive speech language pathology and audiology services, the Alabama Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology has implemented a temporary change to 870-X-2-.05 (7) "CF/Fourth-Year Internship Supervisor" to allow for the following:</u>

<u>Direct supervision of the Clinical Fellowship/Fourth Year Internship by the licensed supervisor via telesupervision can satisfy direct supervision requirements if real-time technologies are utilized.</u>

<u>All other aspects of said regulation regarding the CF/Fourth-Year supervision remain enforce. This emergency rule change is effective immediately and will remain in force through the end of any State of Alabama Government orders issued to address the COVID-19 crisis but will not exceed 120 days from the date of this emergency order, whichever comes first.</u>

Because of the continued COVID-19 crisis, this emergency rule is continued until further notice. The rule is continued because ABESPA could not have anticipated the ongoing COVID-19 crisis.

Conduct the required minimum supervisory obligations. Supervisory obligations are specified for each segment of the Clinical Fellowship or Fourth Year Internship period. Each segment is one-third the length of the Clinical Fellowship/Fourth Year Internship; for the Clinical Fellowship, a nine month fellowship would be broken into three segments, each three months in duration, a thirty-six month Clinical Fellowship would be broken into three segment of twelve months each. For the Fourth Year Internship, the length of the internship period and the consequent length of each one-third interval is determined by the academic institution under whose authority the intern is completing the internship.

(c) Supervisory obligations include 6 hours of direct supervision per segment and 6 indirect monitoring activities per segment. Indirect monitoring might include reviewing diagnostic report/treatment records/plans of treatment, monitoring the Clinical Fellowship/Fourth Year Intern's work by consulting with colleagues or clients and their families. These requirements are not intended to supplant or supersede supervisory requirements of appropriate accrediting or certifying entities or academic programs.

(d) The main purpose of the Clinical Fellowship/Fourth Year Internship is to improve the clinical effectiveness of the Clinical Fellowship/Fourth Year Intern. The mentoring SLP or Audiologist must provide performance feedback to the Clinical Fellowship/Fourth Year Intern throughout the Clinical Fellowship/Fourth Year Internship. Feedback and goal-setting require two-way communication whereby both the Clinical Fellowship/Fourth Year Intern mentoring SLP or Audiologist and the Clinical Fellowship/Fourth Year Intern share important information about the Clinical Fellowship's/Fourth Year Internship's performance of clinical activities. A specific time should be set aside for each performance feedback session at the end of each of the three segments of the Clinical Fellowship/Fourth Year Internship. This session should be used to identify performance strengths and weaknesses and through discussion and goal setting, to assist the Clinical Fellow/Fourth Year Intern in developing necessary clinical skills for appropriate and effective clinical practice.

(e) If the Clinical Fellowship/Fourth Year Internship supervisor anticipates at any time during the Clinical Fellowship/Fourth Year Internship that the Clinical Fellow under supervision will fail to satisfactorily complete the Clinical Fellowship/Fourth Year Internship, the supervising SLP or Audiologist must counsel the Clinical Fellowship/Fourth Year Intern (both verbally and in writing) and maintain written records of all contract and conferences over the ensuing months.

(f) Submit a notarized statement indicating satisfactory completion of the Clinical Fellowship/Fourth Year Internship submission of the academic transcript showing completion of the doctoral program is required to indicate completion of the Fourth Year Internship.

Authors: Martha Paxton, Susan Grigsby, Florence Cuneo. Amanda Blaszczynski, Florence Cuneo, Lana Langley and Mark Carroll.

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§34-28A-1, et seq.
History: Filed August 21, 2000. Filed September 13, 2002. Filed July 20, 2006. Filed July 15, 2010. Filed May 16, 2013. Filed September 8, 2017, Emergency Rule Flied April 16, 2020, Emergence Rule Filed August 24, 2020.