

LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF IDAHO
Sixty-second Legislature First Regular Session - 2013

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 34

BY HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO THE SPEECH AND HEARING SERVICES PRACTICE ACT; AMENDING SECTION 54-2909, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS RELATING TO A QUORUM OF THE BOARD; AND AMENDING SECTION 54-2912, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE THAT AN APPLICANT FOR LICENSURE SHALL PROVIDE DOCUMENTATION THAT SUCH APPLICANT POSSESSES A DOCTORAL DEGREE WITH EMPHASIS IN AUDIOLOGY AND THAT THE APPLICANT SHALL SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE A SUPERVISED ACADEMIC CLINICAL PRACTICUM.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

SECTION 1. That Section 54-2909, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

54-2909. OFFICERS -- QUORUM -- MEETINGS -- COMPENSATION. (1) The board, within sixty (60) days after the effective date of this act and annually thereafter, shall hold a meeting and elect one (1) of its members as chairperson, to serve a one (1) year term in such capacity, who shall preside at meetings of the board. In the event the chairperson is not present at any board meeting, the board may by majority vote of the members present appoint a temporary chairperson.

(2) Four (4) members of the board shall constitute a quorum, provided at least one (1) audiologist, one (1) speech-language pathologist, and the hearing aid dealer and fitter member ~~and the public member~~ are present. The board may act by virtue of a majority vote of members present in which a quorum is present.

(3) The board shall meet at least two (2) times per year at a place, day and hour determined by the board. Other meetings may be convened at the call of the chairperson or upon the written request of any two (2) board members.

(4) Members of the board shall be compensated as provided by section 59-509(n), Idaho Code.

SECTION 2. That Section 54-2912, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

54-2912. QUALIFICATIONS FOR LICENSURE -- AUDIOLOGIST. (1) To be eligible for licensure by the board as an audiologist, the applicant shall:

(a) File a written application with the board on forms prescribed and furnished by the board. A nonrefundable application fee shall accompany the completed written application. Such fees shall be established by the administrative rules of the board and shall be in such amounts as are reasonable and necessary for the proper execution and enforcement of this chapter;

(b) Provide documentation satisfactory to the board that the applicant possesses a ~~master's or~~ doctoral degree with emphasis in audiology ~~or~~

1 ~~not less than seventy-five (75) semester credit hours of post-baccalau-~~
2 ~~reate study that culminates in a doctoral or other recognized degree~~
3 from a nationally accredited school for audiology with a curriculum
4 acceptable to the board;

5 (c) Pass an examination in audiology approved by the board;

6 (d) ~~Meet the current~~ Successfully complete a supervised academic clin-
7 ical practicum, ~~and supervised postgraduate professional experience~~
8 ~~approved by the board;~~

9 (e) Have never had a license for audiology revoked as part of disci-
10 plinary action from this or any other state, and shall not be found by
11 the board to have engaged in conduct prohibited by section 54-2923,
12 Idaho Code, provided however, the board may take into consideration the
13 rehabilitation of the applicant and other mitigating circumstances.

14 (2) The applicant shall disclose on his written application:

15 (a) Any criminal conviction or charge, other than minor traffic infrac-
16 tions, against the applicant;

17 (b) Any disciplinary action taken against the applicant by any profes-
18 sional regulatory agency, including any agency within the state or any
19 other state; and

20 (c) Any denial of registration or licensure by any state or district
21 regulatory body.

22 (3) The board may require an applicant to be personally interviewed by
23 the board or a designated committee of the board. The interview shall be lim-
24 ited to a review of the applicant's qualifications and professional creden-
25 tials.