

# FLORIDA | Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology



**Draft Teleconference Meeting Minutes**  
**Board of Speech-Language, Pathology & Audiology**  
**GoTo Meeting**  
<https://meet.goto.com/456352981>  
**Meet-Me-Number 1-877-309-2073**  
**Access Code: 456-352-981**  
**September 16, 2022**  
**9:00 a.m.**

The Meeting was called to order by Board Chair, Frederick Rahe at 9:05 a.m.

Present for all or part of the meeting, include:

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Frederick Rahe, Au.D., Chair  
Sergio Guerreiro, Au.D., Vice-Chair  
Dania Lopez-Ramirez, SLP  
Niva Falk, SLP  
Sherry Jordan, Ed.S.

**BOARD STAFF PRESENT:**

Danielle Terrell, Executive Director  
Carol Taylor, Program Administrator  
Derek Nieves, Regulatory Specialist III  
Brittany Duhart, Regulatory Specialist II  
Crystal Hendershot, Regulatory Specialist II  
Joe Svisco, Administrative Assistant II

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

NONE

**BOARD COUNSEL:**

Tom Jones, Board Counsel

**COURT REPORTER:**

For the Record Court Reporting  
Ray Convery  
(850) 222-5491

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Adrienne Fuller, SLP

*Please note that the meeting minutes reflect the actual order that agenda items were discussed during the meeting and may differ from the agenda outline.*

## **APPLICATIONS FOR REVIEW**

### **APPLICATION RELATED TO PETITION FOR VARIANCE/WAIVER**

**TAB 1:** Diana Lucia Abarca, File #11432

Applicant was present.

**Action Taken:** After discussion, the applicant waived the ninety-day statutory requirement for board action on a completed application, verbally on the record.

**Amended Motion:** by Dr. Guerreiro, seconded by Ms. Ramirez, to table the application until the October 14, 2022 meeting, to allow the applicant the opportunity to file a petition for variance/waiver of rule. Motion carried.

### **TAB 2: BOARD MEMBER INTRODUCTIONS**

Board members introduced themselves and provided a summary of their background.

### **TAB 3: STAFF INTRODUCTIONS**

Board office staff introduced themselves and provided a summary of their background, their duties and role within the office, and how that impacts application processing. An overview of the organizational chart was provided for informational purposes.

### **TAB 4: LICENSURE STATISTICS**

Program Office Administrator (POA) provided board members with information regarding application processing and issues impacting that process.

The POA provided board members with the total number of licenses held for each profession last year, as well as the number of licenses issued during the same timeframe for each profession.

In follow up to discussions from the last board meeting, the POA provided the statutory requirement for processing an initial application. This was further explained to eliminate earlier confusion regarding the processing time posted on the board website.

The days from deemed qualified day to licensure for each license type from the annual report and the days from deemed qualified day to licensure for each license type from the last quarter to the current quarter to reflect issues due to graduation was also provided to further clarify the misconception applicants had regarding the length of time the board takes to process an application. Many were in belief that they had provided all required information when in fact they had not. It was noted that there will always be outliers that do take longer.

Further information was provided to meet previous inquiries by the board, regarding the identification of outliers, the determination of issues experienced, and how long it took to resolve the issues.

Additionally provided were common deficiencies and methods to cure those deficiencies. The POA informed the board that the board office is constantly seeking methods to improve the process and that they will continue to do so.

Take aways were provided and the board office indicated a dedication to have better communication with applicants, licensees, and schools moving forward.

## **TAB 5: RULE MAKING TIMELINE**

A rule making timeline was provided for board members for informational purposes. The timeline assists with understanding the rule making process and associated notice requirements and timelines. A brief overview of the timeline was provided by board counsel.

## **ADJOURN**

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Next meeting September 28, 2022, Joint Meeting with the Board of Hearing Aid Specialists via GoToMeeting

Next SLPA meeting: October 14, 2022