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**AB268**  
**NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFICATION**  
**FOR SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS**  
**EMPLOYED AS**  
***TEACHERS OF PUPILS WHO HAVE SPEECH***  
***AND LANGUAGE IMPAIRMENTS***  
**IN NEVADA SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

- Validation Process for the ASHA Exam
- Clinical Fellowship Experience:  
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- Clinical Fellowship Skills Inventory (CFSI)
- Scope of Practice in Speech Pathology
- Guidelines on the Role and Responsibilities of the School-Based Speech-Language Pathologist - Executive Summary
- Roles and Responsibilities of Speech-Language Pathologists with Respect to Reading and Writing in Children and Adolescents

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ASSEMBLY EDUCATION  
DATE: 3/19/03 ROOM: 3143 EXHIBIT E  
SUBMITTED BY: DAWN GIBBONS

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# Validation Process for the ASHA Exam

## *Introduction*

For 75 years, ASHA has been the guardian of the professions of audiology and speech-language pathology. Since 1952, the organization has been awarding the Certificate of Clinical Competence (CCC) in audiology (CCC-A), speech-pathology (CCC-SLP) or both (CCC-A/SLP), to those who meet its rigorous requirements.

## *ASHA Certification Means High Quality*

ASHA certification requires that its professionals in their respective fields have met rigorous standards of training and competency and have passed a national examination. Each certificate holder must have completed a minimum of 30 semester hours of professional course work, taken at least 27 semester hours in the basic sciences, earned 21 graduate credits, completed 350 clock-hours of a clinical practicum with certified supervisors, completed 36 weeks of supervised clinical fellowship and passed the national exam.

## *The National Examination*

The national examination is administered six times a year as the Specialty Area Test of the Praxis Series by the Educational Testing Service (ETS). The examination is administered at over 400 test centers throughout the nation. All exams follow the same content outline.

The examination focuses on three major areas: evaluation; management; and administration. The exam has 150 objective multiple-choice questions that must be answered in two hours. Questions require factual recall, application of information and clinical decision making from given scenarios.

Applicants for the CCCs must pass the examination within two years from the date the course work and practicum are approved by the ASHA Clinical Certification Board. If the applicant does not pass the exam during this period, the applicant is required to reapply for certification. The current passing score is 600.

ASHA imposes the most rigorous standards for the professions. As a result, the letters "CCC" inspire trust to the public. To parents, they inspire confidence. To individuals who possess the CCC there is the satisfaction of knowing that they have achieved the model of excellence recognized by governmental and private agencies.

November 30, 2001

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# V: The Clinical Fellowship Experience

ASHA maintains that academic and practicum experiences alone are not sufficient preparation for an individual to function as an independent, competent professional providing high-quality care in speech-language pathology. Therefore, all applicants for the Certificate of Clinical Competence (CCC) are required to successfully complete a clinical fellowship (CF) in addition to the required academic and practicum experiences and the Praxis Series examination in speech-language pathology.

The clinical fellowship is an important transitional phase between supervised graduate-level practicum and the independent delivery of services. Inherent in this transition are:

- development of a total commitment to quality speech, language, and hearing services;
- integration and application of theoretical knowledge gained in academic training;
- evaluation of individual strengths and limitations;
- refinement of clinical skills; and
- development of clinical skills consistent with the current scope of practice in the profession.

## Clinical Fellows

The clinical fellow is an individual who is obtaining the supervised professional clinical experience required to obtain the CCC. Professional experience includes direct client contact, consultations, record keeping, or any other duties relevant to a bona fide program of clinical work. Time spent in supervision of students, academic teaching, and research, as well as administrative activity that does not deal directly with patient management, may not be counted as professional experience in this context. The clinical fellow **may not** supervise students in clinical practicum.

**Academic and clinical practicum requirements must be completed before the clinical fellowship is initiated.** The clinical fellow must request supervision from a person holding a current CCC in the area in which certification is sought. **It is the responsibility of the clinical fellow to verify the certification status of the clinical fellowship supervisor before initiating the experience and to verify the supervisor's continuing certification throughout the duration of the clinical fellowship experience.** Individuals may verify the certification status of their supervisor by calling

ASHA's Action Center at its toll-free number (800-498-2071) or asking to see the supervisor's ASHA membership card (note the expiration date).

## State Licensure/Regulatory Requirements

Before beginning a clinical fellowship, the individual must determine what the state licensing agency requires of persons fulfilling a clinical fellowship. Some states use a different designation for the fellowship (e.g., Required Professional Employment). Many states require clinical fellows to register with the licensing agency, obtain a provisional or temporary license, and/or file a clinical fellowship plan. The addresses and phone numbers of the state regulatory agencies are included on ASHA's Fax-on-Demand line (877-541-5035) or on ASHA's Web site ([www.asha.org](http://www.asha.org)). This information is updated regularly. Completing the clinical fellowship without also meeting the state requirements may jeopardize one's ability to practice.

## Clinical Fellowship Setting

It is recognized that services for persons with speech, language, and hearing disabilities can be provided in any one of a number of diverse employment settings. The determination of whether a given setting is appropriate for the clinical fellowship is made by first applying the criterion of whether the particular program or program component is designed to evaluate, habilitate, or rehabilitate individuals with speech, language, and hearing disabilities. Second, the program must afford the possibility that clinical fellowship supervisory requirements can be met. It is the clinical fellow's responsibility to obtain employment in a setting that meets these criteria. It is also the clinical fellow's responsibility to abide by ASHA's *Code of Ethics* during the clinical fellowship.

It is further recognized that many highly specialized programs are appropriate for the clinical fellowship, even though they deal intensively with only a small number of individuals. Evaluation and treatment programs in schools, clinics, hospitals, community agencies, nursing homes, and home health agencies are appropriate clinical fellowship settings. However, programs that primarily provide screening services are **not** suitable for the clinical fellowship experience.