

SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY & AUDIOLOGY

Enabling Laws

Act 18 of 2010
A.C.A. §17-100-101 et seq.

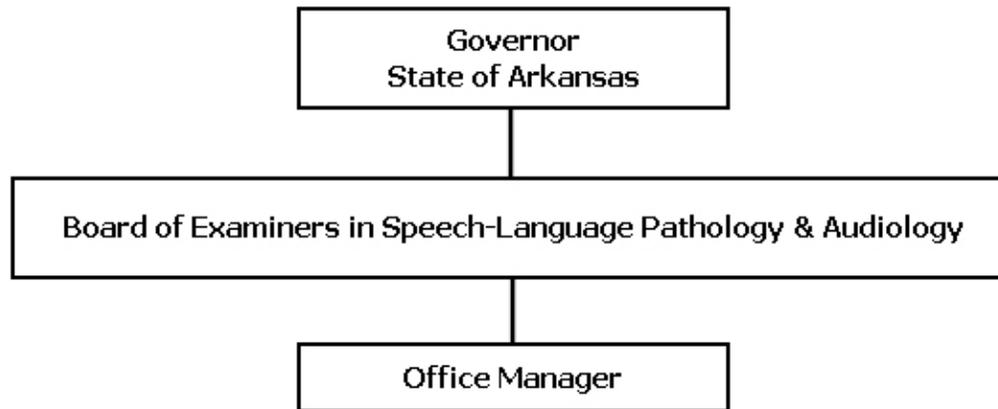
History and Organization

The Arkansas Board of Examiners in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (ABESPA) was formed in 1975 through enabling legislation, Act 277. Act 121 revised parts of the original legislation in 1993. In 1995 Act 826 was passed allowing use of speech-language pathology assistants. Rules and Regulations were last revised effective June 12, 2005.

The Board is composed of eight (8) members. These include five (5) professionals in Speech Pathology and Audiology (at least 2 from each field), a consumer representative, a public representative, and a senior citizen. The members are appointed by the Governor for three (3) year terms. A member may serve two (2) full consecutive terms.

The mission of this Board is to help assure the availability of the highest possible quality speech-language pathology and audiology services to the communicatively handicapped people of this State by strict licensing requirements and mandatory continuing professional education and to protect the public from being misled by incompetent, unscrupulous, and unauthorized persons and from unprofessional conduct on the part of qualified speech-language pathologists and audiologists.

ABESPA examines the credentials and qualifications of Speech Pathologists, Speech Pathology Assistants, and Audiologists who wish to provide services to the citizens of Arkansas. A license or registration is issued to those individuals who meet the qualifications. After licensure, each professional is required to meet mandatory continuing education requirements, which are monitored by the Board. ABESPA also acts on behalf of consumers by investigating complaints, conducting hearings, and taking disciplinary action, when warranted, to ensure that quality Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology services are delivered.



Agency Commentary

Granting and maintaining licenses and registrations for Speech-Language Pathologists, Speech Pathology Assistants, and Audiologists is an ongoing function of the Board of Examiners in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology according to A.C.A. §17-100-101 et seq. The operations of the Board, which includes one full-time employee and one part-time extra help position, are funded from the receipt of fees charged by the Agency.

The Board is requesting Base Level for the 2011-2013 biennium.

Audit Findings

DIVISION OF LEGISLATIVE AUDIT
 AUDIT OF :
 SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY & AUDIOLOGY

Findings

A separate report for this Agency was not issued. However, financial activity for the Agency was included in the audit of the State's CAFR for the year ended June 30, 2009.

Recommendations

Employment Summary

	Male	Female	Total	%
White Employees	0	1	1	100 %
Black Employees	0	0	0	0 %
Other Racial Minorities	0	0	0	0 %
Total Minorities			0	0 %
Total Employees			1	100 %

Cash Fund Balance Description as of June 30, 2010

Fund Account	Balance	Type	Location
3290000	\$731,211	Checking, State Treasury	Bank of America, State Treasury

Statutory/Other Restrictions on use:

A.C.A. §17-100-206 - All fees and other funds received by the Board of Examiners in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology shall be deposited in a bank account in the name of the board in one or more banks in this state and shall be used by the board exclusively for payment of reasonable and necessary salaries, maintenance, and operating expenses.

Statutory Provisions for Fees, Fines, Penalties:

A.C.A. §17-100-206 - The Board shall be financed from income accruing to it from fees, licenses, and other charges collected by the board, and have the authority to establish and change fees.

Revenue Receipts Cycle:

Revenue is collected throughout the year; however, most of the fees are collected during renewal time in the month of June.

Fund Balance Utilization:

Since the largest proportion of fees are collected at the end of the fiscal year, funds are carried over for use in carrying out the business of the office.

Publications

A.C.A. 25-1-204

Name	Statutory Authorization	Required for		# of Copies	Reason(s) for Continued Publication and Distribution
		Governor	General Assembly		
Consumer Information Brochure	ABESPA Rules & Regulations Section 1.8	N	N	300	Provided to all licensees for use in offices and clinics.
Licensure Directory	ABESPA Rules & Regulations Section 1.8	N	N	2,100	Required by rules and regulations for use by licensees and others

Agency Position Usage Report

FY2008 - 2009						FY2009 - 2010						FY2010 - 2011					
Authorized in Act	Budgeted			Unbudgeted	% of Authorized Unused	Authorized in Act	Budgeted			Unbudgeted	% of Authorized Unused	Authorized in Act	Budgeted			Unbudgeted	% of Authorized Unused
	Filled	Unfilled	Total	Total			Filled	Unfilled	Total	Total			Filled	Unfilled	Total	Total	
1	1	0	1	0	0.00 %	1	1	0	1	0	0.00 %	1	1	0	1	0	0.00 %

Analysis of Budget Request

Appropriation: A12 - Cash Operations

Funding Sources: 329 - Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology - Cash

The Arkansas Board of Examiners in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology was created by A.C.A. §17-100-201, to safeguard the public health, safety, and welfare by providing regulatory authority over persons offering Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology services to the citizens of Arkansas. The Board is a cash agency funded from application, examination and license renewal fees charged pursuant to A.C.A. § 17-100-206.

Base Level salaries and matching do not include appropriation for a Cost of Living Adjustment or Career Service Payments.

The Agency is requesting Base Level of \$133,198 each year of the 2011-2013 biennium.

The Executive Recommendation provides for the Agency Request. Expenditure of appropriation is contingent upon available funding.

Appropriation Summary

Appropriation: A12 - Cash Operations

Funding Sources: 329 - Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology - Cash

Historical Data

Agency Request and Executive Recommendation

Commitment Item		Historical Data			Agency Request and Executive Recommendation			Agency Request and Executive Recommendation		
		2009-2010 Actual	2010-2011 Budget	2010-2011 Authorized	2011-2012			2012-2013		
					Base Level	Agency	Executive	Base Level	Agency	Executive
Regular Salaries	5010000	48,908	49,373	49,397	48,673	48,673	48,673	48,673	48,673	48,673
#Positions		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Extra Help	5010001	2,810	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
#Extra Help		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Personal Services Matching	5010003	14,037	15,068	14,811	14,959	14,959	14,959	14,959	14,959	14,959
Operating Expenses	5020002	34,621	47,516	47,516	47,516	47,516	47,516	47,516	47,516	47,516
Conference & Travel Expenses	5050009	1,219	3,250	3,250	3,250	3,250	3,250	3,250	3,250	3,250
Professional Fees	5060010	1,984	12,800	12,800	12,800	12,800	12,800	12,800	12,800	12,800
Data Processing	5090012	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Capital Outlay	5120011	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		103,579	134,007	133,774	133,198	133,198	133,198	133,198	133,198	133,198
Funding Sources										
Fund Balance	4000005	642,829	731,211		776,204	776,204	776,204	822,006	822,006	822,006
Cash Fund	4000045	191,961	179,000		179,000	179,000	179,000	179,000	179,000	179,000
Total Funding		834,790	910,211		955,204	955,204	955,204	1,001,006	1,001,006	1,001,006
Excess Appropriation/(Funding)		(731,211)	(776,204)		(822,006)	(822,006)	(822,006)	(867,808)	(867,808)	(867,808)
Grand Total		103,579	134,007		133,198	133,198	133,198	133,198	133,198	133,198

The FY11 Budget amount in Personal Services Matching exceeds the authorized amount due to matching rate adjustments during the 2009-2011 biennium.