



Republic of the Philippines
Professional Regulation Commission
Manila



**PROFESSIONAL REGULATORY BOARD OF
SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY**

RESOLUTION NO. 04
Series 2022

**IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11249,
KNOWN AS "THE SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY ACT"**

Pursuant to Section 6 (a), Article II and Section 37, Article V of Republic Act (R.A.) No. 11249, entitled "AN ACT REGULATING THE PRACTICE OF SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY IN THE PHILIPPINES AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR", also known as "SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY ACT", the Professional Regulatory Board of Speech-Language Pathology (Board), hereby promulgates, subject to the approval of the Professional Regulation Commission (Commission), the following rules and regulations to effectively carry out the provisions of R.A. No. 11249.

Rule I

TITLE, DECLARATION OF POLICY, AND DEFINITION OF TERMS

SECTION 1. Title – This Resolution shall be known and cited as the "Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act No. 11249" or simply the "IRR".

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy – The State recognizes the important role of Speech-Language Pathologists in nation building and promotes the sustained development of a corps of Speech-Language Pathologists whose competence has been determined by honest and credible licensure examinations, and whose standards of professional practice and services are world-class, internationally recognized, and globally competitive through regulatory measures, programs, and activities that foster their continuing professional growth.

The IRR shall be interpreted, construed, and carried out in accordance with the above statement which embodies the legislative intent in enacting R.A. No. 11249.

SECTION 3. Definition of Terms – As used in this IRR, the following terms shall mean:

- a. *Accredited Integrated Professional Organization (AIPO)* refers to the only recognized and accredited integrated organization of Speech-Language Pathologists as endorsed by the Board, subject to the approval of the Commission. All Speech-Language Pathologists shall *ipso facto* or automatically become members thereof and be entitled to all the benefits and privileges appurtenant thereto;
- b. *Board* refers to the Professional Regulatory Board of Speech-Language Pathology;

- c. *Certificate of Registration (COR)* refers to the document issued by the Commission, through the Board, signifying that the person named therein has complied with all the legal and procedural requirements for such issuance, including, in appropriate cases, passing the licensure examination;
- d. *Certified member* refers to a person who is a bona fide member of the AIPO based on the organization's existing Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws;
- e. *Code of Ethics* refers to a public statement of the basic ethical principles used to promote and maintain the highest standards of conduct within the profession. These principles serve to guide and inspire the responsible discharge of obligations by a Speech-Language Pathologist whether he/she is fulfilling the role/s of practitioner, educator, supervisor, administrator, consultant, faculty program director, and/or researcher. It serves as a guide to professional conduct when issues arise in order that Speech-Language Pathologists may act ethically at all times;
- f. *Code of Professional Standards* refers to a public document that identifies the minimum standards required for the delivery of quality Speech-Language Pathology services. It defines and outlines the breadth and scope of practice within the profession of Speech-Language Pathology;
- g. *Cognitive - Communication systems or abilities* refer to the thought processes that allow humans to function and interact with others. Examples of these are, but not limited to, orientation, attention, memory, problem solving, and other executive functions. Problems in these areas can affect organizing, planning, sequencing, judgment, verbal and nonverbal communication;
- h. *Commission* refers to the Professional Regulation Commission;
- i. *Communication disorder* refers to the impairment in the ability to: (1) receive and/or process symbol systems; (2) represent concepts in systems; or (3) transmit and use symbol systems. Such symbol systems may be verbal (words), nonverbal (signs, gestures), or graphic (pictures, written words). The impairment may be observed in disorders of hearing, language, and speech processes;
- j. *Continuing Professional Development (CPD)* refers to the inculcation of advanced knowledge, skills and ethical values in a post-licensure specialization or in an inter- or multi-disciplinary field of study, for assimilation into professional practice, self-directed research and/or lifelong learning;
- k. *Diagnosis* refers to the act of identifying a human communication or swallowing dysfunction or disorder by analyzing the signs and symptoms presented. It may also include a study of the origin and development of the symptoms in relation to existing medical condition/s;
- l. *Evaluation* refers to the global appraisal of the significance and implications of a diagnostic assessment that may include formal and informal procedures;

- m. *Good moral character* refers to an ideal state of a person's beliefs and values that is considered most beneficial to society, such as honesty, fairness, and respect for the rights of others;
- n. *Language* refers to any socially and culturally accepted, structured symbolic system for interpersonal communication composed of sounds, letters, manual sign or other symbols arranged in ordered sequences or strings that express thoughts, intentions, experiences and feelings comprised of orthographic, phonological, morphologic, syntactic, semantic or pragmatic components;
- o. *Professional Courses* refer to the core subjects in the Speech-Language Pathologists Licensure Examination and which must be taught by duly registered and licensed Speech-Language Pathologists in the Bachelor of Science in Speech Pathology or Speech-Language Pathology course;
- p. *Professional Identification Card (PIC)* refers to the document bearing the registration number, dates of issuance and expiry, duly signed by the Commission Chairperson which is issued to a Speech-Language Pathologist, upon compliance with the requirements for registration or renewal, as the case may be, including the payment of the prescribed fee;
- q. *Reciprocity* refers to the mutual exchange of rights, privileges or obligations between two (2) countries. Under the reciprocity provision of R.A. No. 11249, only foreign Speech-Language Pathologists who, by virtue of its national laws or of an international treaty, agreement, or covenant allow Filipino Speech-Language Pathologists to practice within its territorial limits on the same basis as its own citizens or subjects shall be allowed to take the Speech-Language Pathologists Licensure Examination and be given a COR and PIC or be entitled to any of the privileges under R.A. No. 11249. This means that both countries mutually recognize the substantial equivalence of their undergraduate and graduate programs (including academic course content, the amount and distribution of clinical practice hours), registration, and licensing requirements relative to the practice of Speech-Language Pathology;
- r. *Registration without examination (also referred to as Grandfather Clause)* refers to the registration and licensing process whereby a qualified applicant may be issued a COR and PIC as a Speech-Language Pathologist without need of examination, pursuant to Section 15, Article III of R.A. No. 11249;
- s. *Scope of examination* refers to the areas of practice of Speech-Language Pathology that should be included in the licensure examination;
- t. *Screening* refers to the process of performing further evaluation and/or intervention or therapy services. A speech and language screening requires the Speech-Language Pathologist to objectively observe the individual's hearing, feeding and/or swallowing, language and use, production of sounds, vocal and nasal quality, and/or social language skills. A screening is typically a 10- to 15-minute speech and language checklist administered to identify if there are areas of concern. A person

- is recommended for further evaluation and/or intervention or therapy services if he/she does not pass certain screening criteria;
- u. *Special Temporary Permit (STP)* refers to the authority conferred to a foreign Speech-Language Pathologist to practice the profession in this country and engage in undertakings that are essential and crucial to the practice of the profession. The foreign Speech-Language Pathologist's involvement and participation will be under specific limitations and obligations and subject to the approval of the Commission;
 - v. *Speech* refers to the medium of oral communication that employs a linguistic code (language). Through this medium, one can express thoughts and feelings, and understand those of others who employ the same code. Speech likewise involves sub-processes such as respiration, phonation, resonance and articulation;
 - w. *Speech-Language Pathologist (also referred to as Speech-Language Therapist, Speech Pathologist or Speech Therapist)* refers to a person who is registered and licensed to practice Speech-Language Pathology and who holds a valid COR and PIC issued by the Board and the Commission under R.A. No. 11249;
 - x. *Speech-Language Pathology (also referred to as Speech Pathology)* refers to the allied health profession devoted to the screening, evaluation, diagnosis, management, and prevention of human communication and swallowing disorders;
 - y. *Swallowing* refers to the process in the human body that allows for a substance to pass from the mouth to the pharynx and into the esophagus. Swallowing is an important part of eating and drinking. Swallowing happens in four stages or phases, namely oral preparatory, oral phase, pharyngeal phase, and esophageal phase;
 - z. *Swallowing disorder or dysphagia* refers to a difficulty or inability to form bolus or clear food and drink safely and efficiently through the oral cavity, pharynx, and esophagus into the stomach; and
 - aa. *Table of Specifications (TOS)* refers to the list of outcomes-based competencies which the licensure examination measures and assesses. It serves to clearly define the scope and focus of the examination.

Rule II

THE PROFESSIONAL REGULATORY BOARD OF SPEECH - LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

SECTION 4. Creation and Composition of the Board – There shall be created the Professional Regulatory Board of Speech-Language Pathology, hereinafter referred to as the Board, under the administrative supervision and control of the Professional Regulation Commission, hereinafter referred to as the Commission. The Board shall be composed of a chairperson and two (2) members who shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines from the three (3) recommendees for each vacant

position chosen from five (5) nominees of the AIPO of Speech-Language Pathologists.

SECTION 5. Qualifications of the Members of the Board– The chairperson or members of the Board shall, at the time of appointment, possess the following qualifications:

- a. A natural born citizen of the Philippines and an actual resident thereof for at least five (5) years before appointment;
- b. A duly registered and licensed Speech-Language Pathologist holding a valid COR and PIC, in active practice for the past five (5) years and a member in good standing of the AIPO of Speech-Language Pathologists prior to appointment, except if appointed as the first (1st) chairperson or member;
- c. Of good moral character and must not have been convicted of any offense involving moral turpitude; and
- d. Must neither have pecuniary interest, directly or indirectly, in any school, academy, college, university or institution conferring an academic degree necessary for admission to the practice of Speech-Language Pathology, or where review classes in preparation for the licensure examination are being offered or conducted, nor be a member of the faculty or of the administration thereof.

SECTION 6. Powers and Functions of the Board – The Board shall have the authority to:

- a. Promulgate, administer and enforce rules and regulations necessary for carrying out the provisions of R.A. No. 11249;
- b. Administer oaths in connection with the administration of R.A. No. 11249;
- c. Supervise and regulate the registration, licensure, and practice of Speech-Language Pathology in the Philippines;
- d. Adopt an official seal of the Board;
- e. Maintain a roster of Speech-Language Pathologists indicating therein basic information about the professionals;
- f. Study the conditions affecting the practice of Speech-Language Pathology in the Philippines and adopt measures for the enhancement of the professional, ethical and technical standards of the practice;
- g. Ensure, in coordination with the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), that all educational institutions offering Speech-Language Pathology education comply with the policies, standards, and requirements of the course prescribed by CHED in the areas of curriculum, faculty, library and facilities;
- h. Adopt a Code of Ethics for Speech-Language Pathologists, in coordination with the AIPO and other relevant stakeholders;

- i. Develop and maintain standards for the practice of Speech-Language Pathology;
- j. Issue, suspend, revoke, and reinstate the COR or cancel STP for the practice of Speech-Language Pathology;
- k. Prescribe guidelines and criteria in the CPD program for Speech-Language Pathology;
- l. Prescribe the area of competence to be included in the examination and their relative weights: determine the syllabi and TOS of the examination subjects, in consultation with the AIPO of Speech-Language Pathologists and the duly recognized association of schools conferring a bachelor's or other entry level degree in Speech-Language Pathology; construct the test questions in licensure examinations; and score and rate the examination papers;
- m. Hear or investigate any violation of R.A. No. 11249, this IRR, the Codes of Ethics, and Code of Professional Standards for Speech-Language Pathologists, and for this purpose, to issue *subpoena duces tecum* and/or *ad testificandum* to secure the appearance of the witnesses and/or the production of documents in connection therewith: Provided, That the decision of the Board shall, unless appealed to the Commission, become final and executory fifteen (15) days from receipt of the judgment or decision;
- n. Grant registration without examination, subject to the approval of the Commission;
- o. Issue or cancel certificates of recognition for advanced studies, researches and accomplishments that contribute to the enrichment of the profession; and
- p. Perform such other powers and functions as it may deem necessary to carry out the objectives of R.A. No. 11249.

Except those requiring ministerial actions on the part of the Board, all policies, resolutions, rules and regulations issued or promulgated by the Board shall be subject to the review and approval of the Commission.

SECTION 7. Terms of Office – The chairperson and members of the Board shall hold office for three (3) years after appointment or until their successors shall have been appointed and duly qualified: Provided, that members of the first Board to be appointed after the approval of R.A. No. 11249 shall hold office for the following terms:

- a. Chairperson for three (3) years;
- b. One member for two (2) years; and
- c. One member for one (1) year

Provided, further, that the chairperson or any member may be reappointed for another term of three (3) years but in no case shall the individual serve continuously

for more than six (6) years. Vacancy in the Board shall be filled for the unexpired term only.

Each member of the Board shall automatically be registered as Speech-Language Pathologist and issued a COR and PIC and shall take proper oath of office prior to assumption.

SECTION 8. Compensation of the Members of the Professional Regulatory Board – The chairperson and members of the Board shall receive compensation and allowances comparable to those being received by the chairpersons and members of existing regulatory boards under the Commission as provided for in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 9. Suspension or Removal of Board Members – Any member of the Board may be suspended or removed from office for gross neglect of duty, incompetence, malpractice, unprofessionalism, immorality, unethical or dishonorable conduct, final judgment of crimes involving moral turpitude, manipulation or rigging of the licensure examination results, and disclosure of secret and confidential information in the examination questions prior to the conduct of the said examination, or tampering of grades.

The administrative proceedings shall be heard by the Commission, whose recommendation shall be submitted to the Office of the President. During the investigation, the respondent shall be placed under preventive suspension by the Commission and another qualified individual shall be designated to fill the temporary vacancy in the Board.

The Board shall issue guidelines on the filling-up of temporary vacancies as a result of the preventive suspension of any member of the Board pursuant to this Section.

SECTION 10. Supervision of the Board, Custody of its Records, Secretariat and Support Services – The Board shall be under the administrative supervision of the Commission. All records of the Board, including applications for examination, and administrative and other investigative cases conducted by the Board shall be under the custody of the Commission.

The Commission shall designate the Secretary of the Board and shall provide the secretariat and other support services to implement the provisions of R.A. No. 11249.

SECTION 11. Annual Report – The Board shall submit an annual report to the Commission after the close of each calendar year, giving a detailed account of the proceedings of the Board during the year and recommending measures to be adopted, with the end in view of upgrading and improving the conditions affecting the practice of Speech-Language Pathology in the Philippines.

Rule III

LICENSURE EXAMINATION AND REGISTRATION

SECTION 12. Examination Required – Unless otherwise provided in R.A. No. 11249, all applicants for registration for the practice of Speech-Language Pathology shall be required to undergo licensure examination to be administered by the Board in such places and dates as the Commission may designate, subject to compliance with the requirements prescribed by the Commission.

SECTION 13. Qualification for Examination – In order to be admitted in the Speech-Language Pathologists Licensure Examination, it must be established to the satisfaction of the Board that, at the time of filing of application, the applicant is:

- a. A citizen of the Philippines or of a foreign state/country which observes reciprocity with the Philippines for the practice of Speech-Language Pathology;
- b. Of good moral character;
- c. Has not been convicted of any crime involving moral turpitude; and
- d. A graduate of a bachelor's degree in Speech Pathology or Speech-Language Pathology from a school, college or university in the Philippines or abroad, where such degree is recognized by the CHED.

Applicants for the Speech-Language Pathologists Licensure Examination shall submit the following documentary requirements and pay the appropriate fees:

- a. Notarized Application Form;
- b. Birth Certificate from the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA);
- c. PSA Marriage Certificate/Contract (for female married applicants);
- d. College Diploma and Transcript of Records (original or authenticated, with scanned picture and remarks: "For Board Examination Purposes");
- e. Certificate of Completion of the ten (10) months of internship signed by the Dean and Registrar with school seal;
- f. National Bureau of Investigation Clearance; and
- g. Other documents that may be required by the Board.

For foreign nationals applying for the Speech-Language Pathologists Licensure Examination, he/she must submit the following documents and pay the appropriate fees:

- a. Notarized Application Form (*Annex A*);
- b. Copy of the national law or international treaty, agreement or covenant to prove reciprocity for the practice of Speech-Language Pathology between the Philippines and his/her country as provided under Section 34 hereof;

- c. Birth Certificate;
- d. Marriage Certificate/Contract (for married female applicants);
- e. Copy of passport data page or any equivalent document to establish citizenship;
- f. College Diploma and Transcript of Records with scanned picture;
- g. Certificate of Good Moral Character to be issued by any of the following: employer, school/college/university or any competent authority acceptable to the Board; and
- h. Other documents that may be required by the Board.

For degrees taken abroad, the applicant has to submit also a Certificate of Equivalency from the CHED.

All official documents that are issued or executed abroad must be authenticated by the Philippine Embassy/Consulate/Legation in the State or country where they are issued or executed. An Apostille Certification issued by the foreign competent authority responsible for the implementation of the Apostille Convention is sufficient. The document must also be accompanied by an official English translation, if applicable.

The Board may modify or revise herein list of documentary requirements as needed.

SECTION 14. Scope of Examination – Scope of examination refers to the areas of practice of Speech-Language Pathology that shall be included in the licensure examination as follows:

- a. *Anatomy and physiology of the speech and hearing mechanism* refer to the parts and functions of the human body responsible for hearing, respiration, phonation, resonance, articulation, cognition, and swallowing focusing on normal structures, functions, and development;
- b. *Neurological bases of speech and hearing disorders* refer to the anatomy and physiology of the human brain and nervous system whose impairments may lead to speech, language, hearing, and swallowing deficits, including neural mechanisms underlying motor control;
- c. *Articulation and phonological disorders* refer to the speech sound disorders whose occurrence is related to the breakdown in the motor production of speech sounds and those related to the linguistic aspects of speech production. Articulation disorders focus on errors (e. g. distortions and substitutions) in production of individual speech sounds while phonological disorders focus on predictable, rule-based errors (e. g. fronting, stopping, and final consonant deletion) that affect more than one sound;
- d. *Hearing impairment* refers to the loss of or difficulty in the transmission of sound within the human auditory system; it may be conductive, sensorineural or mixed type. Conductive hearing loss is hearing loss originating from an interruption of sound transmission through the outer

and/or middle ear while sensorineural hearing loss originates from a lesion in the cochlea and/or the adjacent parts of the auditory nerve. Mixed hearing loss are those that have both conductive and sensorineural components. Aural habilitation and rehabilitation refer to the process of identifying and diagnosing hearing loss, providing therapy, and recommending and implementing amplification devices to supplement the hearing abilities of the hearing impaired;

- e. *Language and cognitive communication disorders* refer to the difficulty with any aspect of communication that is affected by disruption of language and cognition. Language disorders are impairments in comprehension and/or use of a spoken, written, and/or other communication symbol systems. Some examples of cognitive processes include, but not limited to, attention, memory, organization, problem solving/reasoning, and executive functions. Problems in these areas can affect verbal and nonverbal communication;
- f. *Fluency disorders* refer to disruption in the natural flow or forward movement of speech. Stuttering is the most common type of fluency disorder and is characterized by repetitions, hesitations, prolongations, or blocks in this rhythm or flow of speech;
- g. *Voice disorders* refer to the voice quality, pitch and loudness that is inappropriate for a person's age, gender, cultural background or geographical location. Voice disorders can be classified as organic voice disorders. These are caused by physical changes in the vocal mechanism such as growths in the vocal cords, i. e. nodules, thickening of the vocal folds due to edema or natural deterioration of the vocal folds due to aging. These can also result from problems in the brain that affect the innervation to the larynx and vocal structures which can cause vocal tremor or paralysis of the vocal folds. A voice disorder can also be caused by improper or inefficient use of the vocal mechanism during speech such as extreme shouting, speaking below or above one's loudness or pitch level, improper breathing during speech when respiration is normal. This is called functional voice disorders;
- h. *Cleft Lip and Palate* refers to the abnormal opening or fissure in an anatomical structure that is normally closed. It results from the failure of the tissue, muscle and bones of the lips and the hard and soft palate to fuse during fetal development. A cleft may occur on one side or both sides of the lips and palate. It can also be an incomplete cleft lip which is a fissure that does not extend to the floor of the nostril or a complete cleft lip which involves the non-fusion of the upper lips and reaches the floor of the nostrils. An incomplete cleft palate may involve only the hard palate, while a complete cleft palate may extend beyond the hard palate to the soft palate. A cleft may also be present either in the lips only, or the palate only or in both areas of the mouth, cleft lip and palate;

- i. *Craniofacial Conditions or disorders* is a broad term that describes the malformation of the face and the skull that may result from birth defect, disease or trauma. It can affect various structures of the face and the brain and their functions such as speech, hearing, vision and cognition;
- j. *Dysphagia or swallowing disorder* refers to a difficulty or inability to form or clear food and drink safely through the oral cavity, pharynx, and esophagus into the stomach at an appropriate rate and speed. It results in difficulty, discomfort, or pain associated with swallowing caused by neuro-motor, cognitive, or structural impairments;
- k. *Medical and neurological disorders* that may cause communication and swallowing disorders refer to diseases and/disorders usually diagnosed by physicians or medical specialists that are often associated with speech, language, hearing or swallowing disorders. The etiology of the communication or swallowing disorder may be the medical condition. Alternatively, communication or swallowing deficits may be a component of the medical diagnosis;
- l. *Normal development and function of speech, language, hearing and swallowing* refer to the nature and mechanics of cognitive-linguistic, physiological, socio-emotional and other processes that contribute to communication functioning and swallowing. The changes over time expected in these processes as the human person develops include known milestones, typical skills at specific chronological periods, and other contributing factors;
- m. *Principles of assessment and intervention for speech, language, hearing and swallowing conditions* refer to evaluation or screening, analysis of clinical and non-clinical data to design an evaluation session that is tailored for a client, making clinical decisions to adjust and adapt to various situations which may occur during the process of evaluation, developing a diagnosis regarding the presence of delays or specific communication and swallowing disorders and using clinical reasoning skills to develop a logically prioritized list of problems which are most relevant to the patient's/client's case;
- n. *Research* refers to the process of systematically investigating behavior and/or phenomena in order to establish facts and contribute to the body of knowledge and evidence-based practice.
- o. *Professional Ethics* refers to the standards of practice and ethical principles which govern the practice of a Speech-Language Pathologist. This also involves decision making skills that one needs in the face of ethical dilemmas; and
- p. *Community Development* refers to understanding the contribution of Speech-Language Pathologists as part of an interconnected system which forms the human resources for the health of various communities. This involves understanding of Philippines and international community-based rehabilitation philosophies, frameworks and conducting procedures such as community evaluation, diagnosis and

development of programs which would address the needs of the community.

The coverage of the Speech-Language Pathologists Licensure Examination, including the percentage of weights of the examination subjects, shall be determined, or may be modified, re-clustered or rearranged by the Board, through a Resolution, as the need arises, to conform to changes in the standards of practice.

SECTION 15. Registration Without Examination as Speech - Language Pathologist – A person who possesses the pertinent qualifications required for admission in the licensure examination for Speech-Language Pathologists pursuant to the provisions of R.A. No. 11249 may be registered without examination:

1. Provided, that the applicant submits credentials showing that before the effectivity of R.A. No. 11249, he/she holds a bachelor's degree in Speech-Language Pathology from a college or university where such degree is recognized by CHED; and
2. Provided further, that the applicant is a certified member of the AIPO.

All Speech-Language Pathologists who have been practicing prior to or upon the effectivity of RA No. 11249 on May 29, 2019 are eligible to apply under this Section. This provision is open to qualified applicants based in the Philippines or abroad who have complied with the requirements.

The Board shall issue a separate guideline for this purpose. All qualified applicants shall be given only one (1) year after the effectivity of this separate Operational Guidelines to file their applications and submit or comply with the requirements set forth therein.

SECTION 16. Ratings in the Examination – To be qualified as having passed the Speech-Language Pathologists Licensure Examination, a candidate must have obtained a general weighted average of at least seventy-five percent (75%), with no grade lower than fifty percent (50%) in any given subject or clusters of subjects of the examination.

SECTION 17. Report of Ratings – The Board shall submit to the Commission the ratings obtained by each candidate within ten (10) calendar days after the examination unless extended for just cause.

SECTION 18. Oath of Profession of Speech-Language Pathologists – All individuals admitted for registration, with or without examination, shall be required to take an oath of profession before any member of the Board, or any officer of the Commission authorized to administer oaths and sign the Roll of Professional Speech-Language Pathologists prior to entering the practice of Speech-Language Pathology in the Philippines.

SECTION 19. Issuance of the Certificate of Registration and Professional Identification Card – A COR and PIC shall be issued to all registrants, with or without examination, upon the registrants' compliance with all the legal requirements, including payment of fees prescribed by the Commission. The COR shall bear the signature of the chairperson of the Commission and the chairperson and members of the Board and shall indicate that the person named therein is entitled to the practice of the profession with all the privileges appurtenant thereto. The COR shall remain in full force and effect until withdrawn, suspended or revoked in accordance with R.A. No. 11249.

A PIC bearing the registration number and dates of issuance and expiry, duly signed by the chairperson of the Commission, shall likewise be issued to every registrant who has complied with all the requirements set by the Board and the Commission, including payment of prescribed fees. The PIC shall be renewed on the birth month of the registered practitioner, upon compliance with the existing requirements, including payment of the prescribed fees, set by the Board and the Commission at the time of renewal.

SECTION 20. Indication of Certificate of Registration and Professional Tax Receipt – All official documents that the Speech-Language Pathologist signs, uses or issues in connection with the practice of the profession shall indicate the Speech-Language Pathologist's COR number, dates of validity and expiry of the PIC and the income tax registration number. Any Speech-Language Pathologist who willfully or negligently omits such information required shall be subjected to disciplinary action, as stated in the Code of Ethics and Code of Professional Standards for Speech-Language Pathologists.

Section 21. Appending of Professional Title – The initials "RSLP" which stands for Registered Speech-Language Pathologist shall be used following the name of the registered Speech-Language Pathologist, especially when signing official documents pertinent to the practice of the profession. It shall be unlawful for any person not otherwise registered as a Speech-Language Pathologists to append to his/her name the professional title "RSLP".

SECTION 22. Refusal to Register – The Board shall not register any successful examinee who has been convicted by final judgment by a court of competent jurisdiction of any offense involving moral turpitude or has been found guilty of immoral or dishonorable conduct after investigation by the Board, or has been declared to be of unsound mind. The reason for the refusal shall be set forth in writing.

SECTION 23. Revocation or Suspension of the Certificate of Registration/Professional License and Professional Identification Card and Cancellation of Special Permit –The Board may, after giving proper notice of hearing to the party concerned, revoke the practitioner's COR or suspend the practice, or cancel the STP for any of the causes or grounds mentioned in Section 21

of R.A. No. 11249 or for any unprofessional or unethical conduct, malpractice, or violation of any provisions of R.A. No. 11249, this IRR, the Code of Ethics, and the Code of Professional Standards for Speech-Language Pathologists. The rules on administrative investigation issued by the Commission shall govern the hearing or investigation of the case.

SECTION 24. Reinstatement, Reissuance or Replacement of Certificate of Registration/Professional License – A person may apply to the Board for reinstatement of the COR after two (2) years from the date of surrender of the COR and PIC. The application shall be in writing and shall conform with the requirements as provided by the Board. No COR shall be reinstated unless the Board is satisfied that a good cause exists to warrant reinstatement.

A suspended COR and PIC may be reinstated: Provided, that the suspended Speech - Language Pathologist has established fitness to practice anew. The Board shall issue a resolution to effect such reinstatement.

A new COR or STP in case of loss or damage may be issued subject to the existing guidelines of the Commission.

SECTION 25. Roster of Speech - Language Pathologists –The Boards shall prepare, update and maintain a roster of Speech-Language Pathologists, in coordination with the AIPO. The roster shall contain the names of the Speech-Language Pathologists, their respective COR numbers, and other data which the Board may deem pertinent.

SECTION 26. Issuance of Special Temporary Permit – STPs may be issued by the Board, subject to the approval by the Commission and payment of the fees, to the following persons:

- a. A foreign Speech-Language Pathologist called for consultation for a specific purpose which, in the judgment of the Board, is essential to the growth of the profession: Provided, however, That the activities shall be limited only to the particular work for which the foreign practitioner is being engaged: Provided, further, That the person is qualified to practice the profession in the State or country of origin: Provided, finally, that there is no Filipino Speech-Language Pathologist qualified for such work;
- b. A foreign Speech-Language Pathologist who is an internationally recognized expert or specialist in any branch of Speech-Language Pathology and whose services are essential for the advancement of Speech-Language Pathology in the Philippines; and
- c. A foreign Speech-Language Pathologist to be engaged as a professor, lecturer, or critic in fields essential to Speech-Language Pathology education in the Philippines.

The STP shall provide for the limitations and conditions for its issuance, which shall include the following: validity of the STP which shall be for a period of not more than one (1) year, but subject to renewal at the discretion of the Board; the branch or specialty of Speech-Language Pathology to practice or engage in; and the specific place of practice such as, but not limited to, clinic, hospital, center, or school/college/university. The Board, subject to the approval by the Commission, shall prescribe the rules and regulations for the implementation of this particular section.

SECTION 27. Issuance of Certificates of Recognition – The Board shall prescribe guidelines for the issuance of Certificates of Recognition for advanced studies, researches and accomplishments that contribute to the enrichment of the profession.

Rule IV PRACTICE OF SPEECH - LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

SECTION 28. Scope of the Practice of Speech-Language Pathology – The scope of the practice of Speech-Language Pathology shall embrace the performance, in collaboration with other professionals, families and the community, of any of the following:

- a. Screening, identifying, assessing, diagnosing, managing and preventing disorders of communication such as articulation, fluency, voice, hearing and language as it relates to speech and language;
- b. Screening, identifying, assessing, diagnosing, managing and preventing disorders of oral-pharyngeal functions such as dysphagia and related disorders;
- c. Screening, identifying, assessing, diagnosing, managing cognitive communication systems and providing training in their use;
- d. Assessing, selecting, and developing augmentative and alternative communication systems and providing training in their use;
- e. Screening hearing acuity for the purpose of speech-language evaluation and aural rehabilitation;
- f. Planning, teaching, and carrying out home programs and training for patients and their families as it relates to speech, language, and swallowing;
- g. Planning, conducting, and evaluating teaching-learning activities for students of Speech-Language Pathology and other related courses, and for the other practitioners, patients, their families and the general public;
- h. Planning, conducting, and evaluating researches in pursuit of new knowledge for the growth of Speech-Language Pathology in the Philippines;
- i. Providing consultancy to government and nongovernment organizations regarding the field of Speech-Language Pathology; and
- j. Teaching, lecturing, and reviewing professional subjects given in the licensure examination.

SECTION 29. Positions in Public and Private Entities Requiring the Services of Speech-Language Pathologists – Within one (1) year from the effectivity of R.A. No. 11249, all existing and proposed positions in public and private entities primarily requiring the services of Speech-Language Pathologists shall accordingly be filled only by Speech-Language Pathologists.

SECTION 30. Prohibition on the Practice of Speech-Language Pathology – No person shall practice or offer to practice Speech-Language Pathology in the Philippines or pass off oneself as a Speech-Language Pathologist, or use the title, word, letter, figure, or a sign tending to convey the impression that one is a Speech-Language Pathologist, or advertise or indicate in any manner whatsoever that one is qualified to perform the work of a Speech-Language Pathologist unless one has satisfactorily passed the licensure examination given by the Board, except as otherwise provided by R.A. No. 11249, and is a holder of a valid COR and PIC or a valid STP duly issued by the Board and the Commission.

SECTION 31. Prohibited Acts – Unless a holder of a valid COR and PIC or a valid STP issued by the Board and the Commission, no person shall:

- a. engage in the practice of Speech-Language Pathology by representing oneself as a Speech-Language Pathologist or perform tasks under Section 27 of R.A. No. 11249;
- b. practice the profession during the period of one's suspension from the practice thereof;
- c. allow an unqualified person to advertise or to practice the profession by using one's COR, PIC or STP; and
- d. use as one's own the COR, PIC or STP of another.

SECTION 32. Code of Ethics and Code of Professional Standards of Practice for Speech-Language Pathologists –The Board shall prescribe, adopt, and promulgate the Code of Ethics and Code of Professional Standards for Speech-Language Pathologists, in consultation with the AIPO of Speech-Language Pathologists.

SECTION 33. Integration of All Speech - Language Pathologists – The Speech-Language Pathology profession shall be integrated into one (1) national professional organization of Speech-Language Pathologists which shall be duly registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The Board, subject to the approval by the Commission, shall accredit said organization as the one and only AIPO of Speech-Language Pathologists. All Speech-Language Pathologists whose names appear in the Registry Book of Speech-Language Pathologists shall *ipso facto* or automatically become members thereof and shall receive all the benefits and privileges appurtenant thereto upon payment of the AIPO membership fees and dues. Membership in the AIPO shall not bar membership in other organizations of Speech-Language Pathologists.

SECTION 34. Foreign Reciprocity – No foreign Speech-Language Pathologist shall be given a COR and PIC or be entitled to any of the privileges under R.A. No. 11249 unless the country of which the foreigner is a subject or citizen specifically permits Filipino Speech-Language Pathologists to practice within its territorial limits on the same basis as the subject or citizen of said country or State.

A foreign citizen, whether or not he/she studied in the Philippines, who desires to take the Speech-Language Pathologists Licensure Examination, through reciprocity, shall initiate the establishment of reciprocity between his/her country or State and the Philippines by submitting an authenticated copy of the national law or international treaty, agreement, or covenant to which his/her country or State and the Philippines are signatories whereby other citizens, including Filipinos, are expressly allowed to take the Speech-Language Pathologists Licensure Examination and to register as such in said foreign country or State on terms of strict and absolute equality with its own citizens or subjects, including the unconditional recognition of prerequisite degrees issued by institutions of higher learning duly recognized or established by the Government of the Republic of the Philippines, and officially translated in the English language, if applicable.

SECTION 35. An Act Not Affecting Other Professions – R.A. No. 11249 and this IRR shall not be construed to affect or prevent the practice of any other legally recognized profession.

Rule V FINAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 36. Funding – The Chairperson of the Commission shall immediately include in its programs the implementation of R.A. No. 11249 and this IRR, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act and thereafter.

SECTION 37. Penal Provisions – Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of R.A. No. 11249 or this IRR, as promulgated by the Board and approved by the Commission, shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not less than Twenty thousand pesos (P20,000.00) but not more than Fifty thousand pesos (P50,000.00) or by imprisonment of not less than two (2) years but not more than five (5) years, or both, at the discretion of the court.

SECTION.38. Separability Clause – If any section or provision of this IRR shall be declared invalid or unconstitutional, such shall not invalidate any other section or provision of this IRR.

SECTION.39. Repealing Clause – All rules or regulations, orders, measures or policies inconsistent with this IRR are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION. 40. Effectivity – This IRR shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its full complete publication in the Official Gazette or in any major newspaper of general circulation.

Let a copy of this Resolution be furnished the University of the Philippines Law Center.

Done in the City of Manila this 10th day of August, 2022.

MARIA EUSEBIA CATHERINE S. SADICON
Chairperson

JUAN PAULO D. SANTUELE
Member

MA. ROWENA A. YNION
Member

ATTESTED BY:

Atty. Lovelika T. Bautista
Chief, PRB Secretariat Division

APPROVED:

TEOFILO S. PILANDO, JR.
Chairman

JOSE Y. CUETO, JR.
Commissioner

ERWIN M. ENAD
Commissioner

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE
DAILY TRIBUNE : August 22, 2022
DATE OF EFFECTIVITY : September 7, 2022



Professional Regulation Commission
International Affairs Office

APPLICATION FOR AUTHORITY TO PRACTICE BY A FOREIGNER

Profession: _____ New application Renewal

Passport Size ID

Picture of the Applicant with COMPLETE NAME Tag in plain white background

Categories:

For permanent practice:

This application must be accomplished by the applicant and submitted at the Licensure and Registration Division of any PRC Regional Office.

- Category A1 Foreigners applying for registration with examination
Category A2 Foreign professionals applying for registration without examination

For temporary practice:

This application must be accomplished by the applicant and submitted at the Regulation Division of any PRC Regional Office.

- Category B Foreign professionals to practice a profession in the Philippines under reciprocity or international agreements
Category C Foreign professionals who are to be engaged as consultants in foreign-funded, joint venture or foreign assisted projects of the government
Category D Foreign professionals who are to be employed by local or foreign private firms or institutions
Category E Foreign professionals engaged in humanitarian mission

Part I - Personal Data

Form with fields for Gender, Surname, Given Name, Middle Name, Citizenship, Contact number and/or E-mail Address, BIR Tax Identification Number, Philippine Mailing Address, Passport Number, Name of Sponsoring Entity/Individual in the Philippines, Contact number and/or E-mail Address, Address, and two Yes/No questions regarding criminal record and impairment.

Part II - Educational Attainment

Table with 3 columns: Highest Relevant Educational Qualification/Degree, Granting Institution, Year Conferred

*For Medicine, please include entry on Premedicine and Medical Degree.

Part III - License/s Obtained

Table with 6 columns: Title of License, Place of Practice, Issuing Agency, License/ Certification Number, Date Issued, Validity

Part IV - Specialization (Fields of specialization, special studies or research)

Empty form box for specialization details.

Part V - Work Experience

Table with 5 columns: Employer, Address, Contact Details, Position Held, Date of Service

Part V- Acknowledgment

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the above information supplied are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, and further authorize the PRC to investigate the authenticity of all the documents presented.

Signature over printed name of Applicant

Date Accomplished

Note: Continue on separate sheet if necessary