



# MEMORANDUM

DATE	November 27, 2023
TO	Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensers Board
FROM	Maria Liranzo, Legislation/Regulation/Budget Analyst
SUBJECT	Agenda Item 13(d): Discussion and Possible Action to Amend Regulations Regarding Continuing Professional Development Requirements for Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists in Title 16, California Code of Regulations (CCR) sections 1399.160 through 1399.160.4

## **Background**

The proposed regulatory changes will clarify definitions to reflect advancements made to speech-language pathology and audiology continuing professional development (SLP-AU CPD) courses delivered online, increase the number of self-study hours to half of the total required hours, and clarify current regulations by making SLP-AU CPD requirements consistent with the Board's SLP-AU CPD audit process and the professional learning requirements for similar license types and course content.

The 45-day public comment period began on October 6, 2023, and ended on November 21, 2023. The Board did not hold a public hearing for this proposed regulatory action nor was one requested. The Board received fifteen (15) written comments during the 45-day comment period.

- Three (3) in support,
- Eleven (11) expressed concerns with the proposed regulatory changes or recommended changes, and
- One (1) was not related to the proposed regulatory changes.

The Board is not required to respond to written comments in support of a regulatory action during the final rulemaking process pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act (APA). However, the Board is required to respond to written comments that object to or make recommendations regarding the regulatory action or the procedures followed by the Board in proposing the regulatory action.

## **Recommendations for Discussion**

Staff recommends the Board to discuss possible changes to the proposed regulatory text to accommodate the following comments:

**Summary:** The Board received a comment recommending that the assessment or exam requirement for self-study courses be removed.

**Rationale and Discussion Question:** Because CPD is most effective when it is interactive, the Board can specify requirements for self-study courses for the purpose of increasing interactivity.<sup>1,2,3</sup> An evaluation on what was learned is a suitable method of ensuring interaction for this type of course because self-study courses do not provide course participants with opportunities to interact with the course instructor and/or course participants. It is not necessary to impose this requirement on courses that are “in-person” or “live” because they may use other method of interaction such as discussion, simulation, or role-play. Flexibility can be provided by modifying the grading requirement and when the evaluation should be completed. This will give CPD providers the discretion to use other grading systems such as pass/fail or requiring evaluation feedback during the course.

1. Does the Board wish to amend 16 CCR section 1399.160(a)(1)?

**Summary:** The Board received a comment recommending allowing more hours to be completed through self-study courses and allowing more hours from indirect patient/client care or related to the practice of SLP/AU courses.

**Rationale and Discussion Question:** Because of the broad range of people with different communication needs, social and cultural backgrounds, and identities, it may be necessary to increase the number of hours for courses related to the practice. This will ensure licensees stay current with practice standards on service delivery models for diverse populations as well as with other service providers when managing cases. Because this could also be beneficial to audiologists and dispensing audiologists, it is recommended this change apply to these license types as well.

It may not be necessary to increase the number of hours for courses covering indirect patient/client care topics because the pragmatic aspects of the practice, such as legal or ethical issues, consultation, record-keeping, office management, managed care issues, or research obligations are not major components of the practice. However, moving “technological applications related to assessment/diagnosis or intervention” to the direct patient/client care category and amending those definitions may be necessary as diagnosis and intervention are major components of the practice. This would help ensure that licensees stay current with technology or instruments related to assessment/diagnosis or intervention. To ensure licensees are not being unduly influenced by manufacturers or companies who mostly likely will provide such a course, the restrictions that are proposed are similar to those imposed for courses on hearing aid equipment, devices, or products, and disallow any courses on marketing, launching, or demonstrating the marketability of a technology or instrument.

2. Does the Board wish to amend 16 CCR Sections 1399.160.3(a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f)(1), and (f)(2)?

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<sup>1</sup> Main, P.A.E., Anderson, S. Evidence for continuing professional development standards for regulated health practitioners in Australia: a systematic review. *Human Resources for Health* 21, 23 (2023). Available from <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12960-023-00803-x>

<sup>2</sup> Filipe, H. P., Silva, E. D., Stulting, A. A., & Golnik, K. C. (2014). Continuing professional development: best practices. *Middle East African Journal of Ophthalmology*, 21(2), 134–141. Available from <https://doi.org/10.4103/0974-9233.129760>

<sup>3</sup> Kane GM. Interactive Learning in Continuing Professional Development: “At Least 25 Per Cent of Time”. Available from: <https://www.royalcollege.ca/content/dam/documents/learning/continuing-professional-development/interactive-learning-cpd-e.html>

3. Does the Board wish to combine and amend 16 CCR Section 1399.160.4(c)(1) and 1399.160.4(c)(2)?

4. Does the Board wish to amend 16 CCR Section 1399.160.4(f)?

### **Rejected Recommendations for Discussion**

Staff recommends the Board not make changes to the proposed regulatory text to accommodate the following comments:

**Summary:** The Board received seven (7) comments recommending the Board allow more or all hours to be completed through self-study courses arguing that:

- self-study courses are better and of higher quality than in-person courses;
- self-study courses are more accessible;
- in-person courses require travel, time off of work, and are more expensive;
- self-study courses are more valuable and affordable than in-person courses;
- other states and professional organizations do not limit the number of professional development credits that can be earned with self-study courses;
- licensees with various neurotypes and mental health needs learn better when they are not focused on masking in a social setting and managing social anxiety;
- in-person courses create hardships for working parents;
- there is a substantial financial burden for in-person courses;
- many people learn just fine, if not better, independently;
- other Boards, like the Physical Therapy Board and the Occupational Therapy Board, do not require in-person coursework;
- attending CPD can be difficult for SLP in a rural setting; and
- setting aside time to travel and attend courses can interfere with providing services.

**Rationale on Self-Study:** Though other licensing boards and professional organizations use self-study courses as the main method for continual learning, there doesn't seem to be a consensus that self-study is the best method.<sup>4, 5</sup> Therefore, the Board can continue to limit the number of hours that can be completed through self-study until it is convinced there is a need for a change. The proposed changes increase the number of self-study hours and clarify when a course delivered on-line is considered self-study, change that should reduce cost and service interruptions associated with attending a "live" course in person. This is because licensees are permitted to attend "live" courses online.

Furthermore, requiring "live" courses is necessary because licensees who practice alone or do not interact with other licensees and professionals run the risk of being less aware of current practice

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<sup>4</sup> Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB). Guidelines for Continuing Professional Development. Available from <https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.asppb.net/resource/resmgr/guidelines/profdevelopment2023.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> Main, P.A.E., Anderson, S. Evidence for continuing professional development standards for regulated health practitioners in Australia: a systematic review. Human Resources for Health 21, 23 (2023). Available from <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12960-023-00803-x>

standards, a situation that can endanger the health, welfare, and safety of the public.<sup>4, 6</sup> Courses that are “live” provide opportunities for licensees to connect with other licensees and professionals on a regular basis. Though some individuals do learn better through self-study courses, connecting with other licensees and professionals promotes ongoing competency and reduces professional isolation.<sup>6</sup> Even licensees with varying neurotypes can benefit from having an opportunity to interact with other licensees and professionals.<sup>7,8</sup> Because the Board is not requiring a particular method of learning nor is it requiring “live” courses be attended in person, CPD providers should be able to meet the learning needs for all learning types. If courses do not meet the learning needs of a licensee, the licensee should inform the CPD provider so that the provider can change their courses to be more inclusive. A licensee is required to evaluate a course upon completion of the course pursuant to 16 CCR section 1399.160.4(e).

**Summary:** The Board received a comment regarding the supervision of SLPA students.

**Rationale:** The comment was not related to the proposed regulatory changes involved in this rulemaking.

**Summary:** The Board received two (2) comments recommending that:

- the definition of CPD courses be amended to mean "a form of systematic learning at least one hour (60 minutes) in length, which may include academic studies, extension studies, as well as group, self-study, and hybrid delivery formats;"
- the definition of self-study be amended to mean "licensees engage individually, with no interaction with other learners, using the same material;"
- the definition of "group" to be added to mean "licensees engage as a group in real time and interact with each other, the instructor, and the material;"
- the definition of "hybrid" to be added to mean "licensees engage in hybrid learning experience of both group and self-study formats;" and
- section 1399.160.9 be amended to require providers to specify the course delivery method when advertising their courses.

**Rationale:** Adding to the definitions of CPD courses in 16 CCR section 1399.160 to include new definitions for “group” and “hybrid” are not necessary. AS to the last recommendation, 16 CCR section 1399.160.9 is not presently included as a part of the proposed regulatory changes. The purpose of this regulation is to clarify the definition of CPD courses and self-study so that licensees understand when a course delivered online is considered self-study. There is no need to define additional course delivery methods that would otherwise confuse licensees.

**Summary:** The Board received a comment recommending regulatory language specify clearly that courses by an ASHA-approved provider are accepted by the Board.

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<sup>6</sup> Barnett, J. E. & Corcoran, K.(2018). Competence, ethical practice, and going it alone. *Psychotherapy Bulletin*, 53(4), 16-23. Available from <https://susanfitzell.com/designing-professional-development-training-programs-with-the-learner-in-mind/>

<sup>7</sup> Fitzell, Susan. Designing Professional Development Training Programs with the Learner in Mind. Available from <https://susanfitzell.com/designing-professional-development-training-programs-with-the-learner-in-mind/>

<sup>8</sup> Enna. Neurodiversity and Career Development: Strategies for Advancement. Available from <https://enna.org/neurodiversity-and-career-development-strategies-for-advancement/>

**Rationale:** The acceptance of ASHA-approved provider courses can already be found in 16 CCR section 1399.160.69(a), which states that “a licensee shall only be credited with continuing professional development hours if the licensee takes a course from a board-approved provider with a valid, current approval as a provider or from an entity listed in Section 2532.6(e)(1) of the Code.”

5. Does the Board accept Staff recommendation to reject the recommendations or does the Board wish to accommodate these recommendations?

### **Amendments for Discussion**

For the purpose of clarity, the Board may consider amendments to the definition of CPD courses or the number of hours allowed for courses on indirect patient/client care. According to 16 CCR section 1399.160(a), a CPD course is defined as a “form of systematic learning at least one hour (60 minutes).” Because a course is required to be one hour in length, and some of the course requirements list half-hour increments, it may be prudent to round up and require a full hour instead of a number that includes a half-hour increment. See *Attachment D* for a comparison of the proposed number of hours and the number of hours being suggested. The suggested change would allow courses on indirect patient/client to make up twenty-five percent (25%) of the total required hours instead of the approximately one-third of the maximum number of self-study hours.

6. Does the Board wish to amend 16 CCR Section 1399.160(a) or 16 CCR Section 1399.160.3(a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f)(1), and (f)(2)?

For the purpose of clarity, the Board may consider amendments to 16 CCR section 1399.160.4(c) and 1399.160.4(c)(3). The changes would list the course content in the order as they appear in paragraphs (1), (2), and (2) and update outdated language.

7. Does the Board wish to amend 16 CCR Section 1399.160.4(c)?
8. Does the Board wish to amend 16 CCR Section 1399.160.4(c)(3)?

### **Action Requested**

Staff recommends the Board review and discuss the provided materials. The Board may wish to determine whether or not to modify the regulatory text and direct Board Staff to proceed with a 15-day public comment period.

### **Suggested Motion Language**

Move to modify the proposed regulatory text for 16 CCR sections 1399.160 through 1399.160.4, and direct staff to take all steps necessary to notice the modified regulatory text.

Attachment A: Public Comments  
Attachment B: Proposed Modified Text  
Attachment C: Literature for Rationale on Self-Study  
Attachment D: Proposed CPD Requirements

Continuing Professional Development  
Requirements for Speech-Language  
Pathologists and Audiologists  
Public Comments

Initial Public Comments  
Received October 6, 2023 – November 21, 2023

To request a copy of the public comments, please  
send an email to [speechandhearing@dca.ca.gov](mailto:speechandhearing@dca.ca.gov).

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
**TITLE 16. SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY  
AND HEARING AID DISPENSERS BOARD**

**PROPOSED MODIFIED REGULATORY LANGUAGE  
Continuing Professional Development Requirements**

<b>Legend:</b>	Added text is indicated with an <u>underline</u> . Omitted text is indicated by (* * * *) Deleted text is indicated by <del>strikeout</del> . Added modified text is shown in <u>double underline</u> Deleted modified text is show in <del>double strikethrough</del> Modified text in <b>yellow highlight</b>
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**Adopt section 1399.160 of Article 11 of Division 13.4 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations to read as follows:**

**§ 1399.160. Definitions.**

As used in this article:

(a) A continuing professional development “course” means a form of systematic learning at least one hour (60 minutes) in length including, ~~but not limited to,~~ academic studies, extension studies, lectures, conferences, seminars, and workshops, ~~and self-study courses.~~

(~~b~~1) A “~~self-study course~~” means a form of systematic learning performed at a licensee's residence, office, or other private location including, but not limited to, viewing or listening to recorded courses, or participating in “self-assessment testing” (open book tests that are completed by the licensee, submitted to the provider, graded, and returned to the licensee with correct answers and an explanation of why the answer chosen by the provider was the correct answer). ~~A self-study course does not mean a course taken at an accredited university towards a degree, nor does it include any interactive courses offered via electronic media where the course offering affords participants the opportunity to interact with an instructor and/or other course participants~~course where the course instruction and licensee participation do not occur simultaneously, and requires the completion of an evaluation on what was learned during the course or at the conclusion of the course. completing and obtaining a grade of 70% or more on an assessment or examination of the course content at the conclusion of the course instruction.

(~~e~~b) A continuing professional development “provider” means an accredited institution of higher learning, a nonprofit education association, a nonprofit professional association, an individual, or other organization that offers continuing professional development

courses and meets the requirements contained in this article.

(dc) A “renewal period” means the ~~two-year~~ period that spans from a license's expiration date to the license's next expiration date.

(ed) An “operational plan” means a detailed, written description which contains information that explains how the provider intends to conduct business, advertise its courses, provide educational services, and meet the minimum standards established in this article.

(fe) “Continuing pProfessional development” shall have the same meaning and effect as the term “continuing education” when interpreting the provisions in this Aarticle.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 2531.95 and 2532.6(a), Business and Professions Code.  
Reference: Section 2532.6(b), (c)(1), (e) and (f), Business and Professions Code.

**Adopt section 1399.160.1 of Article 11 of Division 13.4 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations to read as follows:**

**§ 1399.160.1. License Renewal Requirements.**

(a) Except as provided in Section 1399.160.2, when applying to renew their license for the first time, a speech-language pathology or an audiology licensee whose license expires in the year 2001, shall certify in writing, when applying for license renewal, by signing a statement under penalty of perjury that during the preceding renewal period from the date of issuance the licensee has completed twelve (12) hours of continuing professional development courses as defined in Section 1399.160.3(a) from a provider approved under Section 1399.160.7.

(b) Except as provided in Section 1399.160.2, when applying to renew their license for the first time, a licensee who holds both a speech-language pathology license and an audiology license that expire in the year 2001, shall certify in writing, when applying for license renewal, by signing a statement under penalty of perjury that during the preceding renewal period from the date of issuance the licensee has completed eight (8) hours of continuing professional development courses for each license for a total of sixteen (16) hours of continuing professional development as defined in Section 1399.160.3(b) from a provider approved under Section 1399.160.7.

(c) Except as provided in Section 1399.160.2 and subsection (a), a speech-language pathology or an audiology licensee shall certify in writing, when applying for license renewal, by signing a statement under penalty of perjury that during the preceding renewal period the licensee has completed twenty-four (24) hours of continuing professional development courses as defined in Section 1399.160.3(c) from a provider approved under Section 1399.160.7.



(d) Except as provided in Section 1399.160.2 and subsection (b), a licensee who holds both a speech-language pathology license and an audiology license, shall certify in writing, when applying for license renewal, by signing a statement under penalty of perjury that during the preceding renewal period the licensee has completed sixteen (16) hours of continuing professional development courses for each license for a total of thirty-two (32) hours of continuing professional development as defined in Section 1399.160.3(d) from a provider approved under Section 1399.160.7.

(e) Except as provided in Section 1399.160.2, a licensed audiologist authorized to dispense hearing aids as provided by Section 2539.1 of the Code shall certify in writing, when applying for license renewal, by signing a statement under penalty of perjury that during the preceding renewal period the licensee has completed twelve (12) hours of continuing professional development as defined in Section 1399.160.3(e) from a provider approved under Section 1399.160.7.

(f) Except as provided in Section 1399.160.2, a licensee who holds both a speech-language pathology license and an audiology license authorized to dispense hearing aids as provided by Section 2539.1 of the Code shall certify in writing, when applying for license renewal, by signing a statement under penalty of perjury that during the preceding renewal period the licensee has completed sixteen (16) hours of continuing professional development as defined in Section 1399.160.3(f)(1) from a provider approved under Section 1399.160.7 biennially and eight (8) hours of continuing professional development as defined in Section 1399.160.3(f)(2) from a provider approved under Section 1399.160.7 annually.

(eg) A licensee who falsifies or makes a material misrepresentation of fact when applying for license renewal or who cannot verify the completion of the continuing professional development requirement by producing a record of course completion, upon request by the Board, is subject ~~to~~ to disciplinary action under Section 2533(e) of the Code.

(h) Any person whose license has been expired for two renewal cycles or more shall complete the required hours of continuing professional development for the most recent renewal cycle before such license may be restored.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 2531.95 and 2532.6(a), Business and Professions Code. Reference: Sections ~~2532.6(b), 2532.6(c), 2532.6(d) and 2533(e)~~, Business and Professions Code.

**Adopt section 1399.160.2 of Article 11 of Division 13.4 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations to read as follows:**

### **§ 1399.160.2. Exemptions from Continuing Professional Development.**

~~(a) An initial licensee shall complete at least twelve (12) hours of continuing professional~~

development, of which no more than four (4) hours may be earned through the following activities prior to his or her first license renewal:

~~(1) No more than (2) hours of self-study activities,~~

~~(2) No more than (2) hours from courses related to the discipline of speech-language pathology or audiology as defined in Section 1399.160.4(c)(4), or in indirect client care courses as defined in Section 1399.160.4(c)(3).~~

~~(ba)~~ A licensee is exempt from the continuing professional development requirement if ~~his or her~~ their license is inactive pursuant to Sections 703 and 704 of the Code.

~~(eb)~~ To obtain an exemption, a A-licensee may ~~shall~~ submit a written request for exemption from the continuing professional development requirement for any of the reasons listed below. The Board will notify the licensee, within thirty (30) working days after receipt of the request for exemption, whether the exemption was granted. If the request for exemption is denied, the licensee is responsible for completing the full amount of continuing professional development required for license renewal. The Board shall grant the exemption if the licensee can provide evidence, satisfactory to the Board, that:

(1) ~~For at least one year~~ any amount of time during the licensee's previous license renewal period the licensee was ~~absent from California due to military service~~ called to active duty as defined in Section 114.3 of the Code;

(2) For at least one year during the licensee's previous license renewal period the licensee resided in another country; or

(3) During the licensee's previous renewal period, the licensee or an immediate family member, where the licensee has primary responsibility for the care of that family member, was suffering from or suffered a disability. A disability is a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of an individual. The disability shall be verified by a licensed physician or psychologist with special expertise in the area of disability.

Verification of the disability shall include:

(A) the nature and extent of the disability;

(B) an explanation of how the disability hinders the licensee from completing the continuing professional development requirement; and

(C) the name, title, address, telephone number, professional license or certification number, and original signature of the licensed physician or psychologist verifying the disability.

(c) If the request for exemption from the continuing professional development requirement is granted, it shall be valid only for the current renewal period.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 2531.95 and 2532.6(a), Business and Professions Code.  
Reference: Sections 114.3 and 2532.6(d), Business and Professions Code.

**Adopt section 1399.160.3 of Article 11 of Division 13.4 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations to read as follows:**

**§ 1399.160.3. Continuing Professional Development Requirements.**

(a) A licensee who renews under Section 1399.160.1(a), whose license expires in the year 2001, shall accrue at least twelve (12) hours of continuing professional development hours in courses as defined in Section 1399.160.4. A licensee under this subsection who claims may accrue no more than four (4) hours of continuing professional development hours for courses through self-study courses shall be allowed to claim no more than six (6) hours of continuing professional development earned through self-study during this renewal period. A licensee under this subsection who claims continuing professional development credit from courses as defined in Section 1399.160.4(c)(4) or Section 1399.160.4(c)(32) shall be allowed to claim no more than two (2) hours of continuing professional development from such courses.

(b) A licensee who renews under Section 1399.160.1(b) holds both a speech-language pathology license and an audiology license that expire in the year 2001, shall accrue at least eight (8) hours of continuing professional development hours from courses as defined in Section 1399.160.4 for each license. A licensee under this subsection who claims may accrue no more than two (2) hours of continuing professional development hours for courses through self-study courses shall be allowed to claim no more than four (4) hours of continuing professional development earned through self-study for each license. A licensee under this subsection who claims continuing professional development hours from courses as defined in Section 1399.160.4(c)(4) or Section 1399.160.4(c)(32) shall be allowed to claim no more than one and one half (1.5) hours of continuing professional development from such courses for each license.

(c) A licensee who renews under Section 1399.160.1(c) shall accrue at least twenty-four (24) hours during a single renewal period of continuing professional development hours from courses as defined in Section 1399.160.4. A licensee under this subsection who claims may accrue no more than eight (8) hours of continuing professional development hours for courses earned through the following activities during a single renewal period:

(1) No more than six (6) hours of self-study shall be allowed to claim no more than twelve (12) hours of continuing professional development earned through self-study activities,

(2) No more than four (4) hours A licensee under this subsection who claims continuing

professional development hours from courses related to the discipline of speech-language pathology or audiology, as defined in Section 1399.160.4(c)(4) or in indirect client care courses as defined in Section 1399.160.4(c)(32), shall be allowed to claim no more than four (4) hours of continuing professional development from such courses.

(31) A licensee who renews an audiology license and claims continuing professional development hours from courses related to hearing aid dispensing shall be allowed to claim no more than 50% of the continuing professional development hours required from such courses of a licensed non-dispensing audiologist, may be in hearing aid courses, but and the continuing professional development hours shall not be obtained from courses where the content focuses on marketing, launching, or demonstrating the marketability of equipment, devices, or other products regardless of whether the course focuses on a particular manufacturer's or company's equipment, devices, or product equipment, devices, or other products of a particular publisher, company or corporation.

(d) A licensee who renews under Section 1366.160.1(d) holds both a speech-language pathology license and an audiology license, shall accrue at least sixteen (16) hours of continuing professional development hours from courses as defined in Section 1399.160.4 for each license. A licensee under this subsection who claims may accrue no more than five (5) hours of continuing professional development hours for courses earned through the following activities for each license:

(1) No more than two and one half (2.5) hours of self-study shall be allowed to claim no more than eight (8) hours of continuing professional development for self-study courses for each license activities,

(2) No more than two and one half (2.5) hours A licensee under this subsection who claims continuing professional development credit from courses related to the discipline of speech-language pathology or audiology, as defined in Section 1399.160.4(c)(4) or in indirect client care courses as defined in Section 1399.160.4(c)(32) shall be allowed to claim no more than two and one half (2.5) hours of continuing professional development from such courses for each license.

(1) A licensee who renews an audiology license and claims continuing professional development hours from courses related to hearing aid dispensing shall be allowed to claim credit for those hours in accordance with Section 1399.160.3(c)(1).

(e) A licensee who renews under Section 1366.160.1(e) licensed audiologist authorized to dispense hearing aids as provided by Section 2539.1 of the Code shall accrue at least twelve (12) hours of continuing professional development hours from courses as defined in Section 1399.160.4 annually. A licensee under this subsection who claims licensed audiologist authorized to dispense hearing aids may accrue no more than (3) hours of continuing professional development hours for courses earned through the following activities during a single renewal period:

~~(1) No more than one and a half (1.5) hours of self-study shall be allowed to claim no more than six (6) hours of continuing professional development for self-study courses activities,~~

~~(2) No more than one and a half (1.5) hours~~ A licensee under this subsection who claims continuing professional development hours from courses related to the discipline of audiology, as defined in Section 1399.160.4(c)(4) or in indirect client care courses as defined in Section 1399.160.4(c)(32), shall be allowed to claim no more than two (2) hours of continuing professional development from such courses.

~~(31) A licensee shall complete~~ Exactly 50% of the continuing professional development hours required of a licensed audiologist authorized to dispense hearing aids, shall be obtained from courses related to hearing aid dispensing but and these hours shall not be obtained from courses where the content focuses on marketing, launching, or demonstrating the marketability of equipment, devices, or other products regardless of whether the course focuses on a particular manufacturer's or company's equipment, devices, or products. the equipment, devices, or other products of a particular manufacturer or company. The remaining 50% of the continuing professional development hours required of a dispensing audiologist shall be relevant to the practice of audiology as defined in Section 2530.2(k) and shall not be obtained from hearing aid dispensing courses as provided for in this section.

~~(f) A licensee who renews under Section 1366.160.1(f) holds both a speech-language pathology license and a dispensing audiology license shall accrue:~~

~~(1) At least sixteen (16) hours of cContinuing professional development hours courses in from speech-language pathology courses as defined in Section 1399.160.4. A licensee under this paragraph who claims biennially, of which no more than four (4) hours of the continuing professional development hours earned for courses may be accrued through the following activities during a single renewal period:~~

~~(A) No more than two and one half (2.5) hours of self-study shall be allowed to claim no more than eight (8) hours of continuing professional development for self-study courses activities,~~

~~(B) No more than two and one half (2.5) hours~~ A licensee under this paragraph who claims continuing professional development hours from courses related to the discipline of speech-language pathology as defined in Section 1399.160.4(c)(4) or in indirect client care courses as defined in Section 1399.160.4(c)(32) shall be allowed to claim no more than two and one half (2.5) hours of continuing professional development from such courses.

~~(2) At least eight (8) hours of cContinuing professional development hours from courses in dispensing audiology courses as defined in Section 1399.160.4 and~~

1399.160.3(e)(31). annually, of which no more than two (2) hours of A licensee under this paragraph who claims continuing professional development credit for courses earned may be accrued through the following activities during a single renewal period:

(A) No more than one (1) hour of self-study shall be allowed to claim no more than four (4) hours of continuing professional development for self-study courses, activities,

(B) No more than one (1) hour A licensee under this paragraph who claims continuing professional development hours from courses related to the discipline of speech-language pathology as defined in ~~Section 1399.160.4(c)(4)~~ or in indirect client care courses as defined in Section 1399.160.4(c)(32) shall be allowed to claim no more than one and one half (1.5) hours of continuing professional development from such courses.

(g) If a licensee teaches a course offered by a provider registered with the Board or an entity listed in Section 2532.6 of the Code, the licensee may claim credit and claims continuing professional development credit for the same course, the licensee shall be credited only once per renewal, receiving the same amount of hours of continuing professional development credit as a licensee who attended the course.

(h) A licensee may shall not claim credit for the same course more than once for hours of continuing professional development per renewal.

(i) A licensee who takes an educational course as a condition of probation resulting from disciplinary action by the Board may shall not apply the course as credit towards the continuing professional development requirement.

(j) A licensee who supervises a Required Professional Experience temporary license holder must complete the required supervision training in Section 1399.153.3.

(k) A licensee who supervises a Speech-Language Pathology Assistant must complete the required supervision training in Section 1399.170.15.

(l) A licensee who claims continuing professional development for participating in a Board sponsored Occupational Analysis shall be credited no more than two (2) hours.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 2531.95 and 2532.6(a), Business and Professions Code. Reference: Section 2532.6(b), (c) and (e), Business and Professions Code.

**Adopt section 1399.160.4 of Article 11 of Division 13.4 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations to read as follows:**

**§ 1399.160.4. Continuing Professional Development Course Content.**

(a) A licensed speech-language pathologist shall determine that the content and learning outcomes of a course are relevant to the practice of speech-language

pathology as defined in Section 2530.2(d).

(b) A licensed audiologists shall determine that the content and learning outcomes of a course are relevant to the practice of audiology as defined in Section 2530.2(k).

(c) The content of a course shall pertain to direct patient/client care, related, or indirect patient/client care, or related to the practice of speech-language pathology or audiology.

~~(1) Examples of direct patient/client care courses for the practice of speech-language pathology include: fluency disorders, voice disorders, motor disorders of speech, dysphagia, speech science, oral and written language disorders, aphasia and neurogenic disorders of language and cognition, augmentative and alternative communication, phonological/articulatory disorders language science, and patient/client counseling to facilitate recovery from, or adjustment to, a communication disorder.~~

~~(2) Examples of direct patient/client care courses for the practice of audiology include, auditory and vestibular assessment, auditory habilitation/rehabilitation, hearing assistive technology, industrial audiology/hearing conservation and hearing science~~Direct patient/client care courses cover the current practice of speech-language pathology or audiology. This may include content on instruments and technology used for assessment/diagnosis or intervention.

~~(3) Indirect patient/client care courses cover pragmatic aspects of speech-language pathology or audiology practice (e.g., legal or ethical issues, consultation, record-keeping, office management, managed care issues, research obligations, technological applications related to assessment/diagnosis or intervention).~~

~~(4) Courses that are related to the discipline practice of speech-language pathology or audiology may shall cover general medical or educational offerings including, but not limited to, social interaction, cultural and linguistic diversity competency, and diversity, equity, and inclusion as it applies to service delivery for diverse populations; professional service delivery models; interdisciplinary case management issues; or medical pathologies related to neurological disorders that also result in communication difficulties.~~

(d) A provider shall ensure that a course has specific objectives that are measurable.

(e) Upon completion of a course, a licensee shall evaluate the course through some type of evaluation mechanism.

(f) Courses considered outside the scope of continuing professional development include, ~~but are not limited to,~~ those in the following areas:

- (1) money management, the licensee's personal finances or personal business matters;
- (2) general physical fitness or the licensee's personal health;
- (3) presentations by political or public figures or other persons that do not deal primarily with the practice of either speech-language pathology or audiology;
- (4) tort liability;
- (5) courses that address increased office production or computerization, financial planning, employee benefits, marketing or motivational topics to increase productivity or profitability; ~~and~~
- (6) courses in which the primary beneficiary is the licensee, not the consumer; ~~and~~
- (7) marketing, launching, or demonstrating the marketability of instruments and technology regardless of whether it focuses on a particular manufacturer's or company's instruments and technology.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 2531.95 and 2532.6(a), Business and Professions Code.  
Reference: Section 2532.6(b), (c) and (e), Business and Professions Code.



**Agenda Item 13(d)**  
**Attachment C: Literature for Rationale on Self-Study**

1. *Evidence For Continuing Professional Development Standards For Regulated Health Practitioners In Australia: A Systematic Review*. Available from [https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC10026429/pdf/12960\\_2023\\_Article\\_803.pdf](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC10026429/pdf/12960_2023_Article_803.pdf)
2. *Continuing Professional Development: Best Practices*. Available from <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4005177/?report=printable>
3. *Interactive Learning in Continuing Professional Development: "at Least 25 Per Cent of Time"*. Available from <https://www.royalcollege.ca/content/dam/documents/learning/continuing-professional-development/interactive-learning-cpd-e.html#:~:text=Allocating%20time%20for%20at%20least,the%20quality%20of%20health%20care>.
4. Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards' *Guidelines for Continuing Professional Development*. Available from <https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.asppb.net/resource/resmgr/guidelines/profdevelopment2023.pdf>
5. *Competence, ethical practice, and going it alone*. Available from <https://societyforpsychotherapy.org/competence-ethical-practice-and-going-it-alone/>
6. *Designing Professional Development Training Programs with the Learner in Mind*. Available from <https://susanfitzell.com/designing-professional-development-training-programs-with-the-learner-in-mind/>
7. *Neurodiversity and Career Development: Strategies for Advancement*. Available from <https://enna.org/neurodiversity-and-career-development-strategies-for-advancement/>

All documents can be requested by sending an email to [speechandhearing@dca.ca.gov](mailto:speechandhearing@dca.ca.gov).

## Attachment D: Proposed CPD Requirements

<b>License Type</b>	<b>Total Hours Required</b>	<b>Maximum Hours Allowed in Self-Study</b>	<b>Maximum Hours Allowed for Indirect patient/client care or related to the practice</b>	<b><i>(Suggested) Maximum Hours Allowed for Indirect patient/client care</i></b>
<i>(First Time Renewal)</i> Speech-Language Pathologist <b>or</b> Audiologist	12 hours	6 hours	2 hours	<i>3 hours</i>
<i>(First Time Renewal)</i> Speech-Language Pathologist <b>and</b> Audiologist	8 hours for each license	4 hours	1.5 hours	<i>2 hours</i>
Speech-Language Pathologist <b>or</b> Audiologist	24 hours	12 hours	4 hours	<i>6 hours</i>
Speech-Language Pathologist <b>and</b> Audiologist	16 hours for each license	8 hours for each license	2.5 hours for each license	<i>4 hours for each license</i>
Dispensing Audiologist*	12 hours	6 hours	2 hours	<i>3 hours</i>
Speech-Language Pathologist <b>and</b> Dispensing Audiologist*	16 hours and 8 hours	8 hours and 4 hours	2.5 hours and 1.5 hours	<i>4 hours and 2 hours</i>

\* Exactly 50% of the total hours required per renewal must be from courses related to hearing aid dispensing.

CPD Activity	Maximum Hours Allowed
Courses related to hearing aid dispensing.	<p><i>(Audiologists)</i> No more than 50% of the total hours required per renewal.</p> <p><i>(Dispensing Audiologists)</i> Exactly 50% of the total hours required per renewal.</p>
Courses on marketing, launching, or demonstrating the marketability of equipment, devices, or other products regardless of whether it focuses on a particular manufacturer's or company's equipment, devices, or products.	None
Teaching a course offered by a provider registered with the Board or an entity listed in Section 2532.6 of the Code.	Once per renewal period, same number of hours as a licensee who attended the course.
Educational course as a condition of probation.	None
Course on the supervision of SLPAs and RPEs.	Six (6) hours prior to assuming responsibility as a supervisor, three (3) hours every four (4) years thereafter.
Participating in the occupational analysis.	Two (2) hours per renewal period.
Courses on personal finances and business matters, marketing and sales, and office operations that are not for the benefit of the consumer.	None