



**COLLEGE OF AUDIOLOGISTS AND  
SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS  
OF NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR**

Policy General Status Temporary and General Status Restricted	<b>Number: 2-50</b> <b>Section: REGISTRATION</b> <b>Page: 1 OF 8</b>
<b>Issuing Authority</b>	CASLP-NL Board of Directors
<b>Author</b>	CASLP-NL Board of Directors
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**Overview:**

To provide public protection and promote professional development and quality service, the *Health Professionals Act*, SNL 2010, c.H-1.02 requires that all applicants applying to register as Audiologists or Speech-Language Pathologists with the Newfoundland and Labrador Council of Health Professionals (NLCHP) abide by regulations, by-laws and policies outlined by NLCHP and the College of Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists of Newfoundland and Labrador (CASLP-NL).

**Policy:**

This policy applies to all applicants who have completed their profession-specific education program in the preceding 12 months or have fewer than 1000 hours in the preceding four years. It is designed to ensure that a registrant's knowledge base, skills, and professional networks reflect the basic standard of practice for the registrant's area of practice and are current. This policy aims to ensure new graduates have a firm foundation for effective independent practice.

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**Criteria:**

- Applicants must meet one of the following criteria:
  - be a certified member of Speech-Language and Audiology Canada (SAC); or
  - have passed the SAC certification exam in the past 12 months; or
  - have applied to sit the next College approved certification exam. The Applicant shall provide the NLCHP with a certified copy of her/his results on the College approved certification exam as soon as they are available.
- The Applicant must provide a letter of support from his/her employer indicating they are aware of the need for mentorship.

**COLLEGE'S MENTORSHIP PROGRAM**

**RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE APPLICANT**

- The applicant is responsible to find a Mentor to provide the required mentorship and submit the name to the College for approval. An eligible mentor:
  - is a General Status Audiologist or Speech-Language Pathologist in good standing on the NLCHP General Register who is a member of the same profession as the member being mentored; and
  - must have a minimum of 3 years work experience in the identified profession.

The applicant may contact the College to obtain assistance in identifying a Mentor.

- The Applicant shall submit a Mentorship Guidance Contract (Form 5-30) for approval by the College. This contract must be received prior to a license being issued.
- The Applicant shall notify the College in writing of any plan to change the approved contract. Any change requires the approval of the College.
- The Applicant will not supervise student(s) or supportive personnel who are responsible for the delivery of clinical services to patient/clients during her/his mentorship period.

**RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MENTOR**

- A Mentor must be a General Status Audiologist or Speech-Language Pathologist in good standing with a minimum of three years of experience in the identified profession.

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- A Mentor shall submit a Mentorship Report and Rating Form (Form 5-40) to the College within 14 calendar days of completion of each 200 hour period during mentorship.
  - A Mentor shall discuss her/his expectations with the applicant in advance of the commencement of the mentorship period.
  - In most cases, one mentor will provide guidance. Where the College has approved it, more than one mentor may be involved in providing mentorship to the Applicant.
  - Exploitation of the Applicant by the Mentor is grounds for professional misconduct.
  - A Mentor must abide by the Personal Health Information Act (PHIA) in relation to all patient/client information obtained during the mentorship period.
  - The College prohibits remuneration of the Mentor by the Applicant. Transfer of funds between employing agencies is not prohibited. This includes mentors in private practice. (i.e., a private practice mentor may be reimbursed by the agency employing the Applicant, however the Applicant must not be expected to reimburse her/his mentor directly.)
  - The Mentor is not responsible for the patients/clients under the care of the Applicant. It is the Applicant who has the ultimate responsibility for all care provided. If the Mentor observes practice that may result in harm to the patient/client, the Mentor has an obligation to intervene. Apart from this extreme example, the Mentor serves as a consultant to the applicant during the reentry process.

#### **RESPONSIBILITY OF THE COLLEGE/NLCHP**

- The College shall be responsible for approving Mentorship Guidance Contracts. Approval of Mentorship Guidance Contracts shall be based upon guidelines established by the College.
- The College shall be responsible for reviewing the Mentorship Report and Rating Forms and provide recommendations to NLCHP.
- The Registration Committee of NLCHP will issue a "General Status - Temporary" registration once the Mentorship Guidance Contract has been approved by the College.
- The Registration Committee of NLCHP will issue a "General Status – Restricted" registration for those applicants who have passed the certification exam, but are still completing their mentorship.

- NLCHP shall be responsible for notifying the Applicant of successful completion of the Mentorship and will remove the restriction to the registration.
- NLCHP shall inform the Applicant of the unsuccessful completion of the Mentorship and the registration will be removed.
- NLCHP shall inform the College if the Applicant does not pass the SAC exam.

### **DEFINITION OF MENTORSHIP**

- Overseeing and evaluating the clinical work of an Audiologist or Speech-Language Pathologist which may include but is not limited to: conducting performance evaluations, case reviews, assessing written reports, and monitoring professional standards.
- Supervising research in audiology or speech-language pathology that involves the assessment or management of patients'/clients' communication disorders.

### **DURATION OF MENTORSHIP**

- 200 total hours over 6 month period.
  - 20 hours (10%) being one-on-one hours with the mentor (10/20 hours must be observation of client's sessions or assessment.)
  - The Mentor will review a minimum of five of the Applicant's patient/client records in the 200 hour period. The following items must be included in all patient/client records:
    - The patient's/client's name, address and phone number;
    - The date of each of the patient's/client's visits with the Applicant, unless this information is available from some other readily accessible source;
    - The name of the referring source;
    - Pertinent history of the patient/client or reference where this information may be found;
    - Reasonable information about assessments and treatments performed by the Applicant and reasonable information about significant clinical findings and recommendations made by the Applicant;
    - Reasonable information about significant recommendations made by the Applicant for examinations, tests, consultations or treatments to be performed by any other person;
    - Reasonable information about advice given by the Applicant;
    - Reasonable information about every referral of the patient/client by the Applicant to another professional

- Mentorship should be face-to-face when feasible. If face-to-face guidance is not possible, the observation method(s) must be outlined in the Mentorship Guidance Contract. Client assessment or therapy observation can be observed in person or via an approved tele-practice platform or recorded session (video review). Confidentiality must be ensured and client consent must be obtained for all modes of observation.
- If a mentor feels that a mentee requires more mentorship than prescribed, they can note it on their feedback form for the college

### **MECHANISM FOR FEEDBACK**

The Applicant and the Mentor must include in the Mentorship Guidance Contract how feedback will be provided (e.g., during face-to-face meetings, by written communication, phone conferences, email).

### **REPORTS**

The Mentor must submit the Mentorship Report and Rating Form to the College within 14 calendar days of completion of each 200 hour period during mentorship.

### **SECONDARY EMPLOYMENT SETTING**

An Applicant wishing to engage in the practice of audiology or speech-language pathology at a secondary employment setting may do so if the Mentor is willing to include the secondary employment site in the Mentorship Guidance Contract. Otherwise, a second mentor must be chosen and approved by the College.

### **THE MENTORSHIP GUIDANCE CONTRACT**

- Together the Applicant and the Mentor must:
  - Discuss plans for the content of the upcoming mentorship period
  - Discuss the Mentor's expectations during the mentorship period
  - Review the practice standards set out in the Mentorship Guidance Contract and identify specific learning goals for the Applicant which:
    - reflect on skills needed to function effectively in her/his area of practice.
    - help the applicant recognize her/his strengths and to identify areas to be developed.
  - Review how the Applicant will be evaluated.

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- The Mentor and the Applicant must develop a guidance plan to ensure that the Applicant has the necessary skills, knowledge and behavior. The guidance plan should be tailored to meet the needs of the Applicant in her/his employment setting.
  - The Applicant and the Mentor will formulate a Mentorship Guidance Contract that includes:
    - A statement of the Applicant's individual goals
    - A statement of how the Applicant will prepare to achieve her/his goals.
  - The Applicant must submit a copy of her/his Mentorship Guidance Contract to the College and the Mentor should retain a copy of the Mentorship Guidance Contract for her/his own records.

### **MENTORSHIP SKILLS INVENTORY**

The Mentor will evaluate the Applicant's performance during the mentorship using the Mentorship Skills Inventory (Form 5-50).

### **MENTOR'S REVIEW OF THE APPLICANT'S INDIVIDUAL GOALS**

- The Mentor will continuously evaluate the Applicant's progress to:
- determine if the Applicant has any problems or concerns
  - identify areas of success
  - identify challenges or frustrating experiences

### **SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF MENTORSHIP**

When the College receives a Mentorship Report and Rating Form that recommends an Applicant for General Status registration, the College will review all documentation related to the reentry process and will notify the NLCHP Registration Committee within 14 calendar days of recommendation of the College.

### **FAILURE TO MEET MENTORSHIP REQUIREMENTS**

- In circumstances where the College has deemed that the Applicant will not be recommended for General Status registration, the Applicant will be referred to the Registration Committee for review.
- The results of this review will be communicated to the Applicant within 30 days by NLCHP.
- The Applicant may then have her/his mentorship period extended, start a new mentorship period with a new mentor, or have her/his registration terminated.

**References:**

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA): Clinical Fellowship Guidelines, June 2011

Centre for Health Information: MIS Standards, Workload Measurement and Statistical Data Collection [http://www.nlchi.nl.ca/images/PDFs/MIS\\_ReferenceGuide\\_Audiology\\_December2011.pdf](http://www.nlchi.nl.ca/images/PDFs/MIS_ReferenceGuide_Audiology_December2011.pdf) or [http://www.nlchi.nl.ca/images/PDFs/MIS\\_ReferenceGuide\\_Speech-LanguagePathology\\_December2011.pdf](http://www.nlchi.nl.ca/images/PDFs/MIS_ReferenceGuide_Speech-LanguagePathology_December2011.pdf)

College of Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists of Ontario (CASLPO): Initial Practice Period Guidelines, December 2003

Province of Newfoundland and Labrador: Health Professionals Act, SNL 2010, c.H-1.02

Province of Newfoundland and Labrador: *Personal Health Information Act*, SNL 2008, c. P-7.01

**Approved By:**



CASLP-NL Chairperson



CASLP-NL Board Member

**FORM 5-60**

**DECLARATION AND SIGNATURE**

The following declaration must be completed and returned to the College before your application can be considered.

**I hereby confirm that within the last month I have read the College's Code of Ethics, relevant Scope of Practice and Standards of Practice.**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_