



# Alabama Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

Telephone (334) 269-1434 Fax: (334) 834-9618  
400 S. Union Street, Suite 435  
P.O. Box 304760  
Montgomery, AL 36130-4760  
Web address: [abespa.alabama.gov](http://abespa.alabama.gov)

The following changes are proposed to the ABESPA rules & regulations:

**870-x-2-.06 - Assistant Registration:** Updating the educational requirements for Speech-Language Pathology assistants to reflect the change in the law (Act 2025-382; Ala. Code 34-28A-21.1) allowing assistants to be licensed with a qualifying associate degree.

**870-x-2-.06(a) - Assistant Qualification:** Implementing the language in the new law listing where associate-level SLP assistants may practice.

**870-x-2-.06(c) - Prohibited Duties of Assistants:** Clarifying the restriction that assistants may not provide counseling to clients.

**870-x-2-.06(d) - Assistant Titles:** Updating the requirements for SLP and Audiology assistants when listing their credentials or identifying themselves in professional interactions to reflect the new degree option for SLP Assistants.

**870-x-2-.06(e) - Assistant Supervision:** Clarifying that the physical-presence requirement for supervision is 100% of the time the assistant is carrying out clinical responsibilities.

**870-x-2-.06(m) - Licensed Supervisor:** Implementing the requirement in the new law that SLP supervisors must be fully licensed for at least two years and applying that requirement to audiology supervisors. Also implementing the requirement in the new law that SLP supervisors may not supervise more than three full-time equivalent assistants in any one setting.

**870-x-6-.02(1)(c) - Principle of Ethics I:** Modernizing language in the discrimination prohibition from "handicapping condition" to "disability."

**870-x-6-.02(1)(l) - Principle of Ethics I:** Clarifying that individuals should withdraw from practice when substance use (not just substance abuse) or emotional/mental instability (not specifically an emotional/mental disability) may adversely affect quality of services.

**870-x-6-.03(1)(d) - Principle of Ethics II:** Simplifying language and clarifying that delegation of support services (not just clinical services) must be to a person qualified to perform those services.

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## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR PORPOSED RULE CHANGES

**DATE:** June 12, 2026 **Time:** 11:30 A.M. **PLACE:** 400 South Union Street,  
4<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room, Montgomery, AL 36104

If you would like to attend the Public Hearing on Rules & Regulations changes, please contact the ABESPA office by telephone at (334) 269-1434 or email at [abespa@abespa.alabama.gov](mailto:abespa@abespa.alabama.gov) to have your name placed on the agenda. If you are unable to attend the hearing, send any comments to ABESPA, POB 304760, Montgomery, AL 36130-4760