

#### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

**Q:** What are the requirements for being a licensed assistant in speech-language pathology?

**A:** Administrative Rules; Subchapter F; Section 11.50

<https://www.tdlr.texas.gov/slpa/slparules.htm#11155>

- Posses a baccalaureate degree with an emphasis in communicative sciences or disorders;
- Have acquired at 24 semester credit hours in speech-language pathology and/or audiology with at least 18 hours in speech-language pathology, 3 hours in language disorders, and 3 hours in speech disorders.
- Have earned at least 25 hours of clinical observation
- Have earned at least 25 hours of clinical assisting experience
- Have a licensed supervisor.

**Q:** Where do I apply for an assistant's license?

**A:** <https://www.tdlr.texas.gov/slpa/slp-assistant-apply.htm>

**Q:** How often must a licensed assistant be supervised?

**A:** Each supervisor must provide a minimum of 8 hours per calendar month of supervision. At least 4 hours must be direct.



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Speech and Language –Hearing  
Association  
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*Phone: (855) 330-TSHA  
Phone: (202) 973-8742  
E-mail: [staff@txsha.org](mailto:staff@txsha.org)*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION regard-  
ing licensed assistants in speech-  
language pathology, please use the  
following contacts:

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING  
AND REGULATIONS-SPEECH-  
LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY AND  
AUDIOLOGY

PO Box 12057  
Austin, TX 78711  
<https://www.tdlr.texas.gov/slpa/slpa>

TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY  
1701 N. Congress Ave.  
Austin, TX 78701  
(512) 463-9734  
<https://tea.texas.gov>



## THE ROLE OF THE LICENSED ASSISTANT



## IN SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY



## STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS- FOR SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY GUIDELINES

### The assistant shall:

- use the title “Licensed Assistant in Speech-Language Pathology.”

### At the direction of the supervising Speech-Language Pathologist (SLP), and with appropriate training, the assistant shall

- conduct or participate in speech, language, and/or hearing screening with the appropriate training;
- implement the treatment program or the Individual Education Plan designed by the licensed speech-language pathologist;
- provide carry-over activities that are the therapeutically designed transfer of a newly acquired communication ability to other contexts and situations;
- collect data;
- administer routine tests, if assistant has been trained and the assessments are conducted under the direction of the supervisor;
- maintain clinical records;
- prepare clinical materials; and
- participate with the licensed SLP in research projects, staff development, public relations programs, or similar activities as designated and supervised by the licensed SLP.

### The assistant shall NOT:

- Conduct evaluations, even under supervision, since this is a diagnostic and decision-making activity;
- Interpret results of routine tests;
- Interpret observations or data into diagnostic statements, clinical management strategies, or procedures;
- Represent speech-language pathology at staff meetings or at admission, review, and dismissal (ARD) meetings except as specified in the next section;
- Attend staff meetings or ARD meetings without the supervisor being present, except as specified in the next section;
- Design a treatment program or individual education plan (IEP);
- Determine case load selection;
- Present written or oral reports of client, except as specified in the next section;
- Refer a client to other professionals or other agencies;
- Use any title that connotes the competency of a licensed SLP;
- Practice as an assistant in speech-language pathology without a valid supervisory responsibility statement on file with the Texas Department of Licensing Regulations (TDLR)



### Assistants and ARD Meetings

An assistant may represent special education and speech-language pathology at the ARD meetings with the following stipulations:

- The assistant shall have written documentation of approval from the supervisor.
- The assistant shall have 3 years of experience as an assistant in the school setting.
- The assistant may attend, with written approval of the supervisor, a student's annual review ARD if the assistant provides services to that student..
- A supervisor must attend an ARD meeting if the purpose of the meeting is to review an evaluation.
- The assistant may present IEP goals and objectives that have been developed by the supervisor and reviewed with the parent by the supervisor.
- The assistant shall discontinue participation in the ARD meeting and shall contact the supervisor when questions or changes arise regarding the IEP document.



*“Being a Licensed Assistant in Speech-Language Pathology is extremely rewarding. I am able to utilize my skills in ways that are meaning and helpful to others.”*