

Tennessee Board of Communication Disorders and Sciences Policy on Continuing Education Violations

The Tennessee Board of Communication Disorders and Sciences requires all Speech Language Pathologists and Audiologists to successfully complete a minimum of ten (10) hours of continuing education during each calendar year (January 1 – December 31). Five (5) hours of the ten (10) hour requirement must have been obtained in the licensee's area of practice (Speech Language Pathology or Audiology); and five (5) hours of the ten (10) hour requirement may regard either Speech Language Pathology or Audiology.

All Speech Language Pathology Assistants must complete a minimum of five (5) hours of continuing education during each calendar year.

In the event a licensee is found to be deficient in the number of required continuing education (CE) hours for a particular year, that person will be required to pay a one-time civil penalty of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) and make up the deficient hours.

The civil penalty must be paid, and all deficient CE hours must be taken and documented by the Board, within ninety (90) days after Department staff mails the licensee a notice of deficiency.

Notice of discipline for CE deficiency will be assessed by the Department via Agreed Citation, which will detail the licensee's rights and obligations under the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, T.C.A. §§ 4-5-301, *et seq.* The discipline assessed in accordance with this continuing education policy constitutes formal discipline against a practitioner's license and as such will be reported to the disciplinary data bank and will be noted on the practitioner's licensure profile.

If such licensee fails to pay the civil penalty and demonstrate that he or she has cured the CE deficiency within the calendar year in which he receives notification, the Department will file a licensure complaint and the licensee will be prosecuted in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, T.C.A. §§ 4-5-301, *et seq.*

Adopted by the Board of Communication Disorders and Sciences on the 18th day of November 2008.