



South Carolina Speech-Language Hearing Association

Frequently Asked Questions: Making the Best of Some Confusing Terms

Any information contained in this document should not be construed as legal advice and is not intended to be a substitute for legal counsel on any subject matter. All individuals who wish to verify legal requirements of license or certificate holders should consult the practice act, all relevant regulatory chapters for the practice of Speech-Language Pathology, and policies of the certifying agency.

SC License: issued by SC Board of Examiners in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology

- Renewed every 2 years (odd years)
- Licensees have the option to maintain an inactive license for a short period of time, but cannot practice as an SLP with patients located in SC with an inactive license
- CE Broker website tracks compliance with CEU requirements
 - At least ½ of the courses must pertain to clinical practice
 - Maintain CEU records for 4 years
 - For further information see SC regulations chapter 115-6, and the Board's Continuing Education policy on the LLR website

Compact Privilege: issued by the A-SLP Interstate Compact ([ASLPcompact.com](https://www.aslpcompact.com))

- The compact commission is in the process of standing up which is a lengthy process that determines the technical aspects of how the compact privilege works
- Each license holder maintains one unencumbered home state license
- The compact privilege may be obtained in a participating state once the compact becomes active
- Since the basis for participation in a compact privilege is the home state license, that license must be maintained in good standing, along with all of the CEU requirements of the home state

Certificate of Clinical Competence: issued by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association

- Renewed annually in December
- Certification maintenance intervals are reviewed every 2 years
 - 1 hour of ethics CEU required for all CCC holders each interval
 - 2 hours of diversity, equity, and inclusion CEU required for all CCC holders each interval
 - Complete all additional CEU requirements by the end of each certification maintenance interval



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- Certificate holders who wish to supervise students or ASHA clinical fellows must meet the following:
 - Complete a minimum of 9 months full-time (equivalent) clinical experience with clients/patients after being awarded the CCC
 - To supervise in SC, the supervisor must have at least 3 years of work experience per SC Board of Examiners
 - Complete 2 hours of clinical instruction or supervision professional development (one time)
 - When supervising students, the graduate program for those students may offer access to supervision courses you can take to meet the minimum requirements
 - An SLP or Audiologist who has not met ASHA's minimum supervision requirements cannot supervise students or ASHA clinical fellows.
- Some employers require higher level clinical staff to meet ASHA's minimum requirements for supervision even if they do not have active plans to supervise a student or CF.
- Individuals may maintain the CCC without being an ASHA member, however the certified non-member rate is only around \$30 lower than the certified member rate. ASHA member discount programs will likely cover this difference.

SLP Intern: a license issued by the SC Board of Examiners in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology for those who have finished the academic program and are obtaining supervised professional experience in order to apply for the SLP license

- These individuals meet the requirements of the federal code to provide skilled SLP services in 42 CFR 440.110(c)(2)(iii).
- Some payers do not issue billing credentials to individuals with the "SLP Intern" license, or require them to be registered under the supervising SLP's information.
- Contrary to the traditional definition of the term "intern," these individuals are independent practitioners who require specific amounts of supervision, regulated by the Board of Examiners during the intern year.
- The ASHA SLP Clinical Fellow is the equivalent of the South Carolina SLP Intern.
- Supervisors of SLP Interns must meet SC Board of Examiners requirements for at least 3 years of work experience in order to supervise the SLP Intern
- The report of completed internship (and all other required paperwork) is required to change from a license as an SLP Intern, to a license as an SLP

Clinical Fellow: an ASHA term for those who have finished the academic program and are obtaining mentored professional experience in order to apply for the CCC



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- An SLP may be a ASHA clinical fellow but will not have the ability to practice in South Carolina unless the individual also has a license as an SLP Intern from the SC Board of Examiners
- A Clinical Fellow may not count hours earned during any period of time that the CF mentor does not meet the SLP standards' supervision requirements
- Completion of the CF year and obtaining the ASHA CCC does not mean that the licensed SLP Intern has completed the Intern year for the SC Board of Examiners

Educator Certificate: issued by SC Department of Education for SLP, SLT, or SLP Interns (clinical fellows)

- Renewed every 5 years
- Maintaining an educator certificate may have its perks such as being able to add-on areas of certification such as special education, literacy coach, or other areas; may impact pay scale level when moving from state to state
- Requires an **active license by SC Board of Examiners** (and other requirements) to apply and maintain the certificate
- SCSHA continues to work on advocacy related to the certification requirement

While these terms can be confusing, it is critical to consider each separately, and ensure you are compliant with each of the individual certification or license requirements.

The practice act for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology requires the license to practice in South Carolina.

The most restrictive requirements likely dictate practice. For example, while ASHA may allow a clinician to be a supervisor for the CF 9 months post CCC, the SC board of examiners requires 3 years of work experience in order to be a supervisor.

Always ensure your home state license is active, as it is usually the base for the individual to apply for any other certificates and privileges.