

21 NCAC 22F .0104 is amended with changes as published in 28:12 NCR 1388 as follows:

21 NCAC 22F .0104 QUALIFICATIONS TO REGISTER FOR EXAM

(a) The Board may require such supplemental information to all for applications for issuance and renewal of a license or an apprentice registration certificate as it deems necessary to determine the facts governing the qualifications of each licensee, registered applicant, and registered apprentice, as set forth in these Rules and in Chapter 93D of the General Statutes of North Carolina. Supplemental information may include, but is not necessarily limited to, include letters of recommendation, affidavits, photographs, official transcripts, and personal appearances before the Board.

~~(b) Any registered apprentice who holds a masters degree in Audiology and any Audiologist who elects to be a registered apprentice shall, prior to the next scheduled qualifying examination, submit to 250 clock hours of direct supervision by a licensee approved by the Board, whenever such apprentice takes and fails to pass the qualifying examination.~~

~~(c) Any registered apprentice who is not an Audiologist and does not hold a masters degree in Audiology shall, for each week prior to the next scheduled qualifying examination, submit to 15 clock hours of direct supervision by a licensee approved by the Board, whenever such apprentice takes and fails to pass the qualifying examination.~~

(b) An apprentice may elect to take Part A, Part B-B, or Part C of the licensing exam at any time during the apprenticeship by submitting an application for license and exam registration prior to the registration deadline.

(c) An apprentice shall complete 365 days of apprenticeship prior to taking Part D of the licensing exam.

(d) The Board shall waive the application for license fee and the exam registration fee for an applicant's initial registration to take Part D of the exam only if the applicant took and passed Part A, Part B-B, and Part C prior to completing 365 days of apprenticeship.

(e) Except as provided in [subparagraph] Paragraph (d) of this [rule,]Rule, an applicant shall submit a new application for license and exam registration and pay the fees set forth in 21 NCAC 22A .0501 each time the applicant registers for any [part] parts of the licensing exam.

(f) The Board shall not prorate the application for license fee or the exam registration fee for retesting an applicant who failed any part of the licensing exam.

History Note: Authority G.S. 93D-3(c); 93D-5; 93D-6; 93D-9;

Eff. April 23, 1976;

Amended Eff. February 1, 1996; April 1, 1989; May 1, 1988;

Paragraph (d) recodified to 21 NCAC 22F .0122 Eff. May 1, ~~2013~~2013;

Temporary Amendment Eff. February 10, 2014.

Amended Eff. April 1, 2014

21 NCAC 22F .0300 and .0301 are adopted with changes as published in 28:12 NCR 1390 as follows:

21 NCAC 22F .0300 APPRENTICESHIPS

21 NCAC 22F .0301 APPRENTICESHIP REQUIREMENTS

(a) ~~Each~~An individual who seeks a license under G.S. 93D shall complete ~~one~~one full year of ~~apprenticeship~~apprenticeship as defined in 21 NCAC ~~22A-.0401~~22A.0401, unless the individual is eligible for waiver of the apprenticeship requirement under G.S. 93D-5(c).

(b) Under the supervision of the proposed sponsor, an individual shall complete the apprentice registration application and pay the fee as set forth in 21 NCAC 22A .0501.

(c) An apprentice may perform duties within the scope of practice for a Hearing Aid Specialist under the registered sponsor's supervision only after the apprentice certificate is approved and posted on the Board's website.

(d) For an apprenticeship issued prior to the effective date of this ~~rule~~, Rule, the registered sponsor shall provide general supervision to the apprentice until the expiration date of the apprentice certificate. For any renewal of an apprenticeship or issuance of an apprenticeship after the effective date of this ~~rule~~, Rule, the registered sponsor shall provide supervision in accordance with 21 NCAC 22F .0302.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 93D-1.1; 93D-3(c); 93D-5; 93D-9;*
Eff. April 1, 2014.

21 NCAC 22F .0302 is adopted with changes as published in 28:12 NCR 1390 as follows:

21 NCAC 22F .0302 **~~SPONSORS'~~ SPONSOR'S DUTIES**

(a) The registered sponsor shall assist the apprentice in submitting all required applications and reports of the apprenticeship experience and shall act as a liaison between the Board and the apprentice.

(b) In accepting an apprentice, the registered sponsor shall be responsible for the conduct of the apprentice in his performance of his duties as an apprentice.

(c) The registered sponsor shall provide for the personal supervision of an apprentice personal supervision until receiving an Official Notice of Examination Results confirming that the apprentice successfully passed Part A, Part ~~B-B~~, and Part C of the licensing exam, at which time and then the registered sponsor shall provide an apprentice general supervision for the remainder of the apprenticeship, apprenticeship, which may A registered sponsor providing general supervision may incorporate include direct or personal supervision at the discretion of the registered sponsor. General, direct, and personal supervision are specifically defined in 21 NCAC 22A .0401.

(d) The registered sponsor shall provide apprentice training and supervision the relevant level of supervision to the apprentice as defined in 21 NCAC 22A.0401 in the following areas:

- (1) ~~Anatomy~~, anatomy, physiology, and pathology of the auditory mechanism;
- (2) ~~Measurement~~, measurement techniques and test interpretation for assessment of hearing impairment and hearing handicap;
- (3) ~~Hearing~~, hearing aid technology including instrument circuitry and acoustic performance data;
- (4) ~~Design~~, design, selection, and modification of earmold or shell coupling systems;
- (5) ~~Hearing~~, hearing aid selection procedures and fitting, verification, and adjustment techniques;
- (6) ~~Post-delivery~~, post-delivery care including hearing aid orientation and counseling techniques and hearing aid servicing;
- (7) ~~Ethical~~, ethical conduct and regulatory issues concerning the fitting and selling of hearing aids; and
- (8) ~~All~~ all areas within the scope of practice as defined in G.S. 93D-1.1.

(e) Failure by a registered sponsor to properly train or supervise an apprentice shall be grounds for disciplinary action after proper notice and ~~hearing~~ hearing as set forth in Subchapter 22L.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 93D-1.1; 93D-3(c); 93D-9; 93D-13
Eff. April 1, 2014.*

1 21 NCAC 22F .0303 is adopted with changes as published in 28:12 NCR 1390-91 as follows:

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3 **21 NCAC 22F .0303 CERTIFICATE EXPIRATION**

4 (a) The initial apprentice registration certificate, and any subsequently issued replacement certificates issued within
5 the first year of apprenticeship, shall expire after the apprentice has held a valid certificate for a total of 365 days.

6 (b) When an apprentice registers for the licensing examination ~~submits a duly made an application for license and~~
7 ~~exam registration upon completion of 365 days of apprenticeship in accordance with 21 NCAC~~

8 ~~22A .0503(d) .0503(d),~~ the Board shall extend the ~~expiration date of the initial~~ apprentice registration certificate, at
9 no additional charge to the ~~apprentice,~~ apprentice. The extended certificate shall expire ~~until~~ 30 days after the date
10 on the Official Notice of Examination ~~Results of the next available exam. Results~~ for the apprentice.

11 (c) ~~Each renewal of an apprentice registration certificate shall expire 30 days after the date on the Official Notice of~~
12 ~~Examination Results of the next available exam. An apprentice registration certificate obtained by renewal in~~
13 ~~accordance with 21 NCAC 22A .0501(2) shall expire 30 days after the date on the Official Notice of Examination~~
14 ~~Results of the next available exam.~~

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16 *History Note: Authority G.S. 93D-3(c); 93D-5; 93D-9;*
17 *Eff. April 1, 2014.*

21 NCAC 22F. 0304 is adopted with changes as published in 28:12 NCR 1391 as follows:

21 NCAC 22F .0304 SEPARATION OF APPRENTICE AND SPONSOR-~~EARLY TERMINATION OF~~
APPRENTICESHIP

(a) If the apprentice is ~~separated from the~~ or registered sponsor terminates the apprenticeship for any reason, the apprentice certificate shall ~~immediately~~ be invalid and the apprentice shall ~~cease to fit and sell hearing aids to~~ perform duties within the scope of practice for a Hearing Aid Specialist until a valid certificate is issued by the Board.

(b) If the apprentice fails to work at least 27 hours per week for two consecutive weeks during the apprenticeship period, the registered sponsor shall terminate the apprenticeship and notify the Board as provided in Paragraph (c) of this rule.

~~(b)(c) Within 10 business~~ No later than 14 days of a separation after termination of the apprenticeship the following shall occur:

(1) the apprentice and registered sponsor shall return all ~~their~~ copies of the apprentice certificate to the office of the ~~Board,~~ Board;

(2) the registered sponsor shall notify the Board in writing of the ~~separation from the apprentice,~~ termination of the apprenticeship; and

~~(c) The~~ (3) the registered sponsor and apprentice shall submit a ~~final~~ Report of Apprenticeship Experience in accordance with 21 NCAC 22F .0305.

History Note: Authority G.S 93D-1.1; 93D-3(c); 93D-5; 93D-9;
Eff. April 1, 2014.

21 NCAC 22F .0305 is adopted with changes as published in 28:12 NCR 1391 as follows:

21 NCAC 22F .0305 REPORT OF APPRENTICESHIP EXPERIENCE

(a) The Report of Apprenticeship Experience form shall be available on the Board's website (www.nchalb.org) to report supervised training and one full year of apprenticeship as defined in 21 NCAC 22A .0401 including:

- (1) contact information for apprentice and registered sponsor;
- (2) verification of training;
- (3) verification of at least 27 hours of work per week; and
- (4) a sworn statement of both the apprentice and sponsor that information submitted to the Board is true and accurate.

~~(a)-(b)~~ The registered sponsor and the apprentice shall jointly submit a Report of Apprenticeship ~~Experience Experience~~, using the form provided by the Board, no later than ~~ten business~~ 14 days following the date that any of the following conditions exist:

- ~~(1) The the~~ apprentice has held a valid apprentice registration certificate for 365 days;
- ~~(2) The the~~ apprentice ~~and or~~ registered sponsor ~~terminates the apprenticeship are separated~~ for any ~~reason~~ reason; or
- ~~(3) The the~~ Board issues a written request for the submission of a Report of Apprenticeship Experience to the registered sponsor or apprentice.

~~(b)-(c)~~ If an apprentice or sponsor is not cooperative in ~~timely~~ completing the joint report, the other party shall submit a report ~~individually~~ with an ~~explanation~~ explanation by the submission deadline.

(d) Failure to submit a Report of Apprenticeship Experience as required in this Rule shall be grounds for disciplinary action after proper notice and hearing.

History Note: Authority G.S. 93D-1.1; G.S 93D-3; G.S. 93D-9; G.S. 93D-13
Eff. April 1, 2014.