
MEMORANDUM

To: Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board

From: Yelena Bailey, Executive Director

Date: September 18, 2026

Subject: Speech Language Pathologist Rulemaking (Action)

Background

During the 2025 legislative session, the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) sought a legislative change to allow Speech Language Pathologist Assistants (SLPAs) licensed by the Minnesota Department of Health to be supervised in schools by PELSB-licensed Speech Language Pathologists (SLPs). Previously, they could only be supervised by SLPs licensed through MDH. The language passed into law in 2025.

Before this change, many SLPAs relied on PELSB's Tier 2 SLP license to work in schools. Now that there is a pathway through MDH, the Tier 2 SLP license is no longer needed. The proposed rule change would mean the Board will only issue Tier 3 and Tier 4 SLP licenses. This is currently the practice for school nurses and school social workers as occupations with their own respective licensing boards.

The Board added SLP licensure to the FY27 rulemaking calendar. The draft language is before the Board today for a vote.

Action

1. Move to open rulemaking for 8710.6000 with the intention of striking the tier 2 requirements for a Speech Language Pathologist license.
2. Table for further discussion.
3. No action.