

**First Regular Session  
Seventieth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**PREAMENDED**

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee  
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 15-1094.01 Yelana Love x2295

**HOUSE BILL 15-1373**

---

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Singer,**

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Aguilar,**

---

**House Committees**

Public Health Care & Human Services

**Senate Committees**

---

**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101     **CONCERNING THE CREATION OF A PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATION TO**  
102     **PRACTICE SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY.**

---

**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries>.)*

Current law requires applicants seeking a certification in speech-language pathology to complete certain educational requirements, pass a national examination, and complete a clinical fellowship. The bill allows applicants who have completed the educational requirements and passed the national examination to apply for a provisional certification before completing a clinical fellowship.

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.*  
*Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

A provisional certificate holder may practice speech pathology only under the general supervision of a speech-language pathologist who holds a certificate of clinical competence from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

The provisional certification expires after 24 months or when the director issues the provisional certificate holder a full certification, whichever occurs first.

---

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 12-43.7-106.5  
3 as follows:

4 **12-43.7-106.5. Provisional certification - qualifications -**  
5 **application - expiration - practice. (1) Educational and experiential**  
6 **requirements.** AN APPLICANT FOR A PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATION AS A  
7 SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST MUST:

8 (a) SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE A MASTER'S OR HIGHER DEGREE IN  
9 COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS GRANTED BY AN ACCREDITED  
10 INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION RECOGNIZED BY THE UNITED STATES  
11 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION; AND

12 (b) PASS EITHER:

13 (I) THE NATIONAL EXAMINATION ADOPTED BY THE AMERICAN  
14 SPEECH-LANGUAGE-HEARING ASSOCIATION OR ITS SUCCESSOR  
15 ASSOCIATION; OR

16 (II) ANY OTHER EXAMINATION APPROVED BY THE DIRECTOR.

17 (2) **Application.** ON OR AFTER SEPTEMBER 1, 2015, AN APPLICANT  
18 MAY APPLY FOR PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATION IN THE MANNER REQUIRED  
19 BY THE DIRECTOR. THE APPLICANT SHALL SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FEE  
20 WITH THE APPLICATION IN AN AMOUNT DETERMINED BY THE DIRECTOR. IF  
21 THE APPLICANT WILL PROVIDE SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY SERVICES  
22 TO PATIENTS, THE APPLICANT ALSO SHALL SUBMIT PROOF THAT HE OR SHE

1 HAS PURCHASED AND IS MAINTAINING OR IS COVERED BY PROFESSIONAL  
2 LIABILITY INSURANCE IN AN AMOUNT DETERMINED BY THE DIRECTOR BY  
3 RULE. ADDITIONALLY, THE APPLICANT SHALL SUBMIT A PLAN FOR THE  
4 COMPLETION OF A SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP,  
5 AS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 12-43.7-106 (1) (b).

6 (3) **Provisional certification.** (a) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN  
7 PARAGRAPH (b) OF THIS SUBSECTION (3), WHEN AN APPLICANT HAS  
8 FULFILLED THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTIONS (1) AND (2) OF THIS  
9 SECTION, THE DIRECTOR SHALL ISSUE A PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATION TO  
10 THE APPLICANT.

11 (b) THE DIRECTOR MAY DENY A PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATION IF  
12 THE APPLICANT HAS COMMITTED ANY ACT THAT WOULD BE GROUNDS FOR  
13 DISCIPLINARY ACTION UNDER SECTION 12-43.7-110.

14 (4) **Expiration of provisional certification.** (a) A PROVISIONAL  
15 CERTIFICATION EXPIRES TWENTY-FOUR MONTHS AFTER ISSUANCE OR UPON  
16 THE ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATION TO THE APPLICANT UNDER SECTION  
17 12-43.7-106, WHICHEVER OCCURS FIRST.

18 (b) THE DIRECTOR SHALL NOT RENEW A PROVISIONAL  
19 CERTIFICATION.

20 (c) A PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATE HOLDER MAY APPLY FOR  
21 CERTIFICATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 12-43.7-106 UPON  
22 COMPLETION OF A SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP.

23 (5) **Practice.** A PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATE HOLDER MAY PRACTICE  
24 SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY ONLY UNDER THE GENERAL SUPERVISION  
25 OF A SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST WHO HOLDS A CERTIFICATE OF  
26 CLINICAL COMPETENCE AWARDED BY THE AMERICAN  
27 SPEECH-LANGUAGE-HEARING ASSOCIATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE

1 CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP REQUIREMENTS OF THE AMERICAN  
2 SPEECH-LANGUAGE-HEARING ASSOCIATION.

3 **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
4 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
5 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.