

SLP and Audiologist Licensing Requirements in California

Do I need an SLP or audiology license to practice in California? In most cases, **YES!**

Issued by the California Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensers Board (SLPAHADB), a license is required to practice in MOST settings.

The exceptions for SLPs:

- School SLP personnel who have a credential issued by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) and do NOT practice outside the school setting. School districts vary in their requirements, so those practicing in a school setting should confirm local specifications.
- Physicians
- Federal employees
- Interns or trainees

For audiologists, licensure

is required no matter the setting, but if the licensee is also a dispensing audiologist (one who prescribes hearing aids), an additional hearing aid dispenser license is required.

Learn more about licensure at www.speechandhearing.ca.gov.

Is additional certification required in California?

The question of whether national certification is required comes up often.

In most cases, having one's "Cs" - the Certificate of Clinical Competence for both Audiology (CCC-A) and Speech-Language Pathology (CCC-SLP) - may be an employer's preference, but is not a state requirement.

One prominent exception to this is hospital or clinical settings that see patients with Medicare coverage.

SLPs practicing in such settings must have their Cs in order for their employer to be reimbursed by Medicare for treating Medicare patients.

Visit www.asha.org/certification/ for more information about the certification process.