

# HEALTH PROFESSIONS ACT 56 OF 1974

## REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION OF SPEECH THERAPISTS, SPEECH THERAPISTS AND AUDIOLOGISTS, AUDIOLOGISTS, AND HEARING AID ACOUSTICIANS

Published under Government Notice R618 in *Government Gazette* 34494 of 5 August 2011.

The Minister of Health has, in terms of [section 61](#) read with [section 24](#) of the Health Professions Act, 1974 (Act No 56 of 1974), and on the recommendation of the Health Professions Council of South Africa, made the regulations in the Schedule.

### SCHEDULE

- [1. Definitions](#)
- [2. Requirements for registration](#)
- [3.](#)
- [4. Registration categories for the registration of speech therapists, speech therapists and audiologists, audiologists, or hearing aid acousticians](#)
- [5. Repeal](#)

#### 1. Definitions

In these regulations, the “Act” means the Health Professions Act, 1974 (Act No. 56 of 1974) any word or expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the Act shall bear such meaning and, unless the context otherwise indicates -

“**audiologist**” means a person registered as such in terms of the Act;

“**board**” means the professional board for speech, language and hearing professions established in terms of [section 15](#)(1) of the Act;

“**independent practice**” means the practising of the profession of speech therapy, or speech therapy and audiology, or audiology and hearing aid acoustics by a health professional for his or her own account, either in solus practice, or as a partner in a partnership, or as an associate in an association with other health practitioners, or as a director of a company established in terms of [section 54A](#) of the Act;

“**public service**” means a service rendered by the State at the national, provincial and local level of government, and includes organizations which function under the auspices or are largely subsidized by the State or recognized by the professional board for the purpose of these regulations;

“**section**” means a section of the Act;

“**speech therapist**” means a person registered as such in terms of the Act; and

## 2. Requirements for registration

The registrar may register as a speech therapist, a speech therapist and audiologist, an audiologist, or hearing aid acousticians respectively, any person who obtained any of the qualifications specified below:

<b>Examining authority and qualification</b>	<b>Abbreviation for registration</b>
<b>SPEECH THERAPIST</b>	
<b>University of Cape Town</b>	
Bachelor of Science (Speech Language Pathology)	BSc (Speech Lang Path) Cape Town
<b>University of Kwazulu-Natal (formerly University of Durban-Westville)</b>	
Bachelor of Communication Pathology (Speech Language Pathology)	B Comm Path (Speech Lang Path) KwaZulu-Natal
<b>University of Pretoria</b>	
Bachelor of Communication Pathology (Speech Language Pathology)	B Comm Path (Speech Lang Path) Pret
<b>University of Stellenbosch</b>	
Bachelor of Speech Language and Hearing Therapy	B (Sp And H Therapy) Stellenbosch
<b>SPEECH THERAPIST AND AUDIOLOGIST</b>	
<b>University of Limpopo (formerly Medical University of South Africa)</b>	
Bachelor of Speech Language Pathology and Audiology	B Speech Lang Path & Audiology UL
<b>University of Pretoria</b>	
Bachelor of Communication Pathology (Speech Language Pathology and Audiology)	B Comm Path (Sp Lang Path and Aud) Pretoria
<b>University of the Witwatersrand</b>	
Bachelor of Arts in Speech and Hearing Therapy	BA (Sp & H Therapy) Wits
<b>AUDIOLOGIST</b>	
<b>University of Cape Town</b>	
Bachelor of Science (Audiology)	BSc (Audiology) Cape Town
<b>University of Kwazulu-Natal (formerly University of Durban-Westville)</b>	
Bachelor of Communication Pathology (Audiology)	B Comm Path (Audiology) KwaZulu-Natal
<b>University of Pretoria</b>	
Bachelor of Communication Pathology (Audiology)	B Comm Path (Audiology) Pretoria

<b>HEARING AID ACOUSTICIAN</b>	
<b>University of Pretoria</b>	
Advanced Diploma in Hearing Aid Acoustics	Adv Dip Hearing Aid Acoustics Pretoria

3. Any South African qualification previously recognized or approved by the board for registration as a speech therapist, or a speech therapist and audiologist, or an audiologist as contained in Board Notice No. R.1865 of 16 September 1977, as amended, shall continue to be recognized or approved for persons who prior to the date of publication of these regulations held such qualifications and complied with the prescribed requirements for registration.

**4. Registration categories for the registration of speech therapists, speech therapists and audiologists, audiologists, or hearing aid acousticians**

- (1) The registrar may register a person as a speech therapist, speech therapist and audiologist, an audiologist, or hearing aid acousticians in any of the following registration categories:
  - (a) public service;
  - (b) independent practice;
  - (c) education; and
  - (d) postgraduate study
- (2) The registrar may register a person as a speech therapist, speech therapist and audiologist, an audiologist or hearing aid acousticians in the category public service if such person-
  - (a) holds a qualification referred to in [regulation 2](#) or [3](#);
  - (b) has complied with the requirement of community service in terms of [section 24A](#) of the Act; and
  - (c) has paid the applicable registration fee.
- (3) The registrar may register a person as a speech therapist, speech therapist and audiologist, an audiologist or hearing aid acousticians in the category independent practice if such person-
  - (a) holds a qualification referred to in [regulation 2](#) or [3](#);
  - (b) has complied with requirement of community service in terms of [section 24A](#) of the Act; and

- (c) has paid the applicable registration fee.
- (4) The registrar may register a person as a speech therapist, speech therapist and audiologist, an audiologist or a hearing aid acousticians in the category education, if such person-
  - (a) holds a foreign qualification that is recognised by the Board;
  - (b) holds a recent certificate of status (certificate of good standing) issued by the foreign registration authority;
  - (c) is employed, as an educator, clinical educator, lecturer, researcher, clinical supervisor, Speech Therapist, Speech therapist and audiologist, audiologist; a hearing aid acousticians, professor, Dean, Head or Director of School, Division, Department in Speech Therapy, Speech Therapy and audiology, and audiology, by an approved educational institution in an accredited programme in South Africa; and
  - (d) has paid the applicable registration fee.
- (5) The registrar may register a person as a speech therapist, speech therapist and audiologist, an audiologist or a hearing aid acousticians in the category postgraduate study if such person-
  - (a) holds a foreign qualification that is recognised by the Board; and
  - (b) holds a letter of admission, into the postgraduate study, from an accredited educational institution in South Africa; and
  - (c) has paid the applicable registration fee.

**5. Repeal**

The regulations published as Government Notice No. R.104 of 16 January 1987 are hereby repealed.

**(Signed)**  
**DR A MOTSOALEDI, MP**  
**MINISTER OF HEALTH**  
**DATE: 21/7/2011**