

# HEALTH PROFESSIONS ACT 56 OF 1974

## RULES FOR THE REGISTRATION OF COMMUNITY SPEECH AND HEARING WORKERS

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The South African Medical and Dental Council hereby in terms of [section 32](#) (1) of the Medical, Dental and Supplementary Health Service Professions Act, 1974 (Act 56 of 1974), makes the rules contained in the Schedule hereto.

### SCHEDULE

1. The council may register as a community speech and hearing worker, any applicant who has obtained after examination the following qualification:

#### REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

##### Examining authority and qualification

##### Abbreviation for registration

##### *University of the Witwatersrand*

Diploma in Speech and Hearing Therapy  
(Community Work)

Dip SP & H Th (Comm Wk)  
Witwatersrand

*Notes* - This qualification shall include a minimum of two years of full-time study in specialised fields under recognised authorities in an approved department at any approved university or institution as decided by the council:

- (a) Courses shall include instruction in the introduction to the following:  
  
manifestations, causes and assessment procedures (including instrumentation for these) and therapeutic procedures for the various types of communication disorders affecting speech, hearing and language, in children and adults; screening and industrial audiometry.
- (b) Instruction shall also include introductory courses in anatomy, functional anatomy and pathology of speech, hearing and language; phonetics and socio-linguistics; normal and abnormal speech and language development; psychological concepts covering learning, motivation, emotion, personality, adjustment and maladjustment; relevant aspects of community work (community psychology, resources, management, primary health and education programmes).

- (c) Instruction shall include sufficient and adequate supervised observation, assessment and therapeutic clinical practicals (particularly in the community situation) covering the various communication disorders affecting speech, language and hearing.
2. Where, in the case of an application for registration, the qualification on which the application is based, has not already been approved by the council, the applicant shall be required to furnish the Professional Board for Speech Therapy and Audiology and the council with authoritative information as to the training required for such qualification, whereupon, if the standard of such training is considered satisfactory by the council, such qualification may be approved.