Colorado Audiologists and Hearing Aid Providers Licensure

State of Colorado
Department of Regulatory Agencies
Division of Registrations

Bill Ritter, Jr., Governor
D. Rico Munn, Executive Director
Cindy Klyn, Program Director

News Update 2008

New law in 2007 affecting your license renewal regarding lawful presence in the USA

Effective January 1, 2007, according to state law, only persons lawfully present in the United States can be issued a license. All applicants requesting original licensure, renewal of an active license, or reinstatement of a lapsed license must provide documented proof of lawful presence in the U.S. You must complete and sign the Affidavit of Eligibility Form. No license can or will be issued without this form.

The good news is that you can complete this form online when you use Registrations Online Services!

You must possess at least one secure and verifiable document and include information about that document on the Affidavit itself (or provide the information during online renewal). The list of secure and verifiable documents is available to you when you renew online. We also have a web page where you can read the law, look at the Affidavit, and see the list of acceptable documents. Visit this website:

www.dora.state.co.us/registrations/Affidavit.htm

New Program Director – Cindy Klyn

We are pleased to announce that **Cindy Klyn** is the new program director for the **Allied Health** programs. Cindy has been with the Division since 2002, serving as the Enforcement Program Manager for the Board of Medical Examiners. Before that, she worked at the Office of the Colorado Attorney General, the Colorado Civil Rights Division, and the State Personnel Board.

Cindy comes highly recommended by the Colorado Medical Board and brings a wealth of Division knowledge and experience to the position.

New Practice Act Means New Purchase Agreement

The new Audiology and Hearing Aid Provider Practice Act became effective July 1, 2007.

This Practice Act includes a new section 12-5.5-302, C.R.S. – Licensed Hearing Aid Providers – Deceptive Trade Practices, which gives the new requirements for the Purchase Agreement.

A sample Purchase Agreement form can be found on our website at www.dora.state.co.us/audiologists under “Purchase Agreement”.

Registration is Now a License As a result of the Sunset Review, your *registration* is now a *license*.

Hearing Aid Trainees and Associates

The licensed audiologist or hearing aid provider is responsible for all services provided by a hearing aid **trainee or associate** under their supervision.

- A hearing aid **trainee** is under on-site, direct supervision of the licensed audiologist or hearing aid provider. A hearing aid **associate** is under direct and personal supervision of the licensed audiologist or hearing aid provider.
- **Trainees** shall inform all consumers of their trainee status.
- Neither a **trainee** nor an **associate** may sign contracts. All contracts must be reviewed and signed by a licensed audiologist or hearing aid provider.
- An individual may remain in **trainee** or **associate** status for no longer than three years from the date of issuance of the first temporary license, or 60 days after successful completion of the National Board for Certification – Hearing Instrument Science examination, whichever comes first.
- It is the licensed audiologist's or hearing aid provider's responsibility to notify the Division when there is a termination of the supervisory arrangement for any reason other than successful completion of the training.

* For more information, please reference Rule 3 in the rules and regulations at http://www.dora.state.co.us/audiologists/index.htm

Licensing Statistics

As of December 31, 2007, Colorado has 342 active audiologists and 111 active hearing aid providers. These numbers are up slightly from the previous year (279 and 105 respectively).

Complaints and Discipline

Between April 15, 2006 and December 31, 2007, 49 new complaints were filed against hearing aid providers and audiologists in Colorado, 34 more complaints than last year.

The allegations included unlicensed practice, practice beyond the scope, failure to make refunds, misleading advertising, failure to maintain a surety bond, substandard care, misrepresentation of facts, and improper supervision of trainees or associates.

In the same time period, 46 cases were finalized, two with one discipline. Eight complaints filed against audiologists and 23 complaints filed against hearing aid providers were dismissed. The other 14 were finalized as shown below.

Registrant's Name	Date	Disciplinary Sanction
Paul Dekker	06/08/06	Cease & Desist Order
Kay Dismang-Dodgen	06/12/06	Cease & Desist Order
H. Jeffrey Douglass	07/13/06	Cease & Desist Order
Scott Erickson	10/12/07	Letter of Admonition
Barry Finlay	09/26/06	Letter of Admonition
Joshua Gillespie	07/05/06	Letter of Admonition
Richard Green	09/06/06	Letter of Admonition
Ron King	09/06/06	Letter of Admonition
Shane Larkin	06/22/06	Letter of Admonition
Sanford Nichols	07/05/06	Letter of Admonition
Katherine Sample	01/10/07	Letter of Admonition
Shelle Shanklin	04/25/07	Stipulation
Gerald Tillman	10/26/07	Cease & Desist Order
Daniel Wiebe	09/20/07	Cease & Desist Order

* To view disciplinary documents dating from January 1, 1999 to the present, please visit Registrations Online Documents (ROD) at www.dora.state.co.us/doraimages

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Consumer Protection