

AN ACT concerning regulation.

**Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,
represented in the General Assembly:**

Section 5. The Illinois Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Practice Act is amended by changing Section 8.5 as follows:

(225 ILCS 110/8.5)

(Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2008)

Sec. 8.5. Qualifications for licenses as a speech-language pathology assistant.

(a) A person is qualified to be licensed as a speech-language pathology assistant if that person has applied in writing on forms prescribed by the Department, has paid the required fees, and meets both of the following criteria:

(1) Is of good moral character. In determining moral character, the Department may take into consideration any felony conviction of the applicant, but such a conviction shall not operate automatically as a complete bar to licensure.

(2) Has received an associate degree from a speech-language pathology assistant program that has been approved by the Department and that meets the minimum requirements set forth in Section 8.6 or has received, prior to June 1, 2003, an associate degree from a speech-language pathology assistant program approved by the Illinois Community College Board.

(b) Until July 1, 2005, a person holding a bachelor's level degree in communication disorders who was employed to assist a speech-language pathologist on June 1, 2002 (the effective date of P.A. 92-510) shall be eligible to receive a license as a speech-language pathology assistant from the Department upon completion of forms prescribed by the Department and the

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payment of the required fee.

(Source: P.A. 92-510, eff. 6-1-02; 93-1060, eff. 12-23-04.)

Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon becoming law.