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 - Click the “Meeting” tab, then click “Manage My Settings” and then click the “Audio Setup Wizard”. Run through the wizard to test your equipment.
 - If you can’t hear the audio, please watch the recorded version, which will be available on our website, when your connection/system is working.
- Today’s webinar will be in “listen-only” mode (with text chat or Q&A).
- Our webinars are listed at: <http://dese.mo.gov/communications/webinar>. Be sure to check this page often, as new webinars are made available. Most offices will also send out information about upcoming events to their mailing lists.
- This webinar is being recorded. To find the recording, visit the webinar Web page and click on the “Webinars - Recorded” button.
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OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION

The Speech Implementer Model: Past, Present and Future

Questions & Answers

May 16, 2014

Missouri Department
of Elementary and Secondary Education

LEA Options for Providing Speech/Language Services

SLP

- Speech/Language Pathologist
- Must be licensed through the State Board of Healing Arts
- AND/OR be certificated through DESE

SLP-A

- Speech/Language Pathology Assistant
- Licensed through the State Board of Healing Arts
- Supervised by SLP licensed by the State Board of Healing Arts

SI

- Speech Implementer
- Certificated teacher approved by DESE
- Supervised by SLP licensed through the State Board of Healing Arts and/or certificated through DESE

The screenshot shows the Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education website. The main navigation bar includes Home, About, Administrators, Educators, Parents & Students, Adults & Community, and School Data. The 'Speech Implementer' page is displayed, with a breadcrumb trail: Home > Special Education > Compliance. Under the heading 'Requirements for Implementation', there are two links: 'Speech Implementer Model Approval Application rev. 5/12/2014' (highlighted with a red arrow) and 'State Model Form: Written Description of Speech Implementer Model' (highlighted with a green arrow). A blue arrow points to the 'Requirements for Implementation' heading, and a yellow arrow points to the introductory paragraph. A sidebar on the right titled 'Special Education' contains a list of links including News and Updates, Advisory Panels, Compliance, Discipline, ELL & Special Education, Educational Surrogate, General Guidance, Laws & Regulations, Parent Information, Related Links, Speech Implementer (highlighted), Statewide Assessments, and Technical Assistance Bulletins.

UPDATE!

1. SI model will be monitored during the three year federal monitoring cycle
2. Clarified that the supervising SLP is responsible for writing, developing, and modifying the IEPs of students served by the SI
3. Clarified the requirements of the written description for how the SI model will be implemented for each SLP/SI team
4. LEAs must provide documentation of efforts to advertise/recruit for SLP (2014-15)
5. LEAs must also provide documentation of efforts to advertise/recruit for SLP-A (2015-16)

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Questions?

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Type questions in the "chat box" at any time during the webinar



Q1: What specific information is needed to document time spent supervising, training and conducting therapy for the SLP and SI? Is there a specific form that must be used?

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Q1: What specific information is needed to document time spent supervising, training and conducting therapy for the SLP and SI? Is there a specific form that must be used?

A1: There is no specific form on which district personnel must document time spent by the SLP in collaboration with the SI or to document the therapy sessions, activities, and training undertaken by the SLP as part of his or her responsibilities in supervising the SI. It is a district decision for how to document this information. Please note the Department has developed a MODEL form titled *Written Description of the Speech Implementer Model* to assist districts with this documentation requirement which is available on the Department's website.

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Q2: We have a Speech Pathologist and two speech implementers. One implementer has been here for 13 years and the other for six years. Both have teaching certificates. If we advertise yearly for an SLP and an SLP-A, and we have qualified applicants, would we be forced to interview them and fire our current implementers and be forced to hire an SLP or SLP-A?

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Q2: We have a Speech Pathologist and two speech implementers. One implementer has been here for 13 years and the other for six years. Both have teaching certificates. If we advertise yearly for an SLP and an SLP-A, and we have qualified applicants, would we be forced to interview them and fire our current implementers and be forced to hire an SLP or SLP-A?

A2: When qualified applicants are available, the district would be expected to consider their employment since the speech implementer model is not a PERMANENT delivery model. However, the hiring of a qualified candidate to fill a position is ultimately the decision of the local school district. Remember that advertisement/recruitment efforts for an SLP and/or an SLP-A are required for approval for the use of the speech implementer model annually.

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Q3: Are there consequences for a district not advertising/recruiting for an SLP/SLP-A?

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Q3: Are there consequences for a district not advertising/recruiting for an SLP/SLP-A?

A3: Beginning with the 2014-2015 school year, districts will be required to provide evidence of their advertisement and recruitment efforts for the SLP prior to being granted approval for using the speech implementer model.

Effective with the 2015-2016 school year, districts will be required to provide evidence of their advertisement and recruitment efforts for both an SLP and SLP-A.

Without this evidence, the speech implementer model will NOT be approved for use in the district.

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Q4: In the recorded webinar, slide 5 stated the “*SLP must be licensed through the State Board of Healing Arts; may be certificated through DESE.*” Does this mean licensure through the State Board of Healing Arts is now required for the supervising SLP?

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Q4: In the recorded webinar, slide 5 stated the “*SLP must be licensed through the State Board of Healing Arts; may be certificated through DESE.*” Does this mean licensure through the State Board of Healing Arts is now required for the supervising SLP?

A4: We agree that slide 5 is unclear. This is because there are still SLPs practicing with only DESE certification who were “grandfathered in” when new credential requirements went into effect. All “new” SLPs must have licensure from the State Board of Healing Arts and may also have DESE certification.

Note that there is a difference in the requirements for supervising an SLP-A and SI.

- To supervise an SLP-A, the supervising SLP must hold a valid license from the Missouri Board of Healing Arts.
- To supervise a SI, the supervising SLP must hold a valid Missouri certificate issued by DESE as a speech language pathologist **AND/OR** a valid license from the Missouri Board of Healing Arts.

Please note slide 5 in the recorded will be updated and re-posted to clarify this information.

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Q5: How would the pay for an SLP-A compare to that of a speech implementer? Will DESE provide any guidance?

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Q5: How would the pay for an SLP-A compare to that of a speech implementer? Will DESE provide any guidance?

A5: Salary, benefits, hours of employment, etc. are local school district decisions.

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Q6: How long does the approval process take once the Application for Approval form is submitted to DESE?

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Q6: How long does the approval process take once the Application for Approval form is submitted to DESE?

A6: The approval process generally takes between two and seven business days from the date of submission.

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Q7: How long must a district recruit for an SLP or an SLP-A before submitting the application for approval for the speech implementer? The Note for Indicator 400.120.a says *“The agency must actively recruit prior to requesting approval.”*

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Q7: How long must a district recruit for an SLP or an SLP-A before submitting the application for approval for the speech implementer? The Note for Indicator 400.120.a says *“The agency must actively recruit prior to requesting approval.”*

A7: “Actively” suggests more than one effort, over a period of time, in multiple venues (e.g. website, newspaper, university placement office, etc.).

In an effort to assist districts to meet this new requirement, the Department has posted a list of IHE contacts involved with training SLP-As at the following link:

<http://dese.mo.gov/special-education/compliance/speech-implementer>. Districts are encouraged to use this resource in their recruitment efforts.

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Q8: If an SLP-A also holds a teaching certificate,
would he/she be eligible for PSRS?

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Q8: If an SLP-A also holds a teaching certificate,
would he/she be eligible for PSRS?

A8: For information on retirement programs, contact
PSRS or PEERS directly.

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Q9: Regarding the requirement that the supervising SLP provides supervision “one hour per week for each assistant (SLP-A) or one of every three student sessions.” Does “one of every three sessions” mean “one in three sessions per student” or “one in three total sessions of therapy provided by the SLP-A?”

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Q9: Regarding the requirement that the supervising SLP provides supervision “one hour per week for each assistant (SLP-A) or one of every three student sessions.” Does “one of every three sessions” mean “one in three sessions per student” or “one in three total sessions of therapy provided by the SLP-A?”

A9: To answer this question, we referred to the actual legislation posted on the State Board of Healing Arts website. It states “*Direct supervision shall be provided for each assistant supervised a minimum of ... one out of every three sessions for each patient/client/student.*”

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Q10: Must an SLP-A have a BS in Communication Disorders and also teacher certification?

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Q10: Must an SLP-A have a BS in Communication Disorders and also teacher certification?

A10: No. SLP-As must have a Bachelors Degree in Speech Pathology or equivalent, defined as 21 hours in five speech/language areas, 25 hours of observation and 25 hours of clinical assisting or practicum.

In addition, SLP-As must be registered by the Missouri Board of Healing Arts.

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Q11: In the past, cooperatives have advertised/recruited for SLPs as a cooperative with each district using the implementer model listed individually in the advertisement. Is this still allowable with the new requirements for advertisement and recruitment for the SLP-A?

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Q11: In the past, cooperatives have advertised/recruited for SLPs as a cooperative with each district using the implementer model listed individually in the advertisement. Is this still allowable with the new requirements for advertisement and recruitment for the SLP-A?

A11: Yes. The key factor is the district should be advertising/recruiting first for the SLP/SLP-A positions. Only after unsuccessful attempts to recruit/hire SLPs/SLP-As will districts want to consider using the speech implementer model.

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Questions?

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Thank You for Participating

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