

Scott McCallum  
GovernorPhyllis J. Dubé  
Secretary

## State of Wisconsin

## Department of Health and Family Services

**DATE:** September 25, 2002  
**TO:** Birth to 3 Program County Contacts and Providers  
**FROM:** Donna Miller  
Birth to 3 Program  
**RE:** Licensure for Speech and Language Pathologists

Staff from the Department of Health and Family Services (DHFS) met recently with representatives from the Department of Regulation and Licensing (DRL) concerning the apparent conflict between early intervention regulations in HFS 90 and DRL requirements for licensure of speech and language pathologists. The staff from DRL reported that the Hearing and Speech Examining Board concluded that speech and language pathologists who provide early intervention services are required to be licensed by the Board. The Board also recommended that HFS 90 be revised to remove the provisions that speech and language pathologists may be licensed by either the DRL or the Department of Public Instruction (DPI). While DHFS is not prepared to amend HFS 90 at this time, the Department agrees that speech and language pathologists who hold only DPI licenses should apply for DRL licensure.

**1) Please share this information with any speech and language pathologist without DRL licensure who provides early intervention services:**

DHFS encourages all speech and language pathologists with only DPI licenses to apply for DRL licensure. The Hearing and Speech Examining Board meets quarterly. In order for applications to be considered at the December 2, 2002 meeting, materials should be sent by October 18. The Board will meet again in March 2003. The Board will review applications for equivalency experience and will not pursue unlicensed practice actions against applicants with only DPI licenses.

Application materials are available from the  
Department of Regulation and Licensing  
1400 East Washington Ave.  
PO Box 8935  
Madison WI 53708-8935  
608/266-2811

or through the DRL website [www.drl.state.wi.us](http://www.drl.state.wi.us)

**2) Please send the names of all speech and language pathologists without DRL licensure in your program and indicate whether they will be applying for licensure. Please send this information by October 21, 2002.**

**3) All counties should send the number and FTE of speech and language pathologists who provide early intervention services.** This information will help DHFS understand the scope of the issue and any impact on local programs. Please send this information by October 21, 2002. You may respond by email to [milledm@dhfs.state.wi.us](mailto:milledm@dhfs.state.wi.us)

Please contact me at (608) 267-5150 if you have any questions.