



RCASLPNB

Regulatory College of
Audiologists & Speech-
Language Pathologists of
New Brunswick

OAONB

Ordre des
audiologistes &
orthophonistes du
Nouveau-Brunswick

Regulatory Bulletin

OCTOBER/2025/FALL



Over the Counter (OTC) Hearing Devices

Speech-Language & Hearing Canada (SAC) has released a Position Paper on OTC Hearing Aids in Canada, offering evidence-based guidance on their safe use. The paper emphasizes the vital role of audiologists and the need for professional oversight to protect patient outcomes as these devices become more widely available.

Please visit: [OTC-Hearing-Aids-in-Canada](#) as well as the RCASLPNB website [Update on Over-the-Counter \(OTC\) Hearing Aids](#) for more information.

Registration Renewal



OCT 1 – DEC 1

**Renew on time to avoid
the \$300.00 late fee!**

Registration Renewal

- ✓ Complete your renewal online through [Registrant Portal](#) and ensure your profile information is current.
- ✓ Check out the FAQ section to assist you with your registration renewal here: [Registrant Resources](#)
- ✓ Access step-by-step renewal instructions and the Alinity User Guide here: [Registrant Resources](#)
- ✓ Download your Registration Certificate any time after your renewal is approved.
- ✓ Add Continuing Education (CE) activities to your profile year-round.
- ✓ Estimate your December currency hours in advance. Notify the office (info@rcaslpnb.ca) of any significant changes in January.
- ✓ Pay by credit card, pre-authorized debit (PAD), or e-transfers (info@rcaslpnb.ca) for quick processing.



Why Reading Your RCASLPNB Emails Matters



As a regulated health professional, staying informed is not just helpful—it is essential. RCASLPNB emails are the primary way we communicate important updates, deadlines, regulatory changes, and other critical information that directly affects your practice and registration status.

Choose a reliable email address: Make sure the email you provide is one you can always access, including during leaves of absence, so you never miss important communications.

Here is why you should make it a habit to read every message from us.

STAY COMPLIANT: Missing updates about renewal deadlines, continuing education requirements, or changes in legislation could put your registration at risk.

PROTECT YOUR PRACTICE: We share guidance and alerts that help you stay aligned with best practices and avoid potential disciplinary issues.

ACCESS OPPORTUNITIES: From regulatory workshops to volunteer roles, our emails often include valuable chances to grow professionally.

BE INFORMED FIRST: You will be among the first to know about new initiatives, consultations, and changes that impact the regulation of audiologists and speech-language pathologists.

Consequences of Not Reading RCASLPNB Emails

Ignoring or overlooking our communications can lead to missed deadlines, and non-compliance with regulatory requirements, resulting in the **suspension of your registration**. In some cases, it may also result in disciplinary action or missed opportunities to contribute to the profession and the public interest. We understand your inbox can get busy—but staying connected with RCASLPNB ensures you are informed, prepared, and supported in your professional journey.

**Take a moment to check your inbox today.
Your future self will thank you!**

Professional Liability Insurance (PLI)

- ✓ All Provisional, Practising, and Courtesy registrants **must** ensure their PLI on file always remains current.
- ✓ Reminder emails are a courtesy, but keeping your PLI up to date is your responsibility.
- ✓ If your current PLI expires and a renewed certificate has not been uploaded to your profile in Alinity, your registration with RCASLPNB will be **suspended** until the updated certificate is received.
- ✓ Upload your PLI certificate.
 - 1) Log into Alinity.
 - 2) Navigate to: **My Profile**
 - 3) Click: **Edit My Profile**
- ✓ If you experience any difficulties uploading your new PLI certificate, please contact **info@rcaslpcb.ca** for assistance.



Getting Upstream and Mitigating Risk



Knowing the Rules: Why Familiarity with Your Act, Bylaws, Rules, Code of Ethics, and Standards of Practice Is Essential for Compliance

In today's complex healthcare landscape, regulated health professionals are held to high standards - not only in clinical skills, but also in ethical conduct and legal compliance. Meeting these expectations requires more than clinical skills; it demands a clear and ongoing understanding of the legislation and regulatory frameworks that govern practice, including your Act, bylaws, rules, Code of Ethics, and Standards of Practice (coming soon).

Key College Documents

Legislation, Bylaws & Rules

These documents are more than just administrative formalities. They serve as the foundation for professional accountability, public trust, and safe, ethical care. They define the scope of practice, outline professional responsibilities, and set the standards by which conduct is judged. Ignorance of these frameworks is not a valid defence, and failing to comply can lead to profound consequences, including fines, suspension, or loss of licensure.



Why it Matters

1. Legal Obligations

Audiologists and speech-language pathologists practice in a highly regulated environment. Federal and provincial laws intersect with professional Acts and Bylaws. A clear understanding of these obligations helps prevent inadvertent breaches that could result in disciplinary or legal action.

2. Ethical Practice

The *Code of Ethics* functions as a professional guide. It aids decision-making in complex scenarios involving consent, confidentiality, equity, and professional boundaries. Even small ethical oversights can damage public trust and harm professional reputations.

3. Professional Integrity

Adhering to the Act, rules, bylaws, and other key college documents reinforces a culture of accountability. It demonstrates not only competence but also trustworthiness—qualities that are essential to safeguarding public protection.

4. Risk Management

A strong grasp of regulatory requirements helps practitioners proactively identify and mitigate risks. This includes maintaining accurate documentation, securing informed consent, and following safety protocols—all of which protect both patients/clients and professionals.

Building a Culture of Compliance

Compliance is not a one-time exercise; it is an ongoing professional commitment. **To uphold standards, regulatory bodies encourage practitioners to:**

- **Review** governing documents regularly.
- **Participate** in continuing education on ethics and legal responsibilities.
- **Seek** clarification when unsure about regulatory expectations.
- **Report** concerns through appropriate channels.

Ultimately, regulated health professionals are entrusted with the well-being of the public. That trust is earned and preserved through a deep and active commitment to the legislation, bylaws, rules, and ethical standards that guide professional practice.

DO YOU KNOW YOUR CODE OF ETHICS? TAKE THE QUIZ!

Please see the last page for the Answer Key!

1. Which of the following is NOT one of the core ethical values outlined in the RCASLPNB Code of Ethics?

- A) Respect for All Persons
- B) Professionalism
- C) Accountability
- D) Profit Maximization

2. The principle of 'Beneficence' in the Code of Ethics emphasizes:

- A) Acting in ways that benefit the health and welfare of others
- B) Treating all persons with fairness and respect
- C) Acknowledging the rights of all persons to self-determination
- D) Practicing with the intent of doing no harm

3. According to the Code, when providing services, registrants must:

- A) Prioritize their own convenience
- B) Maintain appropriate professional boundaries
- C) Disclose all personal information to clients
- D) Accept all clients without assessment

4. Which of the following is a responsibility to the public as per the Code of Ethics?

- A) Providing equitable and inclusive care
- B) Ensuring personal financial gain
- C) Limiting access to services
- D) Disregarding cultural differences

5. 'Nonmaleficence' refers to:

- A) Acting in ways that benefit others
- B) Practicing with the intent of doing no harm
- C) Treating all persons with fairness
- D) Acknowledging the rights of all persons to make choices

6. If a registrant breaches the Code of Ethics, it may constitute:

- A) A minor infraction
- B) Unprofessional conduct
- C) A misunderstanding
- D) A personal choice

7. The Code of Ethics applies to all registrants regardless of:

- A) Their practice setting
- B) Their length of time in practice
- C) Their role (e.g., direct service, research, education)
- D) All of the above

8. Which of the following actions is acceptable when a conflict of interest arises?

- A) Ignoring the conflict if it's minor
- B) Making decisions that benefit oneself financially
- C) Disclosing the conflict to all relevant parties
- D) None of the above

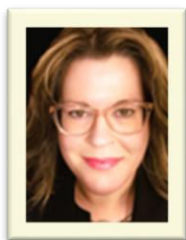
9. The Code of Ethics requires registrants to respect:

- A) Cultural and linguistic diversity
- B) Client privacy and confidentiality
- C) Professional boundaries
- D) All of the above

Reach out with any questions!

We are here to assist all registrants to meet their regulatory requirements, mitigate risk, and protect the public.

“RCASLPNB ensures public safety by regulating, supporting and ensuring the competent, safe and ethical practice of audiologists and speech-language pathologists in New Brunswick. All registrants of RCASLPNB must practice in compliance with the Act, the Bylaws and the Rules”.



Nicole Fowler

Registrar/Executive Director

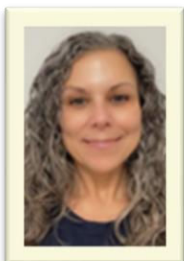
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Answer Key:

1. D) Profit Maximization
2. A) Acting in ways that benefit the health and welfare of others
3. B) Maintain appropriate professional boundaries
4. A) Providing equitable and inclusive care
5. B) Practicing with the intent of doing no harm
6. B) Unprofessional conduct
7. D) All of the above
8. D) None of the above
9. D) All of the above