



THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF SPEECH THERAPISTS
香港言語治療師協會

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Agenda of HKAST Extraordinary general meeting 2015

The Extraordinary General Meeting ("EGM") of The Hong Kong Association of Speech Therapists ("HKAST") shall be held on Monday, 13 April 2015 at 19:00 at GH 615-616, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University.

Upon receiving the written request and verbal notification to the Chairman of the Hong Kong Association of Speech Therapists, the Chairman must convene an Extraordinary General Meeting. The discussions and matter raised in the request are listed as follows.

Agenda

1. Opening and notifications

1.1 Opening

1.2 Notifications

2. Approval of the agenda of The Extraordinary General Meeting of The Hong Kong Association of Speech Therapists

3. Approval of amendment to the constitutions of The Hong Kong Association of Speech Therapists

Amendment of the Constitutions of The Hong Kong Association of Speech Therapists, and authorisation to execute the deed of amendment of the Articles of Association (for resolution – see explanatory note) (for additional information – see appendix 1)

4. Approval of conversion to limited company

5. Questions and conclusion

6. Closing



Joshua Lai

Chairperson

HKAST 2014-15

Explanatory notes to the agenda for the extraordinary general meeting of HKAST on 13 April 2015

Explanatory notes to agenda item 3

The Expert Panel of Membership Eligibility Committee proposes to amend the Constitution of The Hong Kong Association of Speech Therapists, including as follows:

1. Amendments to the section of qualification for full membership in the policy statement on qualifications necessary for membership

Original Text

POLICY STATEMENT ON QUALIFICATIONS NECESSARY FOR MEMBERSHIP

2. QUALIFICATIONS FOR FULL MEMBERSHIP

a) Persons who were trained in Hong Kong

Persons who were trained in Hong Kong must hold a degree in Speech Therapy from the University of Hong Kong.

b) Persons who were trained in the UK

Persons who were trained in the UK must hold a degree or diploma in Speech Therapy from an academic institution recognized by the College of Speech & Language therapists (CSLT), and must be eligible for membership of the College.

c) Persons who were trained in the USA

Persons who were trained in the USA must hold the Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology (CCC_SLP) from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), i.e. they must hold a Master's degree or its equivalent, have passed the national examination, and have successfully completed their Clinical Fellowship Year (CFY).

(Note: Persons who hold a Bachelor's degree in speech therapy/ pathology or who hold a Master's degree but not the CCC are eligible to become an Associate member of the Association)

d) Persons who were trained in Australia

Persons who were trained in Australia must have completed a training programme at an educational institution approved by The Speech Pathology Association of Australia and must be eligible for its membership.

e) Persons who were trained in other countries

For persons who have been trained in countries other than those mentioned above, acceptance for full membership of HKAST will be decided on a case-by-case basis by the HKAST Committee.

Factors to be taken into account will include:

- i) nature of the training programme (specifically -length of course, number of clinical practicum hours, specific coursework.
- ii) eligibility for membership in speech therapy associations in country of origin/country of training/other countries.
- iii) native language and intended languages of practice in Hong Kong.

The aforementioned original text will be amended as follows.

Amended Text

POLICY STATEMENT ON QUALIFICATIONS NECESSARY FOR MEMBERSHIP

2. QUALIFICATIONS FOR FULL MEMBERSHIP

a) Persons who were trained in Hong Kong

Persons who were trained in Hong Kong must (i) hold a Bachelor degree or above in speech therapy in a recognized tertiary institution, and (ii) demonstrate competency as specified in The Competency-Based Occupational Standards 2011 (CBOS 2011) with reference to the supplementary document by HKAST

b) Persons who were trained in other countries

Persons who were trained in other countries must (i) hold a speech therapy degree recognised by a recognised tertiary institution; (ii) demonstrate that they can practice in their own country; (iii) be a member of their local speech therapy association; (iv) and meet The Competency-Based Occupational Standards 2011 (CBOS 2011) with reference to the supplementary document by HKAST.

Factors to be taken into account will include:

- i) Language proficiency of intended language of practice in Hong Kong

Votes, quorum and authorisation

Pursuant to the Constitution of The Hong Kong Association of Speech Therapists, an amendment of the Constitution of The Hong Kong Association of Speech Therapists requires the affirmative vote of an absolute majority of not less than three quarters of such full members as vote in person or by proxy at the meeting. By voting “FOR” agenda item 4, this proposal also includes granting an

authorisation to every executive committee member of the Hong Kong Association of Speech Therapists to execute the deed of amendment pursuant to the Constitution of The Hong Kong Association of Speech Therapists.

Appendix I

Why change the HKAST membership eligibility?

The government has recommended all allied health organizations to provide a set of objective and transparent criteria to govern their membership approval process. Since the membership eligibility criteria of HKAST has not been reviewed and updated since its inception, the HKAST has initiated an exercise to review its membership eligibility criteria from 2014.

What is CBOS 2011?

CBOS 2011 stands for Competency-Based Occupational Standards 2011. It is the document that outlines the minimum skills and knowledge required for entry-level speech therapists in Australia.

For more information, please refer to the following link:

<http://www.speechpathologyaustralia.org.au/all-latest-news/1037-cbos-2011>

Why choose CBOS?

1. CBOS is a comprehensive document that outlines all the basic skills and knowledge of an entry-level speech therapist.
2. Speech Pathology Australia (SPA) has established mutual recognition among the following associations, including The American Speech-Language Hearing Association (ASHA), Speech-Language and Audiology Canada (SAC), The Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists (RCSLT), The Irish Association of Speech and Language Therapists (IASLT), and The New Zealand Speech-Language Therapists' Association (NZSTA). In other words, complying with CBOS sets the standard against all the international associations mentioned above.
3. CBOS utilizes outcome-based criteria as opposed to curriculum-based criteria that allows for and objective assessment of speech therapists from institutions that adopts different pedagogies.

How can CBOS 2011 be applied to the Hong Kong setting?

An expert panel consisting of experienced speech therapists in Hong Kong was established to review the CBOS 2011. A supplementary document is being developed and reviewed to ensure its applicability to the local setting.