

# ECHO

## Newsletter of the New Brunswick Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists

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## President's message

Hello fellow members,

We have been having an interesting and productive year. I am realizing now how fast time flies and was surprised to see my term is half over already. The Executive is a great team this year, and thanks to Diane, we have been keeping on task throughout our time without an executive director. I am excited to let you know we (finally) have a new executive director, Gilles Allain, who officially joined our team Saturday, February 21.

This past year, many of our members have run into some obstacles due to restructuring of government resources and financial restrictions, most visibly with our SLPs in the education system. This is where I encourage you to participate and volunteer more with the association in order to help continue to build our unity and strength. Many voices speak louder than a few.

We continue to be part of CAASPR (the Canadian Alliance of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Regulators) as it focuses on a national competency-based assessment framework project which works on regulating the practice of audiology and speech pathology in Canada. This project, which was tentatively scheduled to be completed in 2014, has been extended in hopes of reaching conformity with all of the provinces involved. I do encourage you to look further into CAASPR ([www.caaspr.ca](http://www.caaspr.ca)) and what has been accomplished to date. This alliance has great potential to help address many concerns (one of which is how equivalent education can be evaluated), helping to protect the public and our professions as it finds a balance in providing equal opportunity for immigration and employment.

We appreciate the many volunteers who are involved with the association as we continue to strive to meet our goals as defined by our mission

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statement and mandate. For more information on these goals, our mission statement and resources I encourage you to review our webpage at [www.nbaslp.ca](http://www.nbaslp.ca).

Our AGM and annual conference will be held in September and I look forward to seeing many of you at this important event. The AGM is your opportunity to make your voice heard, to vote on important issues, and it will also be a great opportunity to meet Gilles, our new executive director. Up-to-date information regarding dates and conference presenters can be found on our website under Events.

—Matthew Box  
President of NBASLPA

## Continuing Education Opportunities and Resources

Have you found a good resource or course you think we should all know about? Share it here!

Are you organizing a continuing education opportunity? Advertise in the Echo!

Contact the editor at [communicationnb@gmail.com](mailto:communicationnb@gmail.com) with any continuing ed opportunities—big or small—for the next ECHO. This is a great way to help each other keep up our skills!

## Congratulation to this year's winner of the Clinical Excellence—SLP award Hérica Doucet

(Now with pictures! Compliments of Kelli deVries)



# Regional Updates

## Restigouche Area

Marie-Lyne Lussier Drapeau had a baby girl, Pascale Christiane Drapeau, on January 21st. Congratulations and have a good leave!

Diana Oleepeeka Neil, a new SLP in the region will cover her leave. Welcome Diana!

## Miramichi Area

Miramichi would like to welcome our new audiologist, Nadine Godin. Nadine is a new graduate and she started working at the Miramichi Hospital in the fall.

## Campbellton Area

## Moncton Area

## Saint John Area

## Edmundston Area

## Chaleur Area

Hope to hear from you next time!

## Fredericton and Upper River Valley Area

The Dr. Everett Chalmers Hospital would like to welcome back Denise Cross after her year of adventures including living in Kenya and Tanzania. We are happy to have you back!

Caitlin Waugh, who was covering Denis' position will take over as community audiologist.

**Would you like to become a representative to keep us up to date?**

**Check out the vacancies or collaborate with the current reps!**

## A Little Levy:

A young patient of mine (age 3;0) just received a new iPad for his birthday. When his grandmother came to visit, his mom asked if he would like to show her the new gift. He ran to his room and came back with the iPad in hand. Excitedly he said, "Look Gwammie, me got a MePad!"

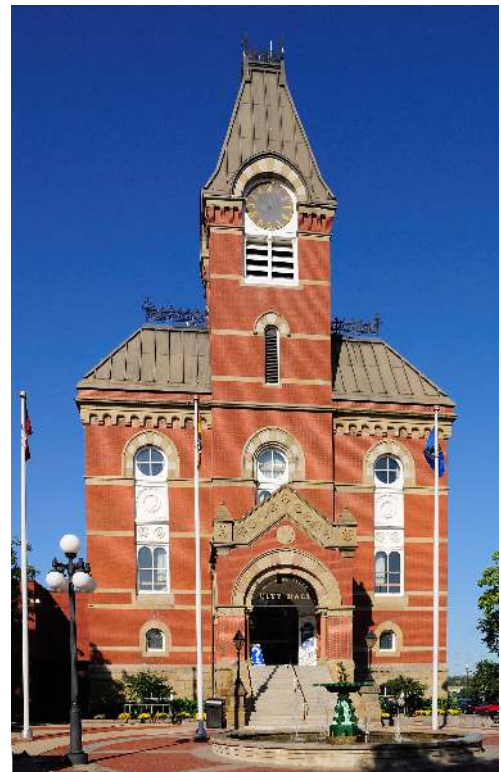
—Donna Carter, SLP

## 2015 NBASLPA Conference and AGM

In 6 months, NBASLPA will, once again, put on an outstanding conference with notable speakers from audiology and speech-pathology. The effort it takes to attract such a consistently high quality and varied program of speakers is nothing short of amazing and makes the conference committee deserving of commendation. Have a look at the full brochure available on the NBASLPA website. I, for one, can't wait to see you all here in beautiful Fredericton in September!



As a reminder of a decision that was made at last year's AGM, information about individual sessions will only be published in the language in which it will be presented.





# AUDIOLOGY

*Jason Galster, PhD*

## 1-Interpreting Individual Variability in the Outcomes of Patients with Hearing Aids 2-Tips & Tools 3-How to Overcome Challenging Fits



**Session Description:** Our understanding of hearing aid benefit most often references the “average” patient. By definition, however, most patients are not this average person. In this session we will

look beyond the average, to the extremes of our patient population. Methods for documenting patient outcomes will be reviewed, as will the expected range of performance with a variety of hearing aid technologies. Strategies will be proposed to modify the prescription of these technologies in order to assist the unsuccessful patient toward their individualized goals.

*A.U. Bankaitis, PhD*

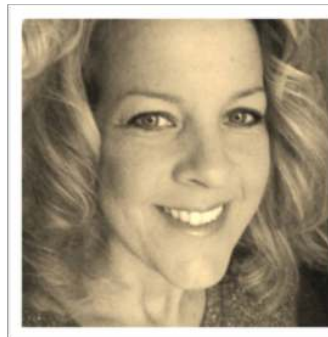
## Infection Control in the Clinical Environment

**Session Description:** Audiology and speech-language pathology services are sought by diverse patient populations who are susceptible to potentially infectious microorganisms residing throughout the clinical environment. As providers of health care services, audiologists and speech-language pathologists must take appropriate measures to protect patients, co-workers, and themselves in clinical situations that may expose individuals to infectious microbes. Infection control

involves the process of minimizing the risk of potential exposure to infectious organisms through careful manipulation of the clinical environment. The purpose of this course is to provide a rationale and practical guidelines for implementing infection control protocols in the clinical environment.

## Hearing Assistance Technology: Options Beyond a Hearing Aids Only Approach

**Session Description:** Individuals with hearing loss seek assistance from audiologists to optimize communication. The market for hearing instruments has traditionally maintained a 20% market penetration, leaving 80% of those who could benefit from hearing instruments without the benefits of some form of amplification technology. For those fit with hearing instruments, Kochkin has shown that nearly 50% of hearing instrument wearers are not satisfied with hearing instrument performance in noisy situations. While hearing instruments represent a vital component in the aural rehabilitative process, these devices should not serve as the end points in the process.



The purpose of this course is to review the latest HAT products available for both hearing instrument wearers and/or non-hearing instrument wearers designed to offer optimal solutions in the most critically consumer-rated listening situations beyond hearing instrumentation only. In addition, other key opportunities will be identified and discussed in terms of how HAT can differentiate your clinical practice from the competition (amplified stethoscopes for medical professionals, smoke detectors, etc.).

# ADULT SLP

*Linda Rammage, PhD, RSLP, SLP(C)*

## Management of Voice Disorders

Session Description: Voice dysfunction is rarely the result of a single etiological factor. The ALERT model has been evolving over the past decade to



guide clinicians from a variety of professions during evaluation and management of individuals experiencing dysfunction of the voice and larynx. The model is intended to provide a consistent, comprehensive and client-centred approach to clinical

encounters by addressing relevant A (anatomical), L (lifestyle), E (emotional), R (reflux), and T (technique) components (and their interactions) that may be predisposing, precipitating, or perpetuating symptoms. The client and clinician(s) together explore the degree to which each component may be contributing to symptom formation and exacerbation at any point in time, and factors that may contribute to symptom fluctuations. Each client's ALERT profile is used to guide decisions about treatment priorities. During this workshop, theories and research evidence supporting each ALERT component will be presented, along with video clinical examples. The role of commonly-used assessment and therapy tools and approaches will be discussed as they relate to comprehensive client-centred management. Selection of treatment priorities for

specific anatomical and muscle misuse factors will be discussed in the context of the multi-factor model. Participants will be invited to share their own clinical cases and discuss treatment options within the ALERT paradigm. Hands-on practice will be offered for assessment and therapy techniques in common use.

*John C. Rosenbek, PhD*

## The Efficient, Effective Treatment of Dysphagia

Session Description: This will be a clinically-oriented presentation. Specific rehabilitative



techniques will be described along with the clinical refinements that have occurred because of clinical experience. Criteria for their use and fluoroscopic images of appropriate candidates will also be presented. Sensory stimulation, skill training, and

strengthening approaches will all be included. Compensatory approaches, including tube feeding, will be discussed and a series of specific criteria for supporting the NPO decision will be outlined. The issue of when to rehabilitate, when to compensate, and when to do both will be described. Newer methods such as the towel-tuck procedure will be demonstrated, and newer notions such as exercise as neuroprotection will be emphasized.

# SCHOOL-BASED SLP

*Barbara J. Ehren, Ed.D., CCC-SLP*

Session Description: The education world is abuzz with RTI (Response-to-Intervention), and school districts in New Brunswick and other provinces are implementing a variety of approaches. Important questions are: How do SLPs fit into the various RTI frameworks? How do they work collaboratively with colleagues at schools to promote the success of all students, especially those who struggle?

**SLPs and RTI: Seizing Opportunities to Assume Important Roles in Schools—practical suggestions for SLPs on appropriate, evidence-based practices across RTI tiers**

On Day One of this workshop, SLPs will explore RTI as a golden opportunity to make substantive contributions to the success of students across grade levels within their roles as school SLPs. They will analyze specific activities for engaging in RTI processes across all tiers and will discuss challenges in implementation. Practical, evidence-based practices in intervention and progress monitoring will be discussed.



**Partnerships at the School Level to Promote Success for all Students—RTI partnerships at the school level among SLPs, teachers, administrators, and other support personnel**

For Day Two, SLPs are asked to encourage a teacher, administrator, or other service provider to attend in order to explore integration of RTI components at the building level so that the expertise of all professionals working in schools can be used to full advantage. Further, infrastructures at the school level to support RTI processes will be addressed with frank dialogue about RTI opportunities and pitfalls.

# ORTHOPHONIE

*Julie Bélanger, M.O.A., orthophoniste*

## La pratique de l'orthophonie auprès des jeunes enfants difficiles



Description de la formation : La pratique de l'orthophonie auprès des jeunes enfants difficiles soulève plusieurs questions : Les comportements difficiles ont-ils un lien avec le déficit langagier ? L'enfant ne peut pas ou ne veut pas collaborer ? Quelles

peuvent être les attentes du parent envers l'orthophoniste et vice-versa ? Nos objectifs thérapeutiques devraient-ils nous orienter vers des modalités cliniques qui cherchent à endiguer et contourner les problèmes comportementaux ou devrait-on, comme orthophoniste, contribuer d'emblée à les résoudre ? L'enfant est-il évaluable ? Quand, où et par quoi commencer ? Doit-on remettre à plus tard notre implication et d'abord le référer à un autre professionnel ? Quel peut être l'impact de nos choix cliniques sur l'évolution globale du tout-petit ? Cette formation vise à porter un regard orthophonique sur un ensemble de comportements difficiles chez les jeunes enfants, allant de l'évitement à la crise. La fréquente cooccurrence des déficits langagiers avec les dysharmonies développementales, cognitives et relationnelles, sera survolée. En référant aux caractéristiques reconnues efficaces des programmes de stimulation précoce, un modèle d'évaluation/intervention dynamique, (1) respectueux des caractéristiques individuelles, (2) suscitant d'emblée l'implication active des parents et de l'enfant dans le processus de résolution de problème et (3) orienté vers des

objectifs orthophoniques à large spectre sera présenté. La notion d'hygiène de communication familiale sera exposée et une réflexion sur la hiérarchisation des objectifs thérapeutiques orthophoniques, sera effectuée. L'importance de la contribution des fonctions du langage, soit communiquer et réfléchir, à la régulation des comportements et des apprentissages sera abordée en soulignant la pertinence d'une évaluation/intervention orthophonique précoce misant sur une gestion constructive des difficultés comportementales.

*Andrea MacLeod, PhD*

## La pratique orthophonique chez les enfants bilingues



Description de la formation : Le but de cette formation sera d'introduire les données probantes sur l'acquisition du langage dans un contexte multilingue et de revoir les stratégies d'évaluation d'enfants

bilingues. La formation présentera comment le développement langagier de l'enfant bilingue est influencé par les facteurs d'exposition et le contexte social. Les données probantes sur le développement de la parole et du langage chez les enfants bilingues seront abordées chez les enfants typiques et les enfants ayant un retard ou trouble. Cette formation outillera les participants pour (1) réfléchir à comment ajuster la pratique clinique à cette population, (2) identifier des moyens pour soutenir le développement bilingue de ces enfants, et (3) donner des conseils à ces familles qui sont basés sur la recherche.



# A POSTER CAMPAIGN COMING SOON TO A WAITING ROOM NEAR YOU!

The Speech-Language Pathology Outpatient Department at Woodbridge Centre, Fredericton has been working with Horizon Communications to develop posters for our waiting areas to heighten parents' awareness of how their use of smart phones impacts on interactions with their children. The seeds of this project were planted about a year ago, when one morning while heading down the hall to check on the arrival of a client, I spotted a determined little infant crawling purposefully to parts unknown with no adult in sight. I scooped him up as he cast a baleful eye at me, clearly unimpressed his journey had been curtailed. I rounded the corner into the waiting room to return him to his mom and saw her texting intently. She hadn't yet realized her son was missing.

Later that day, I entered a quiet room to find all three parents there tapping away at their phones while their children played silently on the floor or coloured. One little girl tried to engage her mother, however she was admonished with a sharp, "It's rude to interrupt mommy on the phone". I felt my heart sink as I watched her little face crumple. It occurred to me that I had been witnessing this scene repeatedly in our waiting room over the last few years, ever since mobile devices have become ubiquitous in our society. I conducted an informal poll of my colleagues and they too were troubled

by this trend. Furthermore, clinicians remarked that parents were carrying over their cell phone obsession into the treatment sessions, checking them constantly throughout the visit. We wondered about the long term implications for these children, already at risk for social and academic difficulties.

Coincidentally, not long after that day while scanning the news, this headline jumped out at me: *Parents on Smartphones Ignore Their Children, Study Finds*. Researchers from the Boston Medical Centre went undercover in 15 local fast food restaurants to observe interactions between family members and the reactions of children when their parents were using their phones. Parents in 40 of 55 of families were absorbed in their mobile devices and almost a third of the parents used their devices consistently throughout the meal. Some children appeared unaffected and ate their meal in silence while others used more provocative means to get their parents' attention (loudly singing "Jingle bells, Batman smells"). This study confirmed my suspicions that what was happening in our waiting room at Woodbridge Centre was not an anomaly but a reflection of what was likely happening in countless waiting rooms everywhere.

In her article titled, *Facebook vs Face-to-Face: How Technology Threatens Parent-Child Interaction*, Lauren Lowry, a Hanen staff member writes about

how our need to constantly connect with technology affects our connection with our children. While there has been much concern about children's exposure to screen time, it is only recently that attention has turned to parents' habits. To answer the question of whether technology is really that much of a threat, Lowry cites a groundbreaking study: *Meaningful Differences in the Everyday Experiences of Young American Children*. Researchers Betty Hart and Todd Risley discovered that children who were exposed to more words per year in their homes by their parents had superior vocabulary and later, intellectual abilities. Hart asks parents to consider how their use of electronic devices may be limiting their ability to meet their children's needs. The bottom line, Lowry concludes, is that "children have better outcomes when their parents talk to them more often" and there is no substitute for face-to-face interaction. She suggests parents don't need to swear off technology altogether, but urges them to set aside consistent tech-free time, and resist the temptation to check their devices while at the playground, on the bus, in the restaurant (or the waiting room!).

Armed with this growing body of literature and anecdotal reports from my fellow SLPs and audiologists, I was convinced that my unease in the waiting room that day was not an overreaction, but a cue to take action. After all, we have been counselling parents to take advantage of daily routines and activities to maximize language development since the dawn of our profession. Not only are we in an optimal position to offer support and education to families, we have an obligation to advocate for our vulnerable little clients.

Once more I approached my coworkers for ideas for an eye-catching poster that would capture the attention of parents in a positive but thought

provoking manner, and hopefully result in them putting their phones away for the duration of their visit. I sent all the suggestions to our PR experts at Horizon Communications, trusting in their ability to sort through our potpourri of ideas and come up with something brilliant. Of course, just before Christmas, they did! Currently, they are working on refining the concept a little further. It won't be long before the final product is ready to display in our waiting rooms. It remains to be seen what kind of impact our poster project will have on changing parents' behaviour, but I believe it is a good first step towards creating awareness and initiating a discussion about the benefits and challenges posed by technology. I'll conclude with a final story relayed by Joyce Harvey, our administrative support with a fly-on-the-wall view of our waiting room. She described how one day a mom came into the waiting room with her little guy and as they were getting settled, she said, "I just have a short phone call to make, then we can play". True to her word, after making the call she turned off the phone, tucked it deep into the recesses of her purse and proceeded to have a lively chat with her little boy who was clearly delighted to have her undivided attention. Joyce exclaimed, "That mom got it right!". Perhaps this will be a more common occurrence in our waiting rooms in days to come.



#### References:

ABC News Article: "Parents on Smartphones Ignore Their Kids, Study Finds" <http://abcnews.go.com/blogs/health/2014/03/10/parents-on-smartphones-ignore-their-kids-study-finds/>

Hanen Article: "Facebook vs Face-to-Face: How Technology Threatens Parent-Child Interaction" <http://www.hanen.org/Helpful-Info/Our-Views-on-the-News/Facebook-vs-Face-to-Face--How-Technology-Threatens.aspx>

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## News from the Membership Committee

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The membership committee has been active since the AGM in September, reviewing new applicants. Since September we have 8 new members; 5 audiologists and 3 speech-language pathologists.

I am very pleased to say that the membership committee has 12 members and that there is no difficulty finding volunteers among that committee to review new applicants as they are submitted. Therefore, the turnaround for the application process is less than 2 weeks. At the office, Diane DeCoste facilitates this application process and all documents are verified and organized before being forwarded to the committee.

Thanks to Diane, Stephanie Tinker (outgoing chair of the committee), and all of the members of the membership committee for making my transition into the role of chair of this committee so seamless.

–Mary Blunston



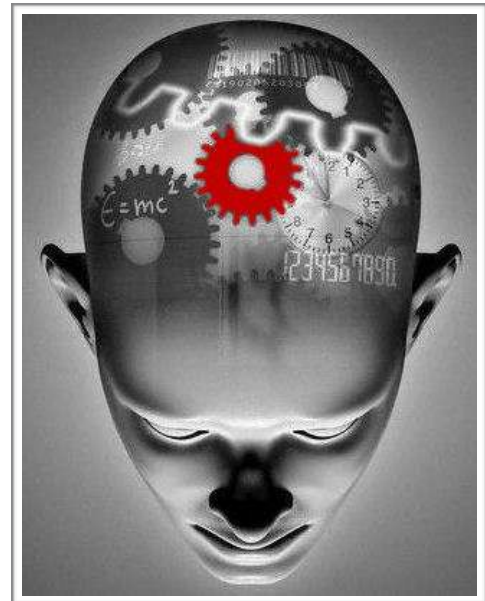
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## Updating Horizon APD Protocols

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The Horizon Health Network is launching an updated protocols for Auditory Processing Disorder (APD) this year. APD screening and testing will be offered at all Audiology departments throughout Horizon, with certain centres offering testing in both English and French. Information packages on the new Horizon APD protocol will be sent via e-mail through NBASLPA to all members at the beginning of April. Stay tuned!

–Stephanie Tinker, M.Sc.S., Aud (C)





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### Executive

PRESIDENT	Matthew Box
PRESIDENT-ELECT	Debbie Maund
PAST PRESIDENT	Michelle Lanteigne
TREASURER	Mélanie Chiasson
SECRETARY	Mary Blunston
PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVE	Jean-Marc Morneau
REGISTRAR	Rhonda Rubin
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	Gilles Allain
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT	Diane DeCoste

### Appointed Representatives

DISCIPLINE	Danielle Pelletier
TRAINING TRUST FUND	Francine Cormier & Paula Murray

### Regional Representatives

MONCTON	Renelle Leblanc
SAINT JOHN	VACANT
MIRAMICHI	Isabelle Richard
EDMUNDSTON	VACANT
RESTIGOUCHE	Marika Arseneau
CHALEUR	Jennifer O'Donnell
FREDERICTON & UPPER RIVER VALLEY	Darin Quinn

### Standing Committee Chairs

AGM & CONFERENCE	Jennifer O'Donnell
AUDIOLOGY	Kelsey Spurrell
SLP	Kathrin Pader & Ruth Woodworth
AWARDS	Jennifer O'Donnell & Francisca Morneau-Rouleau
COMPLAINTS	Theresa McVea
FINANCE	Melanie Chiasson
LEGISLATION	Michelle Lanteigne
MEMBERSHIP	Mary Blunston
PUBLIC RELATIONS	Elizabeth Arseneau
TRANSLATION	Bernise Hachey
NEWSLETTER	Sarah Feltmate

Do you see those spots that say  
vacant? You should fill one!

Do you see all those committees?  
We'd love volunteers!



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## A message from the editor

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As winter continues and we burrow deeper and deeper into our homes behind huge snowbanks, even a winter-lover like me begins to yearn for spring. Preparing the winter ECHO has been a reminder that spring, namely May, is right around the corner, and we all know what that means: May Month! While we



all spend our days helping our patients and clients *speak well, hear well, and live well*, May is the month we get to celebrate our contribution while raising awareness in the general population to further help our past, current, and future patients and clients live even better through greater community understanding. Have a look at [MayMonth.ca](http://MayMonth.ca) for materials and resources to start getting ready. Send me pictures and stories so I can let our members see what's being done across the province in the next ECHO! See you in the spring!

—Sarah Feltmate

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## PUBLISHING INFORMATION

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**ECHO** is a publication of the New Brunswick Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists. Echo is published three times yearly. The newsletter is a benefit of membership distributed to all NBASLPA members. A yearly subscription may be purchased by non-members.

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### SUBMISSIONS / ENQUIRIES

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Letters to the Editor, commentaries, and other submissions (including photos) are welcome. The Editorial Board reserves the right to edit submissions for length and clarity. Please forward submissions to:  
[communicationnb@gmail.com](mailto:communicationnb@gmail.com)

NEXT SUBMISSION DEADLINE:

May 31, 2015

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### ADVERTISING

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Employment and business advertisements will be published according to the fee schedule below. Educational opportunities are advertised free of charge.

Fees must be received prior to publication. A copy of the newsletter containing the advertisement will be sent to the advertising agency at their request.

Employment advertisements should contain position title, duties, qualifications, salary, and contact information.

All advertising submissions may be edited to conform to space purchased.

For more information, please contact Diane DeCoste at the NBASLPA office.

Cheques made payable to: NBASLPA

Employment and business ad fee schedule:	
business card	\$25.00
quarter page	\$50.00
half page	\$100.00
full page	\$200.00

business card	\$25.00
quarter page	\$50.00
half page	\$100.00
full page	\$200.00