STATE OF ARKANSAS
Board of Hearing Instrument Dispensers

4815 West Markham Street, Slot 2
Little Rock, AR 72205
Phone: (501) 661-2051
ar.hid.board@arkansas.gov

Thursday, January 8, 2026, at 10:30 am

Meeting Minutes

Attendees Present

- Nathan Darby, Vice Chair, Licensed Hearing Instrument Dispenser
- Kerry Shuffield, Secretary/Treasurer, Licensed Hearing Instrument Dispenser
- Timothy Kajdan, Consumer Representative
- Dr. Kelley Linton, Audiologist
- Phillip Powell, Consumer Representative

Board Members Absent:

- Vicki Howard, Chair, Licensed Hearing Instrument Dispenser

Others Present:

- Melissa Turner, Board Administrator
- Aaron Lowery, Assistant Attorney General-Arkansas Attorney General's Office

A quorum was established.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by the Board Vice Chair Nathan Darby at 10:30 a.m.

The Board financials were reviewed. Motion to approve the financials as presented was made by Kerri Shuffield and seconded by Dr. Linton. All approved.

Three reciprocity applications were presented for review.

Reciprocity Application #1: Application was incomplete, no tympanometry documentation and equipment was not listed. The applicant will be issued a temporary license to be dated January 19. Pending receipt of a complete application and tympanometry documentation the applicant will take the practical testing on April 17. Kerry Shuffield made a motion the application is incomplete and will be sent back to the applicant to complete and will be picked up again in April. Dr. Linton seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Reciprocity Application #2: Application did not have a phone number, and the transcript was not original as evidenced by it was not signed by the Registrar. The applicant will be issued a temporary license to be dated January 19. Pending receipt of a signed original transcript the applicant will take the practical testing on April 17. Kerry Shuffield made a motion to accept the application pending receipt of a signed official transcript. Dr. Linton seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Reciprocity Application #3: The board members had questions about the applicant's information and whether the applicant intends to practice virtually. The applicant will be issued a temporary license to be dated January 19. Pending satisfactory responses to the questions the applicant will take the practical testing on April 17. Kerry Shuffield made a motion the application be tabled unit the April 17 meeting.

Continuing Education Approvals:
The Board reviewed the continuing education course materials provided by Arkansas Hearing Society for the annual meeting and Starkey Laboratories.

Kerry Shuffield made a motion to not approve Documentation Compliance, Contract Conflicts with Patient Choices, and Guide to a Better Case History. Phillip Powell seconded the motion. Motion passed.

After discussion, the Board concluded that accessories for connecting with the patient's device or better hearing will be approved.

Course Provider	Course Name	CEU	Eligible Dates	Approved/ Not Approved
Arkansas Hearing Society	Strategies for Fitting Complex Hearing Losses	1.25	4/17/2026-5/17/2026	Approved
Arkansas Hearing Society	Exploring Bluetooth LE Audio and What's Next	1.0	4/17/2026-5/17/2026	Approved
Arkansas Hearing Society	Oh, the Distortion Length	1.5	4/17/2026-4/18/2026	Approved
Arkansas Hearing Society	Arkansas Ethics	1.0	4/17/2026-4/18/2026	Approved
Arkansas Hearing Society	Documentation Compliance	1.0		**Not Approved**
Arkansas Hearing Society	Contract Conflicts with Patient Choices	1.0		**Not Approved**
Arkansas Hearing Society	Debunking Hearing Aid Selection and Fitting Misconceptions	1.0	4/17/2026-4/18/2026	Approved
Arkansas Hearing Society	Guide to a Better Case History	1.0		**Not Approved**
Arkansas Hearing Society	Clinical Implementation of Self-Assessment Scales and Outcome Measures	1.0	4/17/2026-4/18/2026	Approved
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	26.27.01 Mastering the Power of Product Knowledge	0.1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	26.28.015 Navigating the Hearing Frontier			
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Sec 1 The Architecture of Personalized Sound	0.15	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	26.29.02 Quality in Product Mastery			

Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Sec 1 Quality in Technology that Transforms	0.1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Sec 2 From Software Basics to Confident Fittings	0.1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	26.30.03 Product Knowledge in Practice			
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Sec 1 Translating Technology into Care	1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Sec 2 Mastering the Impact of Product Features	1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Sec 3 Elevate Your Programming Precision	1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	26.31.04 Empowering Practice Through Technology			
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Sec 1 Elevate Care Through Product Mastery	1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Sec 2 Maximizing Impact Through Feature Mastery	1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Sec 3 Elevating Your Connectivity Skills	1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Sec 4 Exploring the Power of Fitting Software	1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	26.32.02 Mastery in Product Strategy			
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Sec 1 Shaping Success in Product Management	1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Sec 2 Converting Technology into Therapeutic Impact	1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	26.33.02 Empowering Clinicians with Technology Tools			
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Sec 1 From Innovation to Implementation	1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Sec 2 Enhancing Performance Through Feature Mastery	1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Sec 3 Mastering the Art of Hearing Aid Fitting	1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	26.33.03 Empowering Clinicians with Technology Tools			
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Sec 1 Translating Product Knowledge into Patient Success	1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Ses 2 Optimizing the Impact of Hearing Aid Features	1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved

Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Ses 3 Harnessing the Power of Connectivity	1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Ses 4 Using Software Solutions to Elevate Care	1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	26.35.06 Confidence in Hearing Care Solutions			
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Ses 1Building Confidence with Hearing Aids	1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Ses 2 Making the Most of Hearing Aid Technology	1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Ses 3 Boosting Patient Results with Innovative Software	1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Ses 4 Optimizing Patient Care via Software	1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Ses 5 Enhancing Patient Lives with Connectivity	1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Ses 6 Smart Software for Better Patient Outcomes	1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	26.36.09 Hearing Solutions in Practice			
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Ses 1 The Power to Hear More	1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Ses 2 Targeted Strategies for Maximizing Success	1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Ses 3 Closing the Divid: Pathways to Improved Hearing	1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Ses 4 Leveraging Technology for Patient Success	1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Ses 5 Software Strategies for Enhanced Clinical Outcomes	1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	26.37.09 Fostering Confidence in Hearing Care			
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Ses 1 Living Boldly with Hearing Solutions	1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Ses 2 Maximizing Outcomes with Feature-Based Strategies	1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Ses 3 Paving the Way to Better Hearing	1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Ses 4 Innovation to Enhance Patient Care	1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Ses 5 Driving Better Outcomes with Digital Tools	1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved

Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Ses 6 AI-Powered Tools for Advancing Patient Care	1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Ses 11 Identifying Care Gaps and Needs	1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	26.40.01 Wireless Innovations in Hearing Care			
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Ses 1 Seamless Sound: Wireless Solutions for Hearing Aids	1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	26.42.01 Fitting Challenges: Real-World Solutions			
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Ses 1 Solving Fitting Issues: Case-Based Learning	1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	26.81.01 Bringing Products and Features to Life			
Starkey Laboratories Inc.	Ses 1 Delivering Features and Accessories for Lasting Impact	1	4/01/2026-06/30/2026	Approved

A virtual meeting to approve additional CEUs from the Arkansas Hearing Society has been scheduled for February 27 at 5:00.

A discussion was held with Mr. Aaron Lowery with the Attorney General's Office regarding the process necessary to change the rules and or the law regarding Hearing Instrument Dispensers. Board rules cannot add to, take away or change the statute in any way. The statue will always trump the rules. Any rule that coordinates with CEUs has to fall under the general category of testing and fitting. To include something else would necessitate a change in the statute.

Motion made by Dr. Kelley Linton to adjourn the meeting; motion seconded by Timothy Kajdan; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 12:05 pm.