

Leading Perspective: Thoughts from the Chair



Claire Covert-ByBee
Chair
Nebraska

We are truly on the brink of something extraordinary. After years of vision, planning, and collective effort, the ASLP Compact is nearing full implementation, and I couldn't be more excited to share this moment with you. Our member state boards have been the driving force behind this progress, and because of this dedication, we are now poised to launch a new era of licensure portability for audiologists and speech-language pathologists.

CompactConnect, our secure data platform, is nearing launch, bringing a streamlined and efficient process to life. This system will allow states to verify licensure status, grant privileges to practice across state lines, and maintain strong communication, all in real time. It's a vital piece of infrastructure that turns the Compact from concept into action, and it continues to grow in functionality and impact.

As we stand at the edge of this exciting next phase, the anticipation is real and well earned. With more states preparing to implement and more professionals ready to engage, we're about to see the ASLP Compact deliver on its promise: expanded access to care, reduced administrative burdens, and stronger support for our workforce. Thank you for your continued commitment and leadership. The future is just around the corner, and it looks incredibly bright.

I'd also like to take a moment to recognize and thank the many individuals working tirelessly behind the scenes, many of which you'll hear from later in this newsletter. From IT specialists and policy experts to administrative staff, legal advisors, and stakeholder consultants—your dedication and long hours have been essential to getting us to this point. Your work often happens out of the spotlight, but it's been the backbone of our progress. We see you, we appreciate you, and we're grateful for your contributions every step of the way.

Warmest regards,

Claire Covert-ByBee

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Guiding Principals: Notes from the Executive Director

Lesley Edwards-Gaither, Executive Director

In my first 60 days as Executive Director of the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact Commission (ASLP-ICC), I've focused on building relationships, supporting compact states, and strengthening the foundation of the important work already accomplished.

During my first few weeks in this role, I've learned the power of clear communication—drawing on my years of experience as a clinician and professor. I've also realized that I have much to learn! Becoming a subject-matter expert (SME) on the ASLP-IC will take time. I don't have a textbook to rely on, but there's a wealth of history to draw upon.

I'm fortunate to be part of a brilliant team of individuals who are diligently working on behalf of their states and collectively for the Compact. I've met with the Executive Directors of the Occupational Therapy and Counseling Compacts, gaining valuable insights and fostering collaboration across professions.

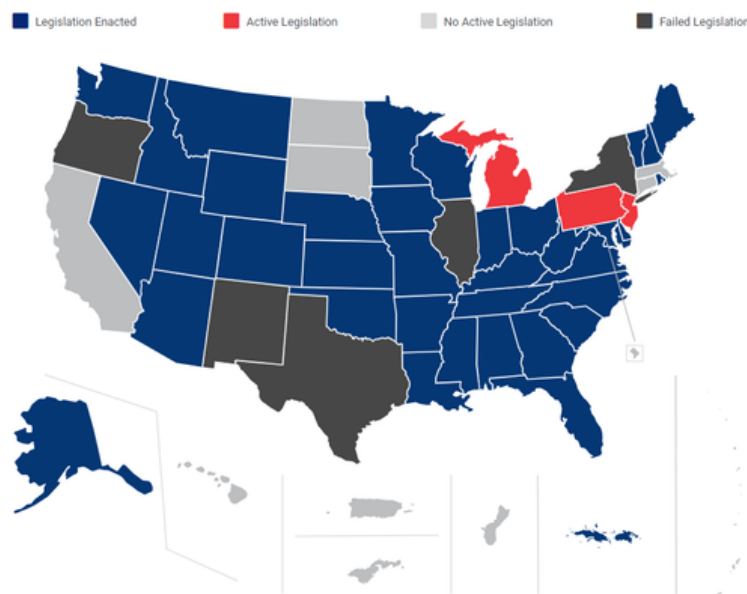
Our data system developers and partners provide challenging queries, all with practitioners in mind as we make important decisions, shaping the process to obtain compact privileges. A key focus of my work has been helping states navigate the CompactConnect onboarding process and customizing it specifically for ASLP-IC member states to ensure clarity, consistency, and readiness.

It's been a productive and energizing start, and I'm continually impressed by the progress that preceded my tenure. I look forward to the weeks ahead by supporting our member states and achieving the goal of issuing compact privileges.

Updates from the States

Susan Adams, Legislative Liaison

Thus far in 2025, two states have adopted the ASLP-IC legislation: Arizona and Nevada, bringing the total number of jurisdictions to 37. Legislation remains active in several additional states. We aim to continue adding states and to the ASLP-IC until we become truly national in scope. The most current map of member states can always be found at: <https://aslpcompact.com/compact-map/>.



Legal Corner

Nahale Kalfas, General Counsel

We are entering an exciting phase of compact development as we prepare to operationalize the ASLP-IC early this fall. Though the ability of each member state to onboard presently is varied, we must stay focused on our legal duty to implement the ASLP-IC according to its terms in accordance with legislative directive through enactment of the ASLP-IC in each of our member states. The best way to comply with this requirement is to ensure that your state is moving swiftly through the member state onboarding checklist. (<https://aslpcompact.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/State-Onboarding-for-CompactConnect-July-25.pdf>) The recent promulgation of the Rule on Implementation of Criminal Background Check Requirement (<https://aslpcompact.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/ASLP-IC-Rule-on-Implementation-of-Criminal-Background-Check-Requirement-CURRENT.pdf>) enables member states to onboard without an FBI CBC in place, but only if they meet all other requirements of the rule and recognize that an FBI CBC must be required of all compact participants once a member state is able to conduct the FBI CBC. Additionally, we have heard concern in recent member state onboarding meetings that certain reporting requirements cannot be met due to member state law preventing the reporting of that information. Section 14.B gives member states the authority they need to provide information required by ASLP-IC law and rule as it specifically states that "All laws in a member state in conflict with the Compact are superseded to the extent of the conflict".

As your general counsel, I remain available to answer your questions and provide the support you need to move confidently toward implementation in your state. I deeply appreciate all the work member states and delegates have done thus far, and I look forward to assisting you as we move forward together in providing much needed greater access to safe and competent care.



Isabel Eliassen, CompactConnect Project Manager

I am excited to announce we have completed our last major feature in CompactConnect - adverse actions. For the next few weeks, the remaining work will be focused on minor tweaks to ensure the system is ready to go live. Our biggest hurdle at this time is helping states through the onboarding process. We are happy to have 1:1 meetings with state administrators and IT staff to walk you through the system. For states that want to be a part of the initial launch, we request that your data is tested in the CompactConnect Beta Environment by August 31.

States that are ready to onboard, should view the onboarding checklist at: <https://aslpcompact.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/State-Onboarding-for-CompactConnect-July-25.pdf> and reach out to legaither@aslp.com. Questions from the public should be sent to info@aslpcompact.com.

The project is supported by the American Counseling Association, American Occupational Therapy Association, American Speech–Language–Hearing Association, Department of Defense, National Board for Certified Counselors, and the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy.

Please visit <https://compactconnect.org/> for more information about this joint initiative and to view demo videos.



News from the Rules Committee

Gregg Thornton, Chair

Since the last newsletter, the Committee has worked on the following rules and bylaws, which were approved at the Commission's Special Meeting on July 1, 2024 and June 30, 2025. The Committee has also proposed a rule amendment for approval at the Commission's annual meeting scheduled for September 20, 2025.

Bylaws Approved at the Special Commission Meeting on July 1, 2024

- Amendments to the Commission bylaws included general clean-up of language for clarity and organization. Other amendments included filling vacant positions for the additional five delegates who are either a public member or board administrator.

Rules Approved at the Special Commission Meeting on June 20, 2025

- New rule on Fees
 - Sets the Commission administrative fee at \$50.00 to be paid by the licensee to the Commission for each state in which a Privilege to Practice that is requested in addition to each individual State's Fee.
 - Member States may establish their State Fee in accordance with the Member State's required processes to be paid by the licensee to the Commission. The Commission shall remit to the Member State 100% of the State Fee.
- Amended ASLP-IC Rule on Implementation of Criminal Background Check Requirement
 - Clarified that the Home state must implement or utilize procedures to obtain the FBI and Home state's criminal records, for applicants within their Home state who are applying for their initial, e.g., very first time, privilege to practice in one or more states under the ASLP-IC.
 - Amended the timeframe for member states to implement criminal background checks and exceptions for legal impossibility for states meeting the criminal background check requirement.

Rules Proposed for the Commission Annual Business Meeting on September 20, 2025

- Proposed amendment to the Rule on Dataset reporting requirements
 - Proposed amendment to the dataset reporting requirements to allow member states to report National Practitioner Identifier as accommodated by CompactConnect

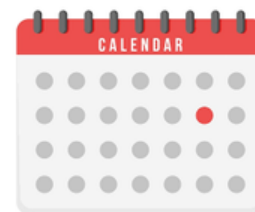
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

The Committee continued to add more frequently asked questions which are available on the Commission's website. The additional FAQs included questions related to how the Commission's Administrative Fee was determined.

Save the Date

Annual Business Meeting

September 20, 2025 at 1:00 PM ET
Hybrid/Mount Pleasant, South Carolina
Register to attend: <https://www.ncsb.info/event-6211507>



Executive Committee Meetings

4th Monday of the month at 4:00 PM ET

Rules Committee Meetings

2nd Thursday of the month at 3:00 PM ET

Finance Committee Meetings

As needed

Find meeting information at: <https://aslpcompact.com/meetings/>

