



Speech-Language Pathology

NATIONAL GUIDELINES

The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) has established standards for the Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology (CCC-SLP).

For more information on these important regulations, please see:

<https://www.asha.org/certification/2020-slp-certification-standards/>

The 2020 Standards for CCC-SLP are summarized below and follow the information available on:

STANDARD I: DEGREE

Applicant for CCC-SLP must have a master's, doctoral, or other recognized post-baccalaureate degree.

STANDARD II: EDUCATION PROGRAM

All graduate coursework and graduate clinical experience required in speech-language pathology must have been initiated and completed in a CAA-accredited program or in a program with CAA candidacy status. Individuals educated outside the United States or its territories must submit documentation that course work was completed in an institution of higher education that is regionally accredited or recognized by the appropriate regulatory authority for that country.

STANDARD III: PROGRAM OF STUDY

The applicant must have completed a program of study (a minimum of 36 semester credit hours at the graduate level) that includes academic coursework and supervised clinical experience sufficient in depth and breadth to achieve the specified knowledge and skills outcomes stipulated in Standards IV-A through IV-G and Standards V-A through V-C.

STANDARD IV (A-H): KNOWLEDGE OUTCOMES

The applicant must have demonstrated knowledge of statistics as well as the biological, physical, and social/behavioral sciences.

The applicant must have demonstrated knowledge of basic human communication and swallowing processes, including the appropriate biological, neurological, acoustic, psychological, developmental, and linguistic and cultural bases. The applicant must have demonstrated the ability to integrate information pertaining to normal and abnormal human development across the lifespan.

The applicant must have demonstrated knowledge of communication and swallowing disorders and differences, including the appropriate etiologies, characteristics, anatomical/physiological, acoustic, psychological, developmental, and linguistic and cultural correlated in the following areas: articulation; fluency; voice and resonance, including respiration and phonation; receptive and expressive language in speaking, listening, reading, writing; hearing, including the impact on speech and language; swallowing; cognitive aspects of communication; social aspects of communication; augmentative and alternative communication modalities. It is expected that course work addressing the professional knowledge specified above will occur primarily at the graduate level.

The applicant must have demonstrated current knowledge of the principles and methods of prevention, assessment, and intervention for people with communication and swallowing disorders, including consideration of anatomical/physiological, psychological, developmental, and linguistic and cultural correlates.

The applicant must have demonstrated knowledge of standards of ethical conduct.

The applicant must have demonstrated knowledge of processes used in research and of the integration of research principles into evidence-based clinical practice.

The applicant must have demonstrated knowledge of contemporary professional issues.

The applicant must have demonstrated knowledge of entry level and advanced certifications, licensure, and other relevant professional credentials, as well as local, state, and national regulations and policies relevant to professional practice.

STANDARD V (A-F): SKILLS OUTCOMES

The applicant must have demonstrated skills in oral and written or other forms of communication sufficient for entry into professional practice.

The applicant for certification must have completed a program of study that included experiences sufficient in breadth and depth to achieve the following skills outcomes: evaluation, intervention, and interaction and personal qualities.

The applicant for CCC-SLP must complete a minimum of 400 clock hours of supervised clinical experience in the practice of SLP. Twenty-five hours must be spent in clinical observation, and 375 hours must be spent in direct client/patient contact. Applicants should be assigned practicum only after they have acquired sufficient knowledge bases to qualify for such experience. At least 325 of the 400 clock hours must be completed while the applicant is engaged in graduate study in a program accredited in SLP by CAA.

Supervision must be provided by individuals who hold CCC-SLP. has completed (1) a minimum of 9 months of full-time clinical experience (or its part-time equivalent), and (2) a minimum of 2 hours of professional development in clinical instruction/supervision. The amount of direct supervision (which must be in real time) must be commensurate with the student's knowledge, skills, and experience; must not be less than 25% of the student's total contact with each client/patient; and must take place periodically throughout the practicum. Supervision must be sufficient to ensure the welfare of the client/patient.

Supervised practicum must include experience with client/patient populations across the life span and from culturally/linguistically diverse backgrounds. Practicum must include experience with client/patient populations with various types and severities of communication and/or related disorders, differences, and disabilities.

STANDARD VI: ASSESSMENT

The applicant must have passed the national Praxis examination adopted by ASHA for purposes of certification in SLP. The certification standards require that a passing exam score be earned no earlier than 5 years prior to the submission of the application and no later than 2 years following receipt of the application. If the exam is not successfully passed and reported within the 2-year application period, the applicant's certification file will be closed. If the exam is passed or reported at a later date, then the applicant will be required to reapply for certification under the standards in effect at that time.

STANDARD VII: SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP

The Clinical Fellowship (CF) can begin only after all graduate coursework and clinical requirements are completed. It must start within 24 months of the certification application date and be finished within 48 months of initiation. All CF experiences tied to the application must be completed within this 48-month period and submitted to ASHA within 90 days after the deadline. CF experiences older than 5 years will not be accepted.

The CF must be mentored by a qualified SLP who meets ASHA's Standard VII-B. It is the Clinical Fellow's responsibility to confirm the mentor's eligibility before and during the CF. Credit will only be granted for periods when the mentor meets all qualifications. Family members or relatives cannot serve as mentors.

The CF must have consisted of clinical service activities that foster the continued growth and integration of knowledge, skills, and tasks of clinical practice in SLP consistent with ASHA's current Scope of Practice in SLP. The CF must have consisted of no less than 36 weeks of full-time professional experience or its part-time equivalent.

The Clinical Fellow must have received ongoing mentoring and formal evaluations by the CF mentor. The Clinical fellow must have demonstrated knowledge and skills consistent with the ability to practice independently. In addition, upon completion of the CF, the applicant must have demonstrated the ability to perform clinical activities accurately, consistently, and independently and to seek guidance as necessary.

STANDARD VIII: MAINTENANCE OF CERTIFICATION

Certificate holders must demonstrate continued professional development for maintenance of the CCC-SLP (30 certification maintenance hours of professional development during every 3-year maintenance interval).