



CSD Master of Science Graduate Program Frequently Asked Questions

Q: I don't have an undergraduate degree in communication disorders or speech pathology. Do I have to complete all of the undergraduate prerequisite courses before applying to the graduate program?

A. No. You can apply and be accepted into the graduate program before completing the required undergraduate courses. You would complete the undergraduate courses before beginning graduate coursework. Non-background students will take a total of eight undergraduate prerequisite courses (24 credit hours). These prerequisite courses can be taken as a full-time graduate student. Students without a background will likely complete the program in approximately 3 years.

Students in this category should contact the Financial Aid office to ask about what support may or may not be available.

Q: Might I have coursework deficiencies to make up?

A: Most students with an undergraduate degree in Communication Sciences & Disorders will have the necessary ASHA basic coursework. ASHA certification policy requires at least one 3-credit, undergraduate course in each of the following areas: **physical science (chemistry, physics), biological science, statistics, and social/behavioral science.** If the student has not completed these courses, then the student will be required to take additional coursework.

Q: Is the CSD graduate program accredited?

A: Yes. Southeastern's Master of Science (MS) program in speech-language pathology is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation for Audiology and speech-language pathology (CAA) of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA).

Q: Do you have a graduate program in audiology?

A: No, however Southeastern's graduate faculty includes a certified audiologist who is committed to preparing SLPs who can successfully implement all hearing-related aspects of their scope of practice. Collaboration with audiologists is encouraged.

Q: How do I apply for admission to Southeastern's MS program in speech-language pathology?

A: Use the online application at the following link:

<http://www.southeastern.edu/apply/graduate/index.html>

This form is used to apply to BOTH Southeastern Louisiana University AND the

Communication Sciences & Disorders program within the Department of Health and Human Sciences.

Q: When should I apply?

A: Southeastern's MS program in speech-language pathology has two application cycles per year. The deadline for fall admission is March 1. The deadline for spring admission is October 1st. Students currently enrolled in undergraduate programs may apply during their final undergraduate semester.

Q: What are the admission requirements for Southeastern's MS program in speech-language pathology?

A: The minimum requirements for consideration are located at the following link:
http://www.southeastern.edu/acad_research/depts/hhs/grad_prg/csd/admissions/index.html

Q: Can I apply if I do not meet the minimum requirements?

A: Your application will not be considered if you do not meet the minimum requirements.

Q: Where can I find the letter of reference forms?

A: Letter of reference forms are available for download at this link:
http://www.southeastern.edu/acad_research/depts/hhs/grad_prg/csd/admissions/index.html
Please click the "Letters of Reference Forms" link under **4. Letter of Reference**

Q: Where do I find the stimulus for the writing sample?

A: A 1-2 page writing sample with standard formatting should be submitted in response to the posted writing prompt.
http://www.southeastern.edu/acad_research/depts/hhs/grad_prg/csd/admissions/index.html
Please click the Writing Sample link under **5. Writing Sample**.

Q: Does admission to the MS program in the Communication Sciences & Disorders program require an interview?

A: No, but we will gladly meet with prospective students. To schedule a visit, contact graduate assistant (psga6227@selu.edu) or 985-549-2214.

Q: How much is tuition?

A: Learn about tuition and fees at the following link:
<http://www.southeastern.edu/admin/controller/tuition/index.html>

Q: May I apply if my undergraduate degree was not in speech-language pathology? A:

Yes, students from other degree programs are encouraged to apply.

Q: How many people apply each year?

A: During the past 3 years, approximately 180-200 individuals have applied each year. Approximately 80% of applicants meet the minimum criteria for consideration.

Q: How many applicants are admitted each year?

A: Approximately 30 individuals per year are admitted to Southeastern's MS program in speech-language pathology.

Q: How many students are in the graduate program?

A: At any given time, there are approximately 65 graduate students in the Communication Sciences & Disorders program, at various stages of completion.

Q: Where should I send my application materials?

A: Applications, fees, transcripts, immunization records, and GRE scores should be sent to Southeastern Louisiana University, Office of Admissions, Box 10752, Hammond, LA 70402, Attention: Ms. Amanda Harper.

Letter of Reference and any supplemental materials should be sent to Southeastern Louisiana University, Program of Communication Sciences and Disorders, Attention: Graduate Coordinator, Box 10879, Hammond, LA 70402.

Q: Will you contact me if parts of my application packet are missing?

A: The Office of Admissions will attempt to contact you if materials are missing from your file. **However, it is the student's responsibility to ensure that all materials reach Southeastern by the deadline of your targeted admission cycle (March 1st or October 1st of any year).** To inquire about applications, fees, transcripts, GRE scores or immunization records, contact Ms. Rebecca Herbert at 985-549-5910 or rherbert@southeastern.edu

To inquire about letters of reference, contact the CSD Graduate Assistant or Dr. Paula S. Currie, CSD Graduate Coordinator, at pcurrie@selu.edu

Q: What does "Alternate Status" mean?

A: Sometimes, due to limited openings in the program, the CSD Graduate Admissions Committee is unable to offer regular admission to all suitable applicants. If you receive notification that you have been selected as an alternate, this means that the committee would like to offer you regular admission if an opening becomes available. Alternates will be notified within 4-6 weeks of the original letter.

Q: Is it possible to attend Southeastern's MS program in Speech-language pathology part time?

A: No. The current graduate curriculum is completed in a two-year time period.

Q: Are classes offered in the evening or during the day?

A: Each semester, both daytime and evening classes are offered. (For non-background students, undergraduate prerequisite courses are typically offered during the day only.) Clinical practica take place during the day.

Q: Are classes offered online?

A: Very few classes are 100% online. Periodically, some classes may be offered in a hybrid (on-line and face-to-face) format.

Q: How long is the program?

A: Students with a speech-language pathology background typically finish in two and one-half years including summers. Non-background students typically finish in three and one-half years including summers.

Q: What are the opportunities for clinical experience?

A: Graduate students will acquire one or two semesters of practicum experience in Southeastern's Speech-Language-Hearing Clinic under the close supervision of our full time, certified clinical faculty. Intermediate and advanced clinical training occurs in the field. Southeastern has contracts with numerous hospitals, rehabilitation facilities, school systems, nursing homes and outpatient clinics within a 60-mile radius of campus. Student clinicians will experience one field-based placement dedicated to pediatrics, one dedicated to adults, and a final, advanced "specialty clinic" intended to allow the student to explore the population and/or clinical environment of her/his choice. University liaisons work closely with field-based supervisors to ensure that each student meets/exceeds the quantity and diversity of contact hours required by ASHA for certification.

Q: Does your program provide financial assistance?

A: No. However, applicants may visit the following link for financial assistance information regarding loans and scholarships: http://www.southeastern.edu/admin/fin_aid/

In addition, graduate assistantship (GA) positions are available in departments campus-wide to students admitted with regular graduate status. These are student jobs that require 20 hours of work per week. These positions provide a tuition waiver (including out-of-state) plus a small monthly stipend.

To learn more, access the following links:

http://www.southeastern.edu/acad_research/programs/grad_school/financial_aid/grad_asst/index.html and https://jobs.selu.edu/applicants/jsp/shared/Welcome_css.jsp or contact the Human Resources Office at 985-549-2308.

Q: Does Southeastern have its own chapter of the National Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association (NSSLHA)?

A: Yes. Southeastern's NSSLHA chapter is well known for its dedication to the professional development of its members. Attending the annual ASHA convention is a priority, and members typically seek/receive financial support from their academic college, department, student government association, and various other campus and community entities. Our NSSLHA chapter also regularly engages master clinicians and other professionals to lecture on topics of specific interest. In 2004, Southeastern's NSSLHA chapter was honored as National Chapter of the Year. For more information access the following link:

http://www.southeastern.edu/acad_research/depts/hhs/ug_prg/csd/stud_org/

Q: Who should I contact if I have a specific question not addressed in this FAQ? A:

Contact CSD Graduate Coordinator Dr. Paula S. Currie at pcurrie@selu.edu or 985549-2214.