

Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders Speech-Language Pathology Certification Requirements

Accreditation Statement



The Master of Science program in speech-language pathology at Rockhurst University is accredited by the [Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology \(CAA\)](#) of the [American Speech-Language-Hearing Association](#), 2200 Research Boulevard #310, Rockville, Maryland 20850, 800-498-2071 or 301-296-5700.

Speech-Language Pathology Certification Standards-Current

2014 Standards and Implementation Procedures for the Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology

Effective Date: September 1, 2014

Revised Date: March 1, 2016

<https://www.asha.org/Certification/2014-Speech-Language-Pathology-Certification-Standards/>

Introduction

The Council for Clinical Certification in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CFCC) is a semi-autonomous credentialing body of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. The charges to the CFCC are: to define the standards for clinical certification; to apply those standards in granting certification to individuals; to have final authority to withdraw certification in cases where certification has been granted on the basis of inaccurate information; and to administer the certification maintenance program.

A Practice and Curriculum Analysis of the Profession of Speech-Language Pathology was conducted in 2009 under the auspices of the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CAA) and the CFCC. The survey analysis was reviewed by the CFCC, and the following standards were developed to better fit current practice models.

The 2014 standards and implementation procedures for the Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology are now in effect as of September 1, 2014. View the [SLP Standards Crosswalk](#) [PDF] for more specific information on how the standards have changed.

Citation

Council for Clinical Certification in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. (2013). 2014 Standards for the Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology. Retrieved [date] from <http://www.asha.org/Certification/2014-Speech-Language-Pathology-Certification-Standards/>.

2016 Revisions

Revision 1: Implementation Language to Standard V-B (new paragraphs 3 and 4) – Expanded definition of supervised clinical experiences:

These experiences should allow students to:

- interpret, integrate, and synthesize core concepts and knowledge;
- demonstrate appropriate professional and clinical skills; and
- incorporate critical thinking and decision-making skills while engaged in identification, evaluation, diagnosis, planning, implementation, and/or intervention.

Alternative clinical experiences may include the use of standardized patients and simulation technologies (e.g., standardized patients, virtual patients, digitized mannequins, immersive reality, task trainers, computer-based interactive).

Revision 2: Implementation Language to Standard V-C (additions to paragraph 2) – Acceptance of clinical simulation for up to 20% (75 hours) of direct client hours:

Up to 20% (i.e., 75 hours) of direct contact hours may be obtained through clinical simulation (CS) methods. Only the time spent in active engagement with the CS may be counted. CS may include the use of standardized patients and simulation technologies (e.g., standardized patients, virtual patients, digitized mannequins, immersive reality, task trainers, computer-based interactive). Debriefing activities may not be included.

Revision 3: Implementation Language to Standard VII (addition to paragraph 1) – Clinical fellowship (CF) report due date:

Applicants whose CF report is not reported to ASHA within 90 days after the 48-month timeframe will have their application closed.

The Standards for the Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology are shown in bold. The Council for Clinical Certification implementation procedures follow each standard.

- [Standard I—Degree](#)
- [Standard II—Education Program](#)
- [Standard III—Program of Study](#)
- [Standard IV—Knowledge Outcomes](#)
- [Standard V—Skills Outcomes](#)
- [Standard VI—Assessment](#)
- [Standard VII—Speech-Language Pathology Clinical Fellowship](#)
- [Standard VIII—Maintenance of Certification](#)

Standard I: Degree

The applicant for certification must have a master's, doctoral, or other recognized post-baccalaureate degree.

Standard II: Education Program

All graduate course work and graduate clinical experience required in speech-language pathology must have been initiated and completed in a speech-language pathology program accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CAA).

Standard III: Program of Study

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

Standard IV: Knowledge Outcomes

Standard IV-A

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

Academic advisors are strongly encouraged to enroll students in [courses in the biological, physical, and the social/behavioral sciences](#) in content areas that will assist students in acquiring the basic principles in social, cultural, cognitive, behavioral, physical, physiological, and anatomical areas useful to understanding the communication/linguistic sciences and disorders.

Standard IV-B

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 life span.

Standard IV-C

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 correlates in the following areas:

- articulation;
- fluency;
- voice and resonance, including respiration and phonation;
- receptive and expressive language (phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, pragmatics, prelinguistic communication and paralinguistic communication) in speaking, listening, reading, writing;

- hearing, including the impact on speech and language;
- swallowing (oral, pharyngeal, esophageal, and related functions, including oral function for feeding, orofacial myology);
- cognitive aspects of communication (attention, memory, sequencing, problem-solving, executive functioning);
- social aspects of communication (including challenging behavior, ineffective social skills, and lack of communication opportunities);
- augmentative and alternative communication modalities.

Standard IV-D

For each of the areas specified in Standard IV-C, 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.**

Standard IV-E

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

Standard IV-F

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

Standard IV-G

The applicant must have demonstrated knowledge of contemporary professional issues.

Standard IV-H

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: Skills Outcomes

Standard V-A

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

Standard V-B

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:

1. Evaluation

- a. Conduct screening and prevention procedures (including prevention activities).
- b. Collect case history information and integrate information from clients/patients, family, caregivers, teachers, and relevant others, including other professionals.
- c. Select and administer appropriate evaluation procedures, such as behavioral observations, nonstandardized and standardized tests, and instrumental procedures.
- d. Adapt evaluation procedures to meet client/patient needs.
- e. Interpret, integrate, and synthesize all information to develop diagnoses and make appropriate recommendations for intervention.
- f. Complete administrative and reporting functions necessary to support evaluation.
- g. Refer clients/patients for appropriate services.

2. Intervention

- a. Develop setting-appropriate intervention plans with measurable and achievable goals that meet clients'/patients' needs. Collaborate with clients/patients and relevant others in the planning process.
- b. Implement intervention plans (involve clients/patients and relevant others in the intervention process).
- c. Select or develop and use appropriate materials and instrumentation for prevention and intervention.
- d. Measure and evaluate clients'/patients' performance and progress.
- e. Modify intervention plans, strategies, materials, or instrumentation as appropriate to meet the needs of clients/patients.
- f. Complete administrative and reporting functions necessary to support intervention.
- g. Identify and refer clients/patients for services as appropriate.

3. Interaction and Personal Qualities

- a. Communicate effectively, recognizing the needs, values, preferred mode of communication, and cultural/linguistic background of the client/patient, family, caregivers, and relevant others.
- b. Collaborate with other professionals in case management.
- c. Provide counseling regarding communication and swallowing disorders to clients/patients, family, caregivers, and relevant others.
- d. Adhere to the ASHA Code of Ethics and behave professionally.

Standard V-C

The applicant for certification in speech-language pathology must complete a minimum of 400 clock hours of supervised clinical experience in the practice of speech-language pathology. Twenty-five hours must be spent in clinical observation, and 375 hours must be spent in direct client/patient contact.

Standard V-D

At least 325 of the 400 clock hours must be completed while the applicant is engaged in graduate study in a program accredited in speech-language pathology by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology.

Standard V-E

Supervision must be provided by individuals who hold the Certificate of Clinical Competence in the appropriate profession. The amount of direct supervision 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.

Standard V-F

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 examination adopted by ASHA for purposes of certification in speech-language pathology.

Standard VII: Speech-Language Pathology Clinical Fellowship

The applicant must successfully complete a Speech-Language Pathology Clinical Fellowship (CF).

Standard VII-A: Clinical Fellowship Experience

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

Standard VII-B: Clinical Fellowship Mentorship

The Clinical Fellow must have received ongoing mentoring and formal evaluations by the CF mentor.

Standard VII-C: Clinical Fellowship Outcomes

The Clinical Fellow must have demonstrated knowledge and skills consistent with the ability to practice independently.

Standard VIII: Maintenance of Certification

Certificate holders must demonstrate continued professional development for maintenance of the Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology (CCC-SLP).

Speech-Language Pathology Certification Standards-New effective January 2020.

See new standards at this link.

<https://www.asha.org/Certification/2020-SLP-Certification-Standards/>

Also refer to this comparison for the 2014 SLP Certification Standards to the 2020 SLP certification standards

<https://www.asha.org/uploadedFiles/2014-2020-SLP-Crosswalk.pdf>