

Speech-Language Pathology Assistant Programs

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The Speech-Language Pathology Assistant (SLPA) program is a comprehensive certificate and degree program of both theory and practical experience designed to prepare students to become certified speech-language pathology assistants.

An SLPA is a certified support person who works under the supervision of a licensed speech-language pathologist. The SLPA performs specific therapy-related tasks that are prescribed and directed by their supervising speech-language pathologist. The SLPA works closely with others in a variety of settings, including schools, hospitals, rehabilitation centers, and in private practice. As a member of a speech-language therapy team, the SLPA helps children and adults with communication disorders improve their ability to speak, listen, and interact with others. SLPAs are responsible for following the directed treatment plan of the supervising SLP while working independently to deliver therapy services to children and adults, taking and tracking data, and various other roles and responsibilities within their scope of practice.

The SLPA program heavily assesses communication skills in the areas of speaking and writing. Students who are ESOL speakers must have a satisfactory TOEFL score or ESOL level. Students applying to the SLPA program will be required to communicate clearly in English with strong articulation skills, use writing skills to take data, communicate clearly in chart notes, and use written discourse in taking descriptive therapy data and dialogue.

In order to be employed as a certified speech-language pathology assistant, most states require you to be licensed as an SLPA. Please contact your state board of examiners for speech-language pathology and audiology for verification of requirements. Chemeketa's SLPA program website has more information on licensing for various states.

Oregon residents may contact the Oregon State Board of Examiners for Speech Pathology and Audiology at 971.673.0220 or through their website at www.oregon.gov/BSPA/index.shtml to review the educational and practicum requirements necessary to be certified as a speech-language pathology assistant.

Program outcomes

Students completing the certificate or degree should be able to:

- Conduct individual and small group speech and language therapy services as directed by supervising speech-language pathologist
- Accurately record and organize data taken from the therapy sessions and communicate findings to supervising speech-language pathologist

This SLPA program is a limited-enrollment program with special admission requirements. An SLPA application packet is required to apply for admission to this program. This is a separate step in addition to the placement testing and advising that may be required through Advising and Counseling Services. Applications are available on the program website. Application deadlines are July 15 for fall term entry. Once admitted, students are required to follow the prescribed outline of the courses throughout the program. For those students who are taking only the SLPA program courses, a course load of nine credits is typical and considered part-time. The program usually takes five terms to complete attending part-time.

Students enrolled in the SLPA program are required to complete two terms of practicum coursework and 100 clinical interaction hours under the supervision of a speech-language pathologist. SLPA students must work with program staff to identify a suitable practicum supervisor and site. SLPA program students are required to submit and pass a criminal background check at their own expense in order to be admitted to the program.

Getting started

The first step to entering the SLPA program is to obtain the current SLPA program application from the SLPA program website: <http://speechpathology.chemeketa.edu>. Students may need to take part in an assessment process to demonstrate competent abilities in the entry-level courses, including computer literacy, keyboarding, math, reading, and writing. Students are strongly encouraged to meet with the designated advisor for the SLPA program within Advising and Counseling Services to formulate an individualized program



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of study, which may include the following program entry requirements:

CIS101	Introduction to Microcomputer Applications	3
MTH060	Introductory Algebra	4
RD115	Academic Thinking and Reading	3
WR115	Introduction to Composition	4

If you have any questions about the requirements, contact SLPA program staff at 503.589.7815.

Speech-Language Pathology Assistant AAS

Speech-Language Pathology Assistant Certificate of Completion

In addition to tuition, estimated costs for students who complete the entire program listed below are books, \$1,400; universal fee, \$798; online fee, \$750. Contact the Financial Aid Office at 503.399.5018 to find out if you qualify for help with these costs.

You may earn a certificate of completion by successfully completing these required 57 credit hours with a grade of "C" or better in all courses.

Course	Title	Credit Hours
MTH070	Elementary Algebra+ (or higher).....	4
PSY101	Psychology of Human Relations+ (or higher)	4
SLP180	Survey of Speech and Language Disorders	3
SLP181	Phonetics for Language.....	3
SLP182	Intervention Strategies for SLP Assistants	3
SLP183	Introduction to Language Development.....	3
SLP184	Language Therapy	3
SLP185	Anatomy and Physiology of Speech and Language	3
SLP186	Speech Intervention with Children, Adolescents, and Adults	3
SLP187	Clinical Documentation and Materials Management for the SLPA	3
SLP188	Communication Disorders in Low Incidence Populations.....	3
SLP189	SLPA Practicum 1.....	3
SLP190	SLPA Practicum 2.....	3
SLP191	Ethical and Legal Considerations in Speech- Language Pathology	3
SLP192	Augmentative and Alternative Communication....	3
SLP193	Adult Communication Disorders.....	3
SLP194	Language, Culture and Society: Cross-Cultural Communication	3
WR121	The College Essay+ (or higher).....	4

+Meets related instruction requirement, see page 50. For subject areas, see page 56.

Speech-Language Pathology Assistant Associate of Applied Science Degree

In addition to tuition, estimated costs for students who complete the entire program listed below are books, \$2,350; universal fee, \$1,330; online fee, \$1,050. Contact the Financial Aid Office at 503.399.5018 to find out if you qualify for help with these costs.

You may earn an associate of applied science degree by successfully completing 95 credit hours (57 credits for the

certificate, and an additional 38 general education credits) with a grade of "C" or better in all courses.

Course	Title	Credit Hours
General Education requirements (38 credit hours):		
CIS101	Introduction to Microcomputer Applications (or higher).....	3
COMM100	Introduction to Communication (or higher).....	4
	Arts and Letters electives	12
	Physical Education or Health electives.....	3
	Science/Applied Science electives.....	8
	Social Science electives.....	8