

# Speech-Language Pathology Fact Sheet

## What do SLP's do?

Working with the full range of human communication and its disorders, speech-language pathologists:

- Evaluate and diagnose **speech**, *language*, cognitive-communication and SWALLOWING disorders.
- Treat speech, language, cognitive-communication and swallowing disorders in individuals of all ages, from infants to the elderly.

Speech-language pathologists often work as part of a team, which may include teachers, physicians, audiologists, psychologists, social workers, rehabilitation counselors and others. Corporate speech-language pathologists also work with employees to improve communication with their customers.

The field of speech-language pathology is great for anyone interested in helping others develop or restore communicative abilities. SLP's work with a diverse population, including (but not limited to) infants, school-aged children with articulation errors, and adults with neurological disorders. If you're interested in a clinical approach to linguistics, this field may be for you!



## Prognosis for Future Employment:

All in all, the job market is favorable for future SLP's!

Speech-language pathology is expected to grow faster than average through the year 2014. Members of the baby boom generation are now reaching retirement age, when the possibility of neurological disorders and associated speech, language, swallowing, and hearing impairments increases. Medical advances are also improving the survival rate of premature infants and trauma and stroke victims, who then need assessment and possible treatment. Many states now require that all newborns be screened for hearing loss and receive appropriate early intervention services.

Employment in educational services will increase along with growth in elementary and secondary school enrollments, including enrollment of special education students. Federal law guarantees special education and related services to all eligible children with disabilities.

## Work Sites for SLP's

- Public and private schools
- Hospitals
- Rehabilitation centers
- Nursing care facilities
- Community clinics
- Colleges and universities
- Private practice offices
- State and local health departments
- State and federal government agencies
- Home health agencies (home care)
- Adult day care centers
- Centers for persons with developmental disabilities
- Research laboratories
- Volunteerships worldwide

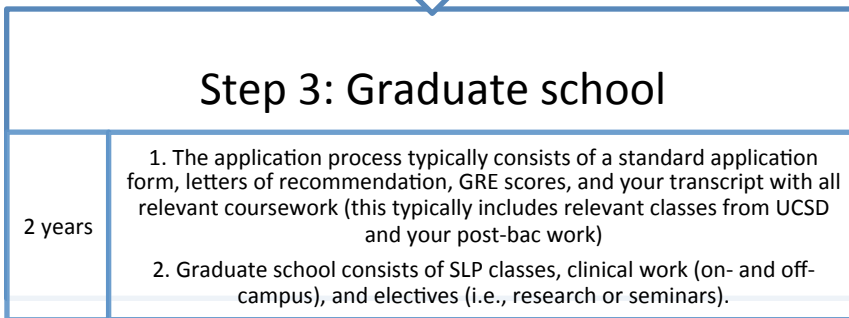
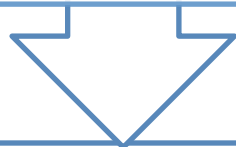
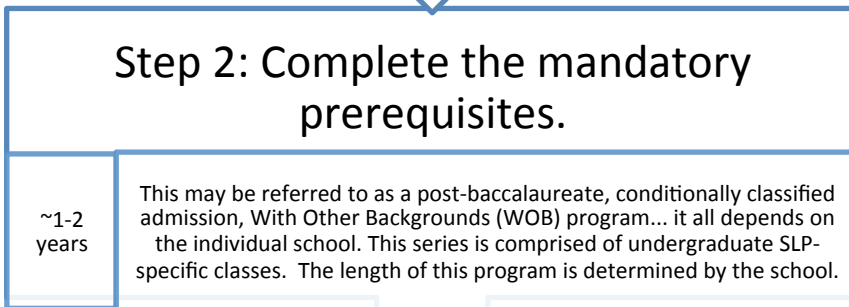
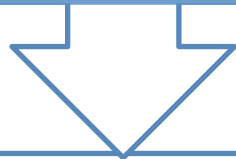
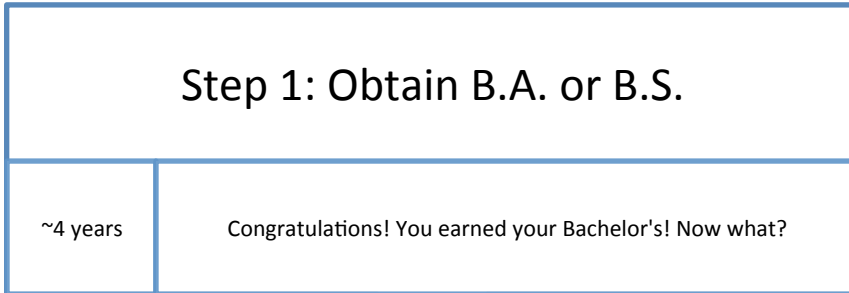
For a list of SLP Masters and Doctorate programs, visit:

<http://www.asha.org/students/academic/EdFind>

# Speech-Language Pathology

## Clinical Application for Linguistics: The Process

In the field of Speech-Language Pathology, the minimum education requirement to practice is a Master's degree. Transitioning from a degree other than Speech-Language Pathology (also referred to as Communication Disorders, Speech & Hearing Sciences, etc.) into graduate school for speech path requires 1-2 years of prerequisite courses *prior* to beginning your graduate program. UCSD does not offer a specific major for SLP, so the process for obtaining a Master's degree is as follows.



### Recommended UCSD Courses for a Speech Path Track

Check with each SLP graduate program to know what courses will count for credit in graduate school. However, these are some classes that will help prepare you for the field regardless.

#### COGNITIVE SCIENCE

- COGS 101C - Language and Reasoning
- COGS 153 - Language Comprehension
- COGS 154 - Communicative Disorders in Children & Adults
- COGS 156 - Language Development

#### LINGUISTICS

- LIGN 101 - Intro to the Study of Language
- LIGN 110 - Phonetics
- LIGN 119/EDS 119 - First and Second Language Learning: From Childhood through Adolescence
- LIGN 170 - Psycholinguistics
- LIGN 171 - Child Language Acquisition
- LIGN 179 - Second Language Acquisition Research
- LIGN 180 - Language Representation in the Brain
- LIGN 181 - Language Processing in the Brain

#### PSYCHOLOGY

- PSYC 60 or COGS 14 - Statistics

#### LLP/AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE

- ASL 1A/1X - American Sign Language

#### RESEARCH & LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Independent Studies (199 level courses) are great! Research experience is invaluable in graduate school - a working knowledge of statistics, creative thinking, organization, interaction skills, and leadership will all benefit you in a clinical profession!

Active participation in a student organization (LingUA!) is also a FABULOUS way to sharpen both leadership and professional skills.

The second year of your Master's program will primarily consist of off-campus placements. This is typically 1 semester in a hospital, and 1 semester in a school. After graduating, you will be required to complete a Clinical Fellowship Year - this means you work for 9 months under a certified SLP. At this point, you are ready to obtain state licensure and your Certificate of Clinical Competence (CCC) from ASHA. ☺