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INTRODUCTION

PURPOSE OF THIS GUIDE
This guide provides students with information about the policies and procedures involved in the graduate programs of this department, and should be used as a supplement to the University catalog and the Graduate College manual. Copies of these documents are available in the departmental office and the Graduate College office, 205 Gilmore Hall.

Although we have attempted to cover departmental policies and procedures as completely as possible, some of the detailed aspects of the program undoubtedly have been omitted. Additionally, students should be aware that policies and courses listed in this manual may be modified without notice at the discretion of the faculty. Also, the application of policies to particular cases may vary with the special circumstances related to an individual student. Thus, students should seek additional information as needed from their faculty advisor, the Director of Graduate Studies, or the Department Chairperson.

GENERAL ASPECTS OF THE PROGRAM
The program in speech-language pathology and audiology at The University of Iowa has been in existence for over 50 years. At present the department offers an undergraduate program leading to a bachelor’s degree in speech and hearing science. This program is designed to provide students with a broad general education and with a firm understanding of the basic processes of speech, hearing, and language. It is considered to be a pre-professional program for preparation of individuals to continue toward a graduate degree.

The graduate program is designed to prepare students for a wide variety of career opportunities in the field including (1) careers as clinicians trained to provide specialized diagnostic and remedial services to persons having speech, hearing or language handicaps in various clinical settings, such as hospitals, community clinics, school programs, etc., (2) careers as college and university teachers and researchers concerned with the study of speech, hearing and language disorders, and (3) careers as teachers and researchers concerned with the scientific study of the basic processes of speech, hearing, and language.

As stated in the University catalog, a graduate program of study can be planned to emphasize certain aspects of the field depending on the individual student’s interests and career goals. It should be emphasized, however, that it is our philosophy that the field is a unified one which encompasses all areas of speech, hearing, and language and involves various types of teaching, clinical, and research activities. Thus, it is expected that the graduate program of each student will be planned to provide basic understanding of all areas of the field and will provide experiences in the various activities carried out in the field. It is hoped that all students will recognize that special opportunities provided in the program are relevant to their overall training in the field and that they take advantage of such opportunities regardless of their particular interests or specific career goals.

It also should be made clear that the time spent by a student in a university program is only one intermediate phase in their overall education and professional training. It is not the goal of this program to graduate a finished clinician, researcher, or teacher; this program is designed to provide students with the basic knowledge, skills, and attitudes that will serve
to facilitate their continued learning and professional growth as clinicians, researchers, and teachers throughout their professional careers.

**ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS FOR PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION**

The accredited programs in audiology and speech-language pathology of the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD) at the University of Iowa adhere to the standards set by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), including a code of ethics [http://www.asha.org/policy/ET2016-00342/](http://www.asha.org/policy/ET2016-00342/). Faculty have a responsibility for the welfare of clients/patients tested, treated, or otherwise affected by students enrolled in the CSD program. Thus, it is important that individuals admitted, retained, and graduated possess the intelligence, integrity, compassion, humanitarian concern, and physical and emotional capacity necessary to practice speech-language pathology and audiology.

In order to fulfill this responsibility, the department has established a document of essential functions necessary for successful completion of the requirements of the program. Admission and retention decisions are based not only on satisfactory prior and ongoing academic achievement but also on non-academic factors that serve to insure that the candidate can meet the essential functions of the clinical program required for graduation. Essential functions, as distinguished from academic standards, refer to those cognitive, physical, and behavioral abilities that are necessary for satisfactory completion of all aspects of the curriculum, and the development of professional attributes required by the faculty of all students at graduation. Each student will be asked to sign the Essential Function document at the time of their first registration.

The University of Iowa and our department seek to educate a diverse group of students, recognizing that in such diversity lies excellence. Included in this group are otherwise qualified students who have disabilities. The University will provide reasonable accommodations to otherwise qualified students with properly documented disabilities who meet the minimum CSD requirements. Reasonable accommodations will be made to facilitate a student’s progress in learning, performing, and satisfying the essential functions presented in this document.

A reasonable accommodation should not fundamentally alter the academic and clinical requirements of the CSD program, pose a direct threat to the health or safety of the student or others, or present an undue burden to the institution. Determining appropriate and reasonable accommodations in a professional school program is an interactive and collaborative process involving the student, the CSD program, the Students with Disabilities (SDS) Office and the General Counsel Office re: ADA compliance. This document is to be re-visited periodically with input from all involved to ensure accuracy and compliance with the law.

The Essential Functions may be viewed at: [https://clas.uiowa.edu/comsci/graduate-program](https://clas.uiowa.edu/comsci/graduate-program)

**Dissemination:**

Prospective (accepted to the program) graduate students in audiology and speech-language pathology will be sent the list of Essential Functions as part of the prospective student packet distributed prior to the start of graduate school. They will indicate receipt and understanding of the listing by signing their name on the Checklist that is enclosed in the prospective student packet and returning it to the Graduate Studies Admissions Secretary.
**Procedure when a student does not meet one or more Essential Functions:**
- Instructor identifies student as not meeting one or more Essential Functions.
- Instructor alerts student’s academic advisor and department chair (if identified in academic setting) or clinic education coordinator (if identified as a part of clinical practicum).
- A conference will be held with the instructor assigned to the student, department chair/clinic education coordinator, and student’s advisor to review the concern(s) with student and determine a recommended course of action. Documentation of the conference and recommended course of action will be placed in student’s file.
- As needed, Students with Disabilities Service (SDS) and General Counsel will be contacted to ensure compliance with relevant laws.
- Failure to resolve concerns may lead to dismissal from program.

**Accommodations for Disabilities**
A student seeking academic accommodations should first register with Student Disability Services and then meet privately with the course instructor to make particular arrangements. See [https://sds.studentlife.uiowa.edu/](https://sds.studentlife.uiowa.edu/) for more information.

**ADMISSIONS**

Evaluation of applications for admission to the graduate program is the responsibility of the departmental committee on admissions and appointments. The members of this committee independently evaluate each application and assign a rating based on a judgment of the applicant’s overall potential for successful graduate study. This judgment is based on:

1. A careful review of the individual’s past academic performance, which involves not only consideration of grade-point-average (GPA) but also of the pattern of grades in various subject areas,

2. Consideration of the nature of previous undergraduate or graduate work and the institution at which it was taken,

3. Scores on the General Aptitude Test of the Graduate Record Examination. These scores are required for all PhD, AuD and MA applicants, and

4. Letters of recommendation.

The ratings or, in some instances, the results of further evaluation and discussion by the committee serve as the basis for decisions concerning both admission and the offer of a stipend.

**GRADUATE RECORD EXAMINATION**
The Graduate College requires that every graduate student shall have taken the Aptitude Test of the Graduate Record Examination prior to admission or during the first semester of enrollment, however, our department strongly urges students to have taken the GRE prior to their application for admission so that the score can be used on our part of the information used to decide on admission status.
ADMISSION TO THE M.A. PROGRAM
Each year we admit approximately 25 students into the Master's program in Speech Language Pathology. Admission decisions are based on consideration of an applicant's credentials in relation to those of the other applicants in the pool. Applications for the MA program must be received by January 1 for admission the subsequent fall semester. Applicants with undergraduate GPAs of less than 3.2 and/or with GRE scores under the 50th percentile on the verbal reasoning, quantitative, or writing subtests are not likely to be accepted. It is expected that applicants for the MA program will either (1) be enrolled in a speech and hearing science undergraduate program, (2) have recently completed their undergraduate degree in speech and hearing science, (3) have completed an undergraduate degree in a related area and the required undergraduate prerequisite coursework, or (4) have completed an undergraduate degree in a related area without completion of prerequisite coursework and understand that completion of the MA program will take 3 (rather than the typical 2) years.

Prerequisite Undergraduate Coursework
Undergraduate coursework required for graduation with an MA degree can be viewed at https://clas.uiowa.edu/comsci/graduate-program/master-arts-degree-programs/ma-prerequisites.

Upon acceptance to the program, the undergraduate transcripts of each student will be reviewed by his/her advisor. Students are encouraged to bring any course syllabi they might have from related courses to these advising meetings. In cases where it is not clear if undergraduate coursework fulfills these requirements, the student will be referred to speak with the instructor of the course in question and a plan to meet these basic competencies will be established. This may require that the student take all or a portion of those undergraduate courses they are missing after they begin their MA studies. In some cases, a student may come to the University of Iowa with MA required graduate coursework that they took as an undergraduate at another institution. The decision to allow a course to meet our graduate requirements will be made by the advisor. In some cases, the decision may involve requiring the student to take the course for full or reduced credit at the University of Iowa. Approval of the course instructor and Director of the MA program is also required if the applicant took those courses at the University of Iowa more than five calendar years prior to beginning their MA studies.

ADMISSION TO THE AUD PROGRAM
The number of new admissions into the clinical doctorate program in Audiology each year is capped at a maximum of 10 students. Thus, admission decisions are based on consideration of an applicant's credentials in relation to those of the other applicants in the pool. Applications for the AuD program must be received by January 1 for admission the subsequent fall semester. Applicants with undergraduate GPAs of less than 3.2 and/or with GRE scores under the 50th percentile on the verbal reasoning, quantitative or writing subtests are not likely to be accepted. It is expected that applicants for the AuD program will either (1) be enrolled in a speech and hearing science undergraduate program, (2) have recently completed their undergraduate degree in speech and hearing science, (3) have completed an undergraduate degree in a related area and the required undergraduate prerequisite coursework, or (4) have completed an undergraduate degree in a related area without completion of prerequisite coursework and understand that completion of the AuD program may require more than 4 years.
Prerequisite Undergraduate Coursework
Undergraduate coursework required for graduation with an AuD can be viewed at https://clas.uiowa.edu/comsci/graduate-program/aud-program-sample-curriculum.

Upon acceptance to the program, the undergraduate transcripts of each student will be reviewed by his/her advisor. Students are encouraged to bring any course syllabi they might have from related courses to these interviews. In cases where it is not clear if the undergraduate coursework the student has fulfills these requirements, that student will be referred to speak with the instructor of the course in question and a plan to meet these basic competencies will be established. This may require that the student take all or a portion of those undergraduate courses they are missing after they begin their doctoral studies. In some cases a student may come to the University of Iowa with graduate level AuD coursework that they took as an undergraduate at another institution. The decision to allow that course to meet our graduate requirements will be made by the instructor of the course in question and requires the approval of the Director of AuD Studies. In some cases, the decision may involve requiring the student to take the course for full or reduced credit at the University of Iowa. In other cases, it may be possible for the student to take an additional seminar that covers the required subject matter. Approval of the course instructor and Director of the AuD program is also required if the applicant took those courses at the University of Iowa more than five calendar years prior to beginning their AuD studies.

ADMISSION TO THE PHD PROGRAM
There is no limit on the number of individuals admitted to the doctoral program. Applications are acted upon by the faculty each semester. The judgment of potential for doctoral work is based upon the same type of information as for admission to the MA or AuD programs; however, more emphasis is placed on evaluation of information concerning the applicant's aptitudes and interests in research areas. The Graduate College regulations specify a minimum GPA of 3.00 for admission with regular status to a doctoral program. GRE scores are expected to be at or above the 50 percentile in each of the verbal, quantitative, and analytic writing areas.

CONDITIONAL ADMISSION
On occasion, the committee may recommend conditional admission as provided for in the regulations of the Graduate College. That status indicates promise, but not clear evidence of the ability, for graduate study in this department. The conditional admission status provides a trial period of graduate study during which the student’s performance can be evaluated. Applicants to the master’s degree program generally are not admitted with this status.

The change from conditional status to regular status is required within two terms (semester or summer session) of graduate enrollment in order to continue in graduate study. The criterion for change to regular status usually includes a GPA of 3.0 for graduate credits relevant to the program of study and a judgment by the faculty that the student has demonstrated potential for success in graduate work. Other criteria may also be used; if that is the case, they must be identified to the student in writing, either by the Director of Doctoral Studies or by the student’s faculty advisor. Change to regular status usually is not made until completion of two terms of work. If a student faces dismissal from the program due to not having fulfilled the specified conditions within two terms of enrollment, a written request may be made to the committee to recommend to the Graduate College that the conditional status be extended for one additional term.
READMISSION FOLLOWING PROGRAM INTERRUPTION
If a student’s enrollment is interrupted for any reason so that s/he is not enrolled for three consecutive academic sessions (including the spring, summer, and fall sessions but excluding the winter session) the student must apply for readmission. The readmission application form must be used. The Graduate College will not require new letters of recommendation, a new Statement of Purpose, a written explanation of the reasons for the absence, or a plan for degree completion. However, the Department of Communications Sciences & Disorders may request any or all of these items.

FINANCIAL APPOINTMENTS

DETERMINATION OF OFFERS
Various types of assistantships and traineeships are available. PhD students are generally offered half-time assistantships. For MA and AuD students, the offering of new assistantships is competitive and based on multiple considerations:
1. GPA within the program (i.e., academic performance)
2. Performance within the clinic
3. Skill set (e.g., does student have background coursework or skills)
4. Student work habits: Hard working, positive attitude, flexible, professional, etc.
5. Funding availability

All appointments require satisfactory performance of duties in teaching, research, or other assigned activities. The letter of appointment from the department specifies the nature of the appointment. Questions about any aspect of the appointment should be addressed to the Department Chair or the Department Administrator. Students on conditional, probationary, and professional improvement status are not eligible for financial appointments.

Stipend payments are received by the student on the first day of each month, beginning on September 1 for fall appointments and February 1 for spring appointments. Students are required to complete a direct deposit form to have their check automatically deposited. If an appointment includes the payment of tuition, such payment is normally automatic. Students may be eligible for resident status and in-state tuition depending on the source of their funding. See the Department Administrator for clarification of your status.

To be eligible for an assistantship, the student must be enrolled on a full-time basis, described as a minimum of 9 semester hours during each regular semester. After doctoral students who are on funding have completed their comprehensive examination, they must sign up for a minimum of 3 semester hours of research per semester.

CONTINUATION OF APPOINTMENTS
Continuation of appointment is dependent on two conditions: (a) availability of funds for such purposes and (b) evidence that the student is making satisfactory and reasonably rapid progress toward the degree goal. Petition for extension of financial assistance past the usual termination date (two calendar years for the MA, three for the PhD or AuD) may be made by the student and academic advisor. For PhD students, the fourth year of funding will be approved or denied at the discretion of the Department Chair. Approvals must be based on “cause” as presented by the student. The Department Chair must bring funding requests beyond year four to the faculty for discussion and vote.
The faculty may specify other deadlines which must be met in order for financial aid to be continued. These may include dates for completion of the doctoral comprehensive examination, the doctoral pre-dissertation project, and/or the dissertation prospectus. The student will be informed of such requirements.

A student who completes the MA or AuD degree and who desires to continue in a doctoral program is considered as a “new” applicant for an assistantship as a student and is evaluated on a competitive basis with all other new applicants.

GRADUATE PROGRAMS – GENERAL INFORMATION

Included in this section is information on policies and procedures pertaining to all graduate students, regardless of the type of program which they are pursuing. Information specific to certain types of programs is presented in subsequent sections.

ADVISOR ASSIGNMENT

Before their first registration, graduate students are assigned to advisors, often on the basis of their stated interest areas. Within each area, assignments will be made which equalize faculty advising loads as much as possible. Students graduating from our undergraduate program will not necessarily continue with their undergraduate advisor in their graduate work.

The student may, and in some cases must, change advisors when appropriate. Master’s students should change advisors if they change their area of interest or if a thesis advisor different from the assigned one is chosen. Doctoral students must change their advisors anytime they begin a dissertation project under the guidance of a person other than their current advisor. When a change is made, it is the student’s responsibility to inform the Graduate Admissions Secretary and faculty advisors effected by the change. Each student should plan a program of study in consultation with the advisor and a copy of this program should be placed in the student’s permanent file. Subsequent changes should be made in consultation with the student’s advisor and clearly indicated in the student’s permanent file folder.

In addition to helping the student plan the program of study, the advisor is also available to advise and counsel the student regarding any problems related to the student’s program, professional goals, etc. Students should feel free to consult with their advisor about any problems or issues which arise. In some instances, the advisor may suggest that the student talk to the Director of Graduate Studies (Chair) or another faculty member; however, the student should consult the advisor initially.

REGISTRATION

During the latter part of the fall semester, students are assigned times for early registration for the upcoming spring semester, and during the latter part of the spring semester early registration times are assigned when students may register for both the upcoming summer and fall sessions. The advisor is responsible for authorizing the student’s registration. This is done online. Students may proceed to register online at any time after meeting with their advisors and receiving approval of their plan of study for the next session.
PRE-REGISTRATION FOR PRACTICUM ENROLLMENT
Students are required to pre-register for clinical practicum. This procedure is necessary in order that the caseload needed for clinical training in any given term can be planned in advance.

PRACTICUM ENROLLMENT BY NON-DEGREE STUDENTS
Graduate students on a non-degree status (special or professional improvement) are not guaranteed the opportunity to enroll for clinical practicum. Depending on the availability of clinical caseloads and on practicum enrollments of degree students during a given term, non-degree students may be allowed to register for clinical practicum if specifically approved by the Director of Clinical Education and their faculty advisor, and the instructor of the particular practicum. Such approval will be given only in instances in which such enrollment will not affect the opportunities for practicum enrollment of students on a graduate degree status. Professional improvement students will be given priority over those on special status in regard to such practicum enrollments. The priority for clinical practicum is as follows: (1) professional MA and AuD students, (2) general MA and PhD students, (3) professional improvement students, and (4) special graduate students. Requests for registration by undergraduate students will be handled on an individual basis.

PRACTICUM REQUIREMENTS
Requirements for practicum registrations are defined by the following principles:

a. Other activities besides those counting as supervised clinical clock hours are legitimate and usually desirable requirements for receiving academic practicum credit. Instructors should design their practicum requirements to include those types of activities that they deem important in providing adequate training in the particular practicum area.

b. The number of clinical contact hours and the amount and type of other activities required per practicum credit hour can be expected to vary among different practicums. This is due to inter-practicum differences in the amount and type of clinical experiences deemed necessary to provide adequate training in a given area. For purposes of academic planning, however, it can generally be assumed that students will obtain a minimum of 12-15 contact hours per semester hour of registration in a practicum. It should be emphasized, however, that this guideline in no way establishes an absolute minimum or maximum requirement for any practicum.

c. The number of clinical contact hours and the amount and type of other activities required per practicum credit hour can be expected to vary among students enrolled in the same practicum since practicum instruction should be individualized in relation to the needs and goals of specific students. Registration for externship practicums will typically be 4 SH for two eight week blocks (schools & hospitals). The Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at the University of Iowa uses the Typhon System (web based database) to track students’ clinical experiences and contact hours. Training sessions are held each year for students new to the program.
**COURSE LOADS**
The maximum academic load for all graduate students is typically 15 semester hours of registration during the fall and spring semesters and 9 semester hours during the summer session (there are exceptions when a student is also registered for undergraduate courses).

**PhD Students**
- **Pre-Comps:** PhD students with funding must maintain full time registration, 9 hours/semester. PhD students not on funding must maintain a full time registration only during the residency period.
- **Post-Comps:** PhD students with funding must maintain a minimum of 3 hours of research registration after they have passed the comprehensive examination.

**INCOMPLETE GRADES**
The Graduate College regulations specify that the grade of “I” is to be used only when a student’s work during a session cannot be completed because of illness, accident or other circumstances beyond the student’s control. The department closely follows these regulations.

The Manual of Rules and Regulations of the Graduate College states the following concerning the deadlines for removal of incomplete grades:

Students who receive the mark of 'I' must remove that mark within the first session of registration after the closing date of the session for which it is given, otherwise the grade becomes an “F,” the exception being that students with an "I" from the spring semester are exempt from completing the course during the succeeding summer session. Specific deadlines for the submission of student work to the faculty and for the faculty's report on Incomplete grades to the registrar will be set by the Graduate College dean for each session and printed in the academic calendar. Courses may not be repeated to remove incompletes; removal of an “I” is accomplished only through the completion of the specific work for which the mark is given.

Although the exact dates will vary each year, it should be noted that work to remove an “I” grade must be submitted to the instructor approximately one month before the end of a semester.

It is the responsibility of the student who receives an incomplete grade to submit the required work before the deadline date; it is the responsibility of the faculty member to remove the incomplete grade prior to the deadline if the work has been completed. Failure to meet these deadlines may mean that the "I" grade will become an F.

**ACADEMIC PROBATION AND TERMINATION**
The Graduate College policy and academic standing, probation, and dismissal of non-doctoral and doctoral graduate students can be viewed at [https://www.grad.uiowa.edu/manual-part-1-section-iv-academic-standing-probation-and-dismissal](https://www.grad.uiowa.edu/manual-part-1-section-iv-academic-standing-probation-and-dismissal)
Additionally, this form must be completed & placed in the student’s academic folder:

**Academic Remediation Plan**
(Keep this form in the student’s folder in room 119; provide student with a copy)

Course Name: 
Course Number: 
Course instructor: 
Student Name: 
Time of course registration ________________   ____________

Semester and year

The following remediation plan was designed to ensure the above named student meets the standards outlined in the KASA summary form addressed by this course:

_________________________________   ______
Signature of course instructor         date

_________________________________   ______
Signature of student                 date

_________________________________   ______
Signature of student’s advisor       date

________________________________________________________________________________
___

The above requirement were satisfactory met

_________________________________   ______
Signature of course instructor         date

________________________________________________________________________

**SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES**

In addition to courses, practicum registrations and research registrations, an attempt is made to provide other types of opportunities for students to enrich their educational experiences. It is expected that all students and faculty will take full advantage of these opportunities by attendance at all special programs. These programs include:

**PROSEMINAR**

The period from 12:00 to 1:00 on Fridays during the academic year is scheduled for research seminars (referred to as Proseminar). An announcement of the title and an abstract of the proseminar is posted a few days prior to the meeting. Either one person presents for 45 minutes with 15 minutes of discussion or two people present with each giving a 20-minute presentation followed by 10 minutes of discussion.

Research proseminars provide an opportunity for both students and faculty to present reports of research projects that are in the initial stages of formulation, in progress, or completed. Upon completion, pre-dissertation projects must be presented at proseminar. All faculty and doctoral students are expected to present at proseminar at least once per year whether or not one has a finished research project to report. Master’s and AuD students are encouraged to present, especially those who are doing a thesis. Scheduling of research seminars is the responsibility of the faculty member assigned as the Proseminar
Coordinator. The coordinator will contact students and faculty about presenting at proseminar. Individuals wishing to present should contact the Proseminar Coordinator.

Attendance is required of all graduate students for their first year; PhD students are required to register each semester until they have completed their comprehensive examination. Even if a given presentation may not be in an area of specific interest to the student, the proseminars provide an opportunity to broaden interests and knowledge.

CONFERENCES AND GUEST LECTURERS
An attempt is made each year to schedule individuals who are experts in various areas to present guest lectures. At such times, the speaker generally presents one public lecture and may meet with students and faculty in specific courses, seminars, or informal meetings. In addition, scholars in related areas from other departments at The University of Iowa are invited to present guest lectures. These presentations are sometimes scheduled during the proseminar time. Suggestions from faculty members for individuals to be invited as guest lecturers are welcome. Suggestions should be submitted in writing to the Proseminar Coordinator and should include the name(s) of the individual(s) suggested, their address(es) and professional affiliations; the content of a public lecture; courses, seminars or groups with whom they might meet; and suggested dates for such a visit.

STUDENT TRAVEL
Department Funding: The department is able to provide limited support for student travel. Requests for travel funding should be made on an Application for Graduate Student Travel form, distributed by the graduate admissions secretary during the first week of classes in the fall semester. Priority is given to students who are to present a paper or are otherwise on the program of a conference or meeting.

Graduate & Professional Student Government Funding: GPSG provides grants to graduate and professional students to travel, conduct research or engage in a service project. More details can be found here: https://gpsg.uiowa.edu/grants-for-students/

Graduate Student Senate Funding: GSS provides travel funding assistance to graduate student who present their research at conferences, meetings, symposia and similar professional or academic gatherings. More details can be found here: https://gss.grad.uiowa.edu/funding/gss-travel-funds

POLICY REGARDING FUNDING OF STUDENT RESEARCH
The department considers the funding of student research projects to be a high priority. Please work with your advisor to request funding.

When notified of the availability of funds, the student should meet with the Department Administrator to work out the details for spending the money.
The following maximum amounts have been approved for student research projects and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis until the amount budgeted is exhausted.

- Honors Thesis: $100
- Independent Projects by Graduate Students: $150
- MA Thesis: $200
- Capstone: $200
- PhD Pre-dissertation Project: $300
- PhD Dissertation: $300

THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA NSSLHA CHAPTER
The National Student Speech Language and Hearing Association (http://www.nsslha.org/) is the official organization for students interested in human communication sciences and disorders. The University of Iowa Chapter of NSSLHA was chartered in 1984 and assumed the duties and responsibilities of former department student associations. NSSLHA serves as the primary vehicle for representing student opinion and organizing social and professional student events.

The University of Iowa NSSLHA Chapter abides by national association bylaws but operates autonomously on a local level. While membership in the national association is open only to undergraduate and master’s students, the local chapter extends membership to doctoral students as well. National association membership is not required for doctoral students to participate in local chapter functions. In this manner NSSLHA is able to represent and serve the entire department student body.

Each year elections are held in which NSSLHA officers and student-faculty committee representatives are chosen for the following year. NSSLHA officers determine policy regarding membership dues and the organization and implementation of events for that calendar year. Department-wide events organized by the students have included the annual New Student Picnic and Holiday Party. These events provide an opportunity for students and faculty to get together and enjoy themselves in an informal atmosphere.

THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA SAA CHAPTER
The Student Academy of Audiology (https://saa.audiology.org/) is the national student organization of the American Academy of Audiology that serves as a collective voice for audiology students and advances the rights, interests, and welfare of students pursuing careers in audiology. The SAA introduces students to lifelong involvement in activities that promote and advance the profession of audiology, and provides services, information, education, representation and advocacy for the profession and the public we serve.

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PHD) DEGREE PROGRAM
The PhD program provides for comprehensive training for the prospective scholar and researcher in speech, hearing, and language processes and their disorders. Although the program may include more intensive specialization in particular clinical problems in which the student may have special interest, the PhD is not designed as an advanced clinical degree.
PLANNING MEETING
Students are required to hold a planning meeting during the first or second session after beginning full-time study toward the PhD. The committee should consist of five faculty members chosen by the student and approved by the advisor.

The specific courses and research experiences that are included in the plan of study are chosen to meet the particular interests and background of the student. In general, however, each student should have some experience or coursework in each of the following areas: speech, hearing, language, mathematics, computers, statistics, and instrumentation. Other areas of coursework that are typically considered are neuroscience, engineering, psychology, and genetics.

ANNUAL REVIEW
A student's progress toward their degree objective will be continuously monitored. Formal review by the faculty as a whole will occur annually. The review will include student performance in (1) coursework, (2) teaching or research assistantships, and (3) research projects. Advisors provide their advisees a written summary of their PhD review. The summary needs to be signed by the student and a copy put in their student folder.

RESEARCH REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS
All PhD students are required to register for (CSD:5511) Introduction to Doctoral Research (1 s.h.) in the first Fall & Spring Semester.

PhD students must also register for (CSD:6515) Proseminar (0 s.h.) each semester they are in residence.

Students are required to take research registration hours (CSD:7590) in their first and second semesters of full-time doctoral study. Feedback from the instructor is required. The intent of this requirement is to ensure that each student receives early feedback regarding their research potential. Students normally continue to sign up for research registration for subsequent sessions although there is no formal requirement that research hours must be taken every semester.

PHD COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION
Each student pursuing the must be evaluated by a comprehensive examination committee as specified below. This evaluation will constitute the comprehensive examinations specified in the Manual of Rules and Regulations of the Graduate College (https://www.grad.uiowa.edu/manual-part-1-section-xii-doctors-degrees) and thus is subject to the general requirements specified for such examinations in that manual. Prior to completion of the comprehensive examination, the student, in consultation with his or her advisor, must file a Plan of Study and a Request for PhD Comprehensive Examination with the Graduate College.

Students and advisors jointly choose the five faculty members constituting the comprehensive examination committee. The advisor serves as the chair of the committee. The student is responsible for asking faculty members if they are willing to serve on their committee. The membership of all committees must be approved by the Director of Graduate Studies (Chair).

Faculty with status as an adjunct or clinical faculty member in this department may serve
on the comprehensive examination committee. However, the presence of more than one adjunct or clinical professor is not allowed. Special permission from the Graduate College is required for adjunct or clinical faculty to serve on committees, and the process must be initiated two weeks prior to the due date for the Request for PhD.

**The specific steps for the PhD comprehensive examination are as follows:**

a. Comprehensive examinations will be taken after approximately two years of full-time work in the doctoral program; however, it is recognized that the timing of the examinations may vary depending on the needs of individual students. The examination may vary as much as plus or minus a year from the two-year target.

b. When a student and their advisor decide that it is time to take the comprehensive examination, the student will meet with each member on the committee and discuss general areas to be included in the examination.

c. The advisor will convene a meeting of the committee without the student present to develop the set of questions. The questions are to be general to the extent that there is not a one-to-one match between any committee member and question.

d. The student is given two weeks to prepare written answers to the questions. The student is free to use all written resources, such as books or journal articles. The student may ask committee members for advice on references for particular topics, but may not ask them (or anyone else) questions about the content or their opinions on the question topics.

e. The written responses are submitted to the advisor at least one week prior to the oral examination. The advisor ensures that copies of all questions and responses are distributed to each committee member.

f. An oral examination is held, with questioning based on the student’s written responses. The oral examination (but not the two-week writing period) must be held when classes are in session or during the final examination week.

**EFFECTS OF NEGATIVE EVALUATION**

An unsatisfactory report on the PhD comprehensive examination will normally terminate the student’s program at the end of the current session of registration. The student will not be permitted to enroll for subsequent sessions except under the following conditions:

a. If, prior to the beginning of registration for the next session in which the student wishes to enroll, the student declares to the Director of Graduate Studies (Chair) in writing, the intent to be re-examined, the student will be permitted to register until completion of the second evaluation. The examining committee will specify a date by which the second evaluation must occur. In accordance with the regulations of the Graduate College, the re-examination may not occur sooner than four months after the first examination and only one re-examination is permitted.
b. An alternate program of study may be approved by the Director of Graduate Studies (Chair) which would permit the student to pursue study in a non-PhD program.

PRE-DISSERTATION PROJECT
Each doctoral student must complete a pre-dissertation research project:

1. The project should be of limited scope and should be selected and developed with a faculty advisor.

2. The project must be data-based, but the student can use existing data rather than generating new data. Generally, the rules defining what is empirical enough to be a valid procedure for a dissertation would apply.

3. It is expected that students do the project as part of CSD:7590 Research registrations, not as a part of research assistant assignments.

4. All students will be required to give a proseminar presentation based on the pre-dissertation project.

5. The student must write a manuscript reporting the pre-dissertation project. The manuscript will be submitted to the faculty advisor of the research, usually as part of a CSD:7590 Research registration.

6. The student must have completed the pre-dissertation project and passed the comprehensive examination before a PhD dissertation prospectus will be considered. The order of completion between the pre-dissertation project and comprehensive examination is not fixed.

DISSERTATION COMMITTEE
In developing the research project that is to constitute the doctoral dissertation, the student will select a faculty member or members to serve as the dissertation advisor(s). A dissertation prospectus committee is also selected by the student with the approval of the advisor and the Director of Graduate Studies (Chair), who has the prerogative of adding members to the committee. This committee consists of at least five faculty members (including the advisor who serves as chair).

Pre-prospectus Meeting
After the initial planning of the research project has occurred, an optional pre-prospectus meeting of the student with the prospectus committee may be held. At this meeting, the student provides the committee with information about the background and rationale for the proposed project, an initial statement of the questions or hypotheses to be investigated, and the essential elements of the proposed research procedures. No written document need be provided to the committee prior to the meeting; however, it is helpful for a statement of the problem and a general outline of the proposed procedures to be available to the committee members.

The purpose of this meeting is to acquaint the committee with the nature of the developing project and, more importantly, to hear their suggestions and comments about the further development of the project. The committee then decides whether or not to give approval for
the student to develop a formal prospectus for the proposed project. The committee may request that additional pre-prospectus meetings be held before the project is fully developed. These meetings are designed primarily to ensure that the student is embarking on a project that the committee feels is appropriate for a doctoral dissertation and to provide a means for the committee members to help the student develop the project.

**Prospectus Meeting**
Each student is required to develop a written prospectus to be presented to the prospectus committee prior to beginning the actual research project. This document generally includes material which eventually will constitute the introduction and procedures sections of the dissertation. The committee meets with the student (generally for two hours) and must approve the prospectus before the student can proceed.

**Post-Comprehensive Registration**
The student is required to register each semester (except summer sessions) after passing the comprehensive examination until the degree is awarded. If a student fails to register, they may not be readmitted to candidacy until they have submitted an application approved by their advisor, the Director of Graduate Studies, and the Dean of the Graduate College. All registrations should accurately reflect the amount and type of work undertaken, the use of University facilities, and the amount of consultation with the faculty. When a student’s plan of study has been completed, the student may meet the continuing registration requirement by registering for (Doctoral Continuous Registration) for any semester in which the department and the student’s advisor determine that the student is neither making significant use of the University facilities (excepting library privileges) nor partaking in consultation with the faculty.

**Final Examination**
The program for the PhD culminates in a final public oral examination in defense of the dissertation. This examination usually occurs during the period specified in the University calendar for graduate examinations during the latter part of the semester in which the student plans to receive the degree; however, it can be held at any time after the first check of the dissertation by the Graduate College. A Request for Final Examination must be filed approximately three weeks before the scheduled examination. If the originally filed Plan of Study requires modification, an Application for Change in Plan of Study must accompany the request. See “Thesis and Dissertation” for preparation and formatting guidelines: ([https://www.grad.uiowa.edu/theses-and-dissertations](https://www.grad.uiowa.edu/theses-and-dissertations)).

The final examination committee consists of at least five members of the Graduate Faculty. Ordinarily this committee will have the same members as the dissertation committee. This committee and its composition are subject to the approval of the Director of Graduate Studies (Chair) and the Dean of the Graduate College, both of whom have the prerogative of adding members to the committee.

The format for dissertation defenses will typically be as follows:

- 20-minute presentation
- 10-minute period for questions from the public
- 75 minutes of in-depth questioning from the committee (the committee chair will, at his or her discretion, decide whether to allow additional questions from the public and if so, at what time during the 75-minute period)
• 15 minutes of final deliberations for which the committee will retire to another room

Awarding of Degrees
PhD degrees will be awarded upon favorable recommendation of the final examination committee and completion of all requirements specified for the degree by the Graduate College. These include the filing of an application for the degree, completion (or modification) of the filed plan of study, and the final deposit of the dissertation and dissertation abstract in the Graduate College along with the appropriate certificates of committee approval.

CLINICAL PROGRAMS (GENERAL INFORMATION)

BEGINNING EXPECTATIONS FOR GRADUATE STUDENT CLINICIANS

- **Commitment to Learning:** The ability to self-assess, self-correct and self-direct; identify needs and sources of learning; continually seek new knowledge and understanding; genuine interest in the clinic and your clients.

- **Interpersonal Skills:** The ability to interact effectively with patients, families, colleagues, other health care professionals and the community; deal effectively with cultural/ethnic diversity issues.

- **Communication Skills:** The ability to communicate effectively (speaking, body language, reading, writing, listening) for varied audiences and purposes.

- **Effective Use of Time and Resources:** The ability to obtain the maximum benefit from a minimum investment of time and resources.

- **Use of Constructive Feedback:** The ability to identify sources of and seek out feedback; to effectively use and provide feedback for improving personal interactions. Willingness to accept constructive criticism and flexibility in making changes.

- **Problem-Solving:** The ability to recognize and define problems, analyze data, develop and implement solutions, and evaluate outcomes.

- **Reliability and dependability:** Reports on time (2-3 working days), initiative in dealing with clients and familiarity with your clients' file information prior to meeting with your clinical educator

- **Professionalism:** The ability to exhibit appropriate professional conduct and to represent the profession effectively (attitude, demeanor and appearance appropriate for health care setting). Professional behavior and dress in front of clients and with our educators. Appropriate dress code requests modest coverage (i.e., no cleavage showing, no undergarments showing and no skirts 2 inches or more above the knees).

- **Critical Thinking:** The ability to question logically; identify, generate and evaluate elements of logical argument; recognize and differentiate facts, illusions, assumptions and hidden assumptions; distinguish relevant from irrelevant.

- **Patient confidentiality:** Students must comply with rules of patient confidentiality, refraining from discussing cases in any non-clinical environment.

- **Use and understanding of universal precautions:** Although universal precautions were originally intended for doctors, nurses, patients, and health
care support workers who were required to come into contact with patients or bodily fluids, these also apply to speech-language pathologists and audiologists.

**POLICY REGARDING CLINIC SCHEDULE**
It is expected that student clinicians will be available for clinical experiences and related training during the dates and times when clinic is in session per the WJSHC Clinic Calendar. This typically includes one week prior to the start of classes as well as finals week.

Students are required to be available through the end of finals week, when not taking examinations or carrying out teaching assistant or research assistant duties, to attend to the following based on your exam schedule and times when a clinical educator is available.

- Complete all documentation
- Complete all necessary follow-up appointments for your patients. This includes:
  - Insuring that all patient equipment has been delivered to patient, or scheduled to take place after the break

Extenuating circumstances resulting in a student not being available for clinical assignments during any of these times must be approved by the Director of Clinical Education.

**THE DOCTOR OF AUDIOLOGY (AUD) DEGREE**

The AuD program the University of Iowa is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation (CAA) (http://www.asha.org/academic/accreditation/). Graduates of this program meet all of the requirements for clinical certification by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and will be eligible for licensure in the State of Iowa.

**COURSEWORK**
Prerequisite undergraduate coursework required for graduation with an AuD can be viewed at https://clas.uiowa.edu/comsci/graduate-program/aud-program-sample-curriculum.

The specific course requirements for the AuD program can be found at https://clas.uiowa.edu/comsci/graduate-program/aud-program-sample-curriculum.

This program of study provides training that will allow students to function as an audiologist in any clinical environment.

**ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES**
The American Speech Language and Hearing Association has established competencies students must master to be eligible for clinical certification in audiology. These competencies are outlined on a Knowledge and Skills Acquisition (KASA) form. Part of that form focuses on the didactic coursework students must receive. The other part focuses on the clinical training component.

**ASSESSING DIDACTIC PROGRESS**
For academic coursework, instructors will assign a letter grade to each student for each class that they teach. These letter grades are assigned numerical values on a 4-point scale.
Successful completion of the AuD program requires that each student maintain a cumulative graduate GPA of 3.0 or higher. Students who earn a grade lower than a B- for any of the courses required for graduation must work with the course instructor to develop an individual remediation plan to ensure that the student masters the material required for clinical practice as outlined on the didactic portion of the KASA form. That plan may include retaking part or all of a course during another semester, and as a result may prolong the time required for completion of the degree. Successful completion of this additional requirement will not result in a change in the grade earned by the student when they originally took the course.

Per Graduate College regulations, students who fall below the 3.0 GPA requirement will have one semester to raise their overall GPA above the minimum level. If unable to do so, they will not be allowed to continue in the program.

ASSESSING CLINICAL PERFORMANCE FOR AUDIOLOGY STUDENT CLINICIANS
At the end of each semester clinical educators will review each student’s progress toward attaining the skill set necessary to function as a competent audiologist. A grade of either satisfactory or unsatisfactory will be assigned based on the progress the student has made toward meeting the competencies outlined on the clinical portion of the KASA for the clinical rotations in which the student participated that semester. Details relative to how students are evaluated, graded, and (if necessary) remediated in terms of their performance of the clinical skills necessary to function as an audiologist are described below.

Satisfactory
This designation indicates that the student has demonstrated solidly competent performance appropriate for his/her academic background and clinical experience level as outlined on the Knowledge and Skills Acquisition (KASA) form.

- The student clinician is able to function effectively, with some supervisory assistance, when planning for appointments, during diagnostic and therapy sessions, and in follow through of clinical services.
- The student is effective in the application of background/academic knowledge to the clinical process.
- The student is familiar with the patient’s history and/or current medical record and with diagnostic or therapeutic materials and procedures prior to each clinical session.
- Documentation is timely and thorough and requires only minor revisions pertaining to use of professional language/style. All documentation is complete.
- The student demonstrates substantial growth and change toward professional independence.
- The student recognizes clinical strengths and areas where improvement is needed, and can generate ideas of how to implement change.
- It is projected that the student clinician will continue to learn and refine clinical skills, with decreasing amounts of supervision.
- No KASA competencies are below the level expected for the student’s clinical experience.

Unsatisfactory
This designation indicates marginally competent performance or poorer based on academic background and clinical experience as outlined on the KASA form.
• The student clinician demonstrates difficulty applying and executing the fundamentals of the clinical process when planning for appointments, during the diagnostic and therapy sessions, and in follow through of clinical services.
• The student does not independently apply background/academic knowledge to the clinical process.
• The student is not consistently familiar with the patient’s history and/or current medical record and with diagnostic or therapeutic materials and procedures prior to each clinical session.
• Documentation is not consistently informative, thorough, and/or completed in a timely manner. It requires substantial revisions in both professional language and content.
• The student needs more than usual supervision and direction relative to academic background and clinical experience as outlined on the KASA form.
• The student may recognize only some areas in need of improvement. It is projected that the student clinician may continue to need more than the usual amount of supervision with similar patients.
• One or more KASA competencies are below the level expected for the student’s clinical experience.

CLINICAL ACTION PLAN
The Clinical Action Plan (CAP) is for students who have not made sufficient progress toward meeting their competencies during a clinical practicum experience. Determination of the need for a CAP will be made by the student’s clinical educator and the Director of Clinical Education - Audiology. Other clinical educators may be consulted. The CAP will be put in place immediately following the midterm of the semester in which the student is not making sufficient progress. The CAP identifies areas in need of improvement and includes specific goals which describe behaviors that need to be demonstrated for successful completion of the clinical rotation. CAPs are written by the clinical educator working with the student showing limitations in progress. The student’s clinical educator will review the CAP with the student after which the student will sign the CAP indicating that the CAP was reviewed, the student was provided a copy and had the opportunity to ask questions regarding the CAP. The Director of Clinical Education may be involved in the review of the CAP. If the student chooses not to sign the CAP, clinic activities will be terminated, and an “Unsatisfactory” grade given for the term.

Other clinical educators including, the Director of Clinical Education, may assist the primary educator by providing additional supervision during the remainder of the semester. The student will carry a typical clinical caseload and academic registration during the time a CAP is in place.

If goals are not met and sufficient progress made toward competencies by the deadline specified in the CAP, the student will receive an Unsatisfactory” grade. A student who receives a grade of “Unsatisfactory” will not receive clinical clock hours toward ASHA or AAA certification, as well as UI credit hours toward graduation for that clinical assignment. The student will be placed on clinical probation if this is the first “Unsatisfactory” grade received for a clinical placement. Two “Unsatisfactory” grades in a student’s program will result in dismissal from the Clinical AuD program. An “Unsatisfactory” grade in the semester prior to the student’s fourth year outplacement may result in a decision to cancel or postpone that placement. An “Unsatisfactory” grade in the final semester of the fourth year externship will impact graduation.
CLINICAL PROBATION
If a student earns an unsatisfactory grade in Clinical Rotations in Audiology (CSD:5315) or Advanced Externship in Audiology (CSD:6316), the student is placed on clinical probation. The student must earn a satisfactory grade in CSD:5315 or CSD:6316 the following semester to continue in the clinical program. An “Unsatisfactory” grade may result in an extension of the student’s program. Two “Unsatisfactory” grades in a student’s program will result in dismissal from the Clinical AuD program. An “Unsatisfactory” grade in the semester prior to the student’s fourth year outplacement may result in a decision to cancel or postpone that placement. An “Unsatisfactory” grade in the final semester of the fourth year externship will impact graduation. Withdrawal from a course (grade of W) due to poor clinical performance will be considered equivalent to an “Unsatisfactory” grade. It should be noted that students are required to pass clinical checkpoint exams each semester to earn a satisfactory grade in CSD:5315. If a student achieves the goals on the CRP and receives a grade of “Satisfactory”, the student will be removed from clinical probation.

CLINICAL REMEDIATION PLAN
The Clinical Remediation Plan (CRP) is for students who have not made sufficient progress toward meeting KASA competencies and have been placed on Clinical Probation. Determination of the need for a CRP will be made by the clinical faculty and the Director of Clinical Education - Audiology. The CRP will be put in place immediately following the semester in which a student earned a “Unsatisfactory” or “Incomplete” for his/her clinical assignment. The CRP identifies areas in need of improvement and includes specific goals which describe behaviors that need to be demonstrated for successful completion of the clinical rotation. CRPs are written by the clinical educator who worked with the student during the semester in which the student earned and unsatisfactory grade. The student’s clinical educator will review the CRP with the student after which the student will sign the CRP indicating that the CRP was reviewed, the student was provided a copy and had the opportunity to ask questions regarding the CRP. The Director of Clinical Education may be involved in the review of the CRP. If the student chooses not to sign the CRP, clinic activities will be terminated, and an “Unsatisfactory” grade given for the term. Both the Director of Clinical Education – Audiology and the clinical educator who will be working with the student when the remediation plan is in place will review the CRP. The student will carry a typical clinical caseload and academic registration during the time a CRP is in place. If goals are not met and sufficient progress made toward competencies as described in the CRP, the student will receive an “Unsatisfactory.” A student who receives a grade of “Unsatisfactory” will not receive clinical clock hours toward ASHA or AAA certification, as well as UI credit hours toward graduation for that clinical assignment. Two “Unsatisfactory” grades in a student’s program will result in dismissal from the Clinical AuD program. An “Unsatisfactory” grade in the semester prior to the student’s fourth year outplacement may result in a decision to cancel or postpone that placement. An “Unsatisfactory” grade in the final semester of the fourth year externship will impact graduation.

RESEARCH REQUIREMENTS
All AuD students must register for both of the following courses in the Fall Semester of their first year in the AuD program:
- CSD:5510 Introduction to Research (0 s.h.)
- CSD:5515 Proseminar (0 s.h.)
FORMATIVE ASSESSMENTS

• Clinical Checkpoints
• Qualifying exams during the first and second years

SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENTS

• Qualifying Exam at the end of the third year

All AuD students must pass a qualifying examination at the end of each of the first three years of their study toward the AuD. A passing score on this examination is 80%. The purpose of this examination is to ensure that the student is making appropriate progress throughout their AuD program and that they retain the knowledge acquired in previous years. To that end, each year students are tested on the material they have covered in classes and clinic up to that point (e.g., first year students are tested only on content covered during the first year. Second year students are tested on information from the first two years, etc.).

Students who earn a score of less than 80% on any of the three qualifying examinations will be considered to have failed the qualifying examination. If, prior to the beginning of registration for the next semester in which the student wishes to enroll, a written declaration can be made to the Director of Graduate Studies (Chair) requesting an opportunity to repeat the qualifying examination. If that happens, the examining committee will specify a date by which the second examination must occur. In accord with the regulations of the Graduate College, this re-examination may occur no sooner than the beginning of the following term. Students are allowed to retake the qualifying examination only once. A second failure will result in dismissal from the AuD program.

CAPSTONE REQUIREMENT

All students enrolled in the AuD program must also successfully complete and defend a “Capstone Project” prior to graduation. Options relating to this final project/examination include:

1. A mentored research project;
2. A mentored, non-data based project (such as setting up a hearing conservation program in the schools);
3. A term paper that critically reviews published literature addressing a specific clinical topic assigned to the student by the AuD examination committee.

Students who select options 1 or 2 must have a mentor who is affiliated with the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at the University of Iowa. Both tenure- and clinical-track faculty members are eligible to serve as mentors. The scope of the project and timetable for completion is determined and agreed upon by the student and mentor.

Students who select option 3 will choose a topic from a set of questions provided to them by the AuD examination committee. The AuD examination committee will be composed of no less than four faculty from the University of Iowa and will include a combination of clinical faculty, tenured or tenure-track faculty and/or faculty with adjunct appointments. The following timetable will be used to insure the students make appropriate progress toward addressing these questions during their 4th year in the AuD program:
• Mid-December: Questions will be generated and sent to students electing option I above.
• Early February: Students are required to turn in a first draft of their papers to the Director of AuD Studies for dissemination to the primary readers for review.
• Mid-February: The Director of AuD Studies will send comments back to the students regarding their documents.
• Mid-March: Students will send a final version of their document back to the Director of AuD Studies.
• Prior to April 3: Faculty will vote to decide if the students have passed or failed this examination.

Students opting for options 1 or 2 will work with an advisor to identify a research topic or project that will form their capstone experience. They will be expected to conduct the research or complete the project, write a description of that work and defend their efforts to their examination committee. Finally, they will also be required to present the results of this research in a public presentation to their peers. Students must successfully pass all components of this final examination prior to graduation. Students who are enrolled in the combined AuD/PhD program will be expected to complete a research-based "capstone" project (option 1). This project will qualify as their pre-dissertation project.

Students who do not successfully complete all requirements for this capstone experience will be considered to have failed their final examination for the AuD degree. If that happens, they can make a formal request (in writing) to the Department Chair for an opportunity to repeat the qualifying examination. The examining committee will then specify a date by which the second examination must occur. In accordance with the regulations of the Graduate College, this re-examination may occur no sooner than the beginning of the following semester. Students are allowed to retake this final examination only once. A second failure will result in the student’s registration being terminated and the AuD degree will not be awarded.

NATIONAL EXAMINATION IN AUDIOLOGY
AuD students are required to take and pass the National Examination for professional practice in Audiology prior to the completion of their 4th year in the AuD program.

MATRICULATION
Shortly after the beginning of the final term of enrollment, the student and their advisor or the AuD Studies director will meet to carry out the following procedures:

1. Complete a Plan of Study Summary Sheet;
2. Completion of an internal form certifying that the student has completed all academic and practicum requirements for the Certificate of Clinical Competence from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association at end of term.

AWARDING OF DEGREES
AuD degrees are awarded upon the favorable recommendation of the examining committee, approval of the Department Chair and approval by the Graduate College. To receive a degree in any given semester, the student must have filed an Application for Graduate College Degree form for that semester. The deadline date for such filing is specified by the Registrar, and is typically early in the semester. It is the responsibility of the student to see that these and other required procedures are completed at the appropriate times.
**COMBINED AUD/PHD**

The University of Iowa also offers a combined AuD/PhD degree. Individuals wishing to pursue joint doctoral degrees are required to apply initially to the AuD program and to discuss this option with their advisor. At the end of the second year of the AuD program, they will petition the faculty to change degree objectives. This will be granted if the student is making adequate progress toward the AuD and if there is a faculty member who will mentor the student. If approved by the faculty as a whole, the student and his/her mentor will form a planning committee who will help the candidate merge the two curricula efficiently. It should be possible to complete a project that will serve both as a capstone project for the AuD and as a pre-dissertation project for the PhD. Students, along with their committee members, will determine how the clinical practicum rotations will be interleaved with PhD coursework. The student will then present this program of study to the department chair, who – in consultation with the faculty - will make final decisions on a case-by-case basis about admission and funding eligibility.

For students with an undergraduate background in this field who wish to pursue work toward a combined AuD/PhD, it is estimated that completion of both the AuD and PhD degrees will take approximately 7 years.

It should be emphasized that the above policies are not intended to discourage students from longer periods of study if such study can be justified in relation to their eventual goals. Instead, they should be interpreted as guidelines for program planning and student evaluation and will be taken into account in making decisions concerning continuation of financial aid.
THE MASTER OF ARTS DEGREE IN SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

The MA SLP program the University of Iowa is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation (see Appendix A). Graduates of this program meet all requirements for clinical certification by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and will be eligible for licensure in the State of Iowa.

COURSEWORK
Prerequisite undergraduate coursework required for graduation with an MA degree can be viewed at [https://clas.uiowa.edu/comsci/graduate-program/master-arts-speech-language-pathology-ma-slp-program#Admission](https://clas.uiowa.edu/comsci/graduate-program/master-arts-speech-language-pathology-ma-slp-program#Admission).

The specific course requirements for the MA program can be found at [https://clas.uiowa.edu/comsci/graduate-program/master-arts-speech-language-pathology-ma-slp-program#Plan](https://clas.uiowa.edu/comsci/graduate-program/master-arts-speech-language-pathology-ma-slp-program#Plan).

This program of study provides training that will allow students to function as a speech pathologist in any clinical environment.

THESIS OPTION
All MA students have an opportunity to pursue an independent research project as a part of their MA program. Students interested in completing a thesis should speak with their academic advisor about their interest. Generally, students may speak with a number of faculty members about their research in order to identify an appropriate thesis mentor. Students should begin their thesis by the beginning of the first spring semester. Thesis students will be required to take the EBP seminar their first Fall semester and to write the EBP paper (same as non-thesis students). Thesis students will be required to take 4 credits of research (CSD:7590) over the course of their program. Because the thesis work will require a considerable time commitment, thesis students will be required to take a minimum of 8 (rather than 12) credits of menu courses.

ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES
The American Speech Language and Hearing Association has established competencies students must master if they want to be eligible for clinical certification in Speech Pathology. These competencies are outlined on a Knowledge and Skills Acquisition (KASA) form. Part of that form focuses on the didactic coursework students must receive. The other part focuses on the clinical training component.

ASSESSING DIDACTIC PROGRESS
For academic coursework, instructors for each class will assign a letter grade to each student using a 4-point scale. Successful completion of the MA program requires that each student maintain a cumulative graduate GPA of 3.0 or higher. Students who earn a grade lower than a B- for any of the courses required for graduation must work with the course instructor to develop an individual remediation plan to ensure that the student masters the material required for clinical practice as outlined on the didactic portion of the KASA form. That plan may include retaking part or all of a course during another semester, and as a result may prolong the time required for completion of the degree. Successful completion of
this additional requirement will not result in a change in the grade earned by the student when they originally took the course.

Per Graduate College regulations, students who fall below the 3.0 GPA requirements will have one semester to raise their overall GPA above the minimum level. If they are not able to do so, they will not be allowed to continue in the program. Earning a grade below a B-during two semesters will also result in dismissal from the MA program.

**ASSESSING CLINICAL PROGRESS**

At the end of each semester the clinical faculty will review each students’ progress toward attaining the skill set necessary to function as a competent audiologist. For each clinical rotation (including rotations in the in-house training clinic and at clinical outplacement sites) a grade of either satisfactory or unsatisfactory will be assigned based on the progress the student has made toward meeting the competencies outlined on the clinical portion of the KASA. Details relative to expectations for incoming students and how students are evaluated, graded, and (if necessary) remediated in terms of their performance of the clinical skills necessary to function as a speech/language pathologist are described below.

**GRADING**

Each student will receive “Satisfactory” – “Unsatisfactory” grades in all clinical practicums, including in-house and external assignments. General procedures performed by the clinical faculty: (To be completed in this order)

1. Clinical supervisors will individually complete KASAs for all student clinicians on their team.
2. All clinical supervisors and the Clinical Director meet to collectively complete Section C of the KASA for all student clinicians and determine the final grade for all student clinicians. Supervisors of students in external placements will provide their feedback to the Director of Clinical Education (SLP). (The meeting will be tentatively scheduled for Monday of Finals Week).
3. Letters communicating each student clinician’s grade (e.g., S or U) will be distributed to all student clinicians no later than Monday afternoon of Finals Week.
4. All clinical supervisors will meet with each of the student clinicians on their team to provide feedback on KASA competencies in their respective areas.

If a student clinician receives an Unsatisfactory evaluation, the student clinician will meet with the Clinical Director (no later than 5:00 pm on Monday of Finals Week) prior to participating in KASA meetings with their clinical supervisors.

All Clinical Faculty (or supervisors) who have supervised a student in any given semester will collectively determine one overall grade for that semester.

A student may receive an overall grade of “Unsatisfactory” for the semester (including summers), even if the student has received satisfactory performance feedback from some supervisors. Similarly, a student may receive an overall grade of “Satisfactory” for the semester, even if the student has received unsatisfactory performance feedback from some supervisors.

An “Unsatisfactory” grade indicates that some aspect of the student’s clinical performance is inappropriate or unacceptable.
An “Unsatisfactory” grade will result in the student being placed on clinical probation. An “Unsatisfactory” grade may result in an extension of the student’s program. A student who receives a grade of “Unsatisfactory” will not receive clinical clock hours, or UI credit hours toward graduation and ASHA certification for that clinical assignment. Two consecutive overall “Unsatisfactory” grades in a student’s program will result in dismissal from the Clinical Master’s program.

An “Unsatisfactory” grade in the semester prior to the student’s final (outplacement) semester may result in a decision to cancel or postpone the student’s outplacements. This decision will be made by the Clinic Director, in consultation with the clinical faculty.

**Satisfactory**
This designation indicates that the student has demonstrated solidly competent performance appropriate for their academic background and clinical experience level as outlined on the Knowledge and Skills Acquisition (KASA) form.

- The student clinician is able to function effectively, with some supervisory assistance, in planning, during the diagnostic and therapy settings, and in follow through of clinical services.
- The student is effective in the application of background/academic knowledge to the clinical process.
- The student is familiar with the client’s history and/or current file and with diagnostic or therapeutic materials and procedures prior to each clinical session.
- Reports are timely and thorough and require only minor revisions pertaining to use of professional language/style All paperwork is complete.
- The student demonstrates substantial growth and change toward professional independence.
- The student recognizes clinical strengths and areas where improvement is needed, and can generate ideas of how to implement change.
- It is projected that the student clinician will continue to learn and refine clinical skills, with decreasing amounts of supervision.
- No KASA competencies are below the level expected for the student’s clinical experience.

**Unsatisfactory**
This designation indicates marginally competent performance or poorer based on academic background and clinical experience as outlined on the KASA form.

- The student clinician demonstrates difficulty applying and executing the fundamentals of the clinical process in planning, during the diagnostic and therapy settings, and in follow through of clinical services.
- The student does not independently apply background/academic knowledge to the clinical process.
- The student is not consistently familiar with the client’s history and/or current file and with diagnostic or therapeutic materials and procedures prior to each clinical session.
- Paperwork is not consistently timely and informative. Reports are not consistently timely and thorough and require substantial revisions in both professional language and content. Paperwork is not consistently complete.
• The student needs more than usual supervision and direction for academic background and clinical experience as outlined on the KASA form.
• The student may recognize only some of the areas in need of improvement. It is projected that the student clinician may continue to need more than the usual amount of supervision with similar clients.
• One or more KASA competencies are below level expected for the student’s clinical experience.

CLINICAL ACTION PLAN
The Clinical Action Plan (CAP) is for students who have not made sufficient progress toward meeting their competencies by midterm of the 1st semester of clinical practicum. The CAP will be put in place immediately following the midterm of the 1st semester of clinic. Determination of the need for a CAP will be made by the clinical faculty member supervising the student and the Clinic Director. Other clinical faculty may be consulted.

The CAP will identify areas of weakness and specific goals will be written by the supervising faculty member, the Clinic Director, and the student. In addition, other faculty members may assist the primary supervisors by providing additional supervision.

Two clinical faculty members will supervise the student who has a Clinical Action Plan. If goals are not met and sufficient progress made toward competencies, the student will receive an “Unsatisfactory” and be placed on clinical probation.

CLINICAL REMEDIATION PLAN
A Clinical Remediation Plan (CRP) may be created for a student if they have been placed on Clinical Probation OR if they are not achieving competencies in one area (e.g., writing reports). The CRP is similar to the Clinical Action Plan in that will identify areas of weakness and specific goals will be written by the supervising faculty member, the Clinic Director, and the student. In addition, other faculty members may assist the primary supervisors by providing additional supervision. The CRP also may involve additional supervision by a 2nd clinical faculty member. The Clinic Director will review the CRP with the student and a copy of the CRP will be placed in the student’s file and be given to the advisor.

CLINICAL PROBATION
A student can be placed on clinical probation if they receive an “Unsatisfactory” grade for clinical practicum in any semester of their program.

Once a student has been placed on clinic probation:

• The student will carry a typical clinical caseload and registration for CSD:5301 (Clinical Practicum).

• If a student achieves the goals on the CRP and receives a grade of “Satisfactory”, the student will be removed from clinical probation. If the student does not achieve the CRP goals and does not receive a grade of “Satisfactory”, the student will be dismissed from the clinical Master’s program.

• The student should understand that being placed on clinical probation may extend their program by at least one semester.
• If a student is placed on clinical probation a 2nd time during their graduate program they will be dismissed from the clinical Master’s program.

WITHDRAWAL FROM CLINICAL PRACTICUM
If a student withdraws from a clinical rotation, their graduate program will be extended by at least one semester in order to have the opportunity to complete that clinical rotation. Withdrawal from clinical practicum more than once during the graduate program will result in dismissal from the clinical Master’s program.

AWARDING OF DEGREES
To receive a degree in any given semester, the student must have filed an Application for Graduate College Degree form for that semester. The deadline date for such filing is specified by the Registrar, and is typically early in the semester. It is the responsibility of the student to see that these and other required procedures are completed at the appropriate times.
Appendix A


Effective Date: September 1, 2014

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 will go into effect for all applications for certification received on or after September 1, 2014. View the [SLP Standards Crosswalk](http://www.asha.org/Certification/2014-Speech-Language-Pathology-Certification-Standards/) for more specific information on how the standards will change from the current SLP standards to the 2014 SLP standards.

Citation


Standard I: Degree

The applicant for certification must have a master’s, doctoral, or other recognized post-baccalaureate degree.
Implementation: The Council for Clinical Certification in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CFCC) has the authority to determine eligibility of all applicants for certification.

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).

Implementation: If the program of graduate study is initiated and completed in a CAA-accredited program and if the program director or official designee verifies that all knowledge and skills required at that time for application have been met, approval of the application is automatic. 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. In addition, applicants outside the United States or its territories must meet each of the standards that follow.

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.

Implementation: The minimum of 36 graduate semester credit hours must have been earned in a program that addresses the knowledge and skills pertinent to the ASHA Scope of Practice in Speech-Language Pathology.

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.

Implementation: Acceptable courses in biological sciences should emphasize a content area related to human or animal sciences (e.g., biology, human anatomy and physiology, neuroanatomy and neurophysiology, human genetics, veterinary science). Acceptable courses in physical sciences should include physics or chemistry. Acceptable courses in social/behavioral sciences should include psychology, sociology, anthropology, or public health. A stand-alone course in statistics is required. Research methodology courses in communication sciences and disorders (CSD) may not be used to satisfy the statistics
requirement. A course in biological and physical sciences specifically related to CSD may not be applied for certification purposes to this category unless the course fulfills a university requirement in one of these areas.

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

Implementation: It is expected that course work addressing the professional knowledge specified in Standard IV-C will occur primarily at the graduate level.

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.

Implementation: The applicant must have demonstrated knowledge of the principles and rules of the current ASHA Code of Ethics.

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.

Implementation: The applicant must have demonstrated knowledge of the principles of basic and applied research and research design. In addition, the applicant must have demonstrated knowledge of how to access sources of research information and have demonstrated the ability to relate research to clinical practice.

**Standard IV-G**  
The applicant must have demonstrated knowledge of contemporary professional issues.

Implementation: The applicant must have demonstrated knowledge of professional issues that affect speech-language pathology. Issues typically include trends in professional practice, academic program accreditation standards, ASHA practice policies and guidelines, and reimbursement procedures.

**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.

Implementation: The applicant must have demonstrated communication skills sufficient to achieve effective clinical and professional interaction with clients/patients and relevant others. In addition, the applicant must have demonstrated the ability to write and comprehend technical reports, diagnostic and treatment reports, treatment plans, and professional correspondence.

**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, non-standardized 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.

Implementation: The applicant must have acquired the skills referred to in this standard
applicable across the nine major areas listed in Standard IV-C. Skills may be developed
and demonstrated by direct client/patient contact in clinical experiences, academic course
work, labs, simulations, examinations, and completion of independent projects.

The applicant must have obtained a sufficient variety of supervised clinical experiences in
different work settings and with different populations so that he or she can demonstrate skills
across the ASHA Scope of Practice in Speech-Language Pathology. Supervised clinical
experience is defined as clinical services (i.e., assessment/diagnosis/evaluation, screening,
treatment, report writing, family/client consultation, and/or counseling) related to the management of populations that fit within the ASHA Scope of Practice in Speech-Language Pathology.

Supervisors of clinical experiences must hold a current ASHA Certificate of Clinical Competence in the appropriate area of practice during the time of supervision. The supervised activities must be within the ASHA Scope of Practice in Speech-Language Pathology to count toward certification.

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.

Implementation: Guided observation hours generally precede direct contact with clients/patients. The observation and direct client/patient contact hours must be within the ASHA Scope of Practice of Speech-Language Pathology and must be under the supervision of a qualified professional who holds current ASHA certification in the appropriate practice area. Such supervision may occur simultaneously with the student’s observation or afterwards through review and approval of written reports or summaries submitted by the student. Students may use video recordings of client services for observation purposes.

Applicants should be assigned practicum only after they have acquired sufficient knowledge bases to qualify for such experience. Only direct contact with the client or the client’s family in assessment, intervention, and/or counseling can be counted toward practicum. Although several students may observe a clinical session at one time, clinical practicum hours should be assigned only to the student who provides direct services to the client or client’s family. Typically, only one student should be working with a given client at a time in order to count the practicum hours. In rare circumstances, it is possible for several students working as a team to receive credit for the same session, depending on the specific responsibilities each student is assigned. For example, in a diagnostic session, if one student evaluates the client and another interviews the parents, both students may receive credit for the time each spent in providing the service. However, if student A works with the client for 30 minutes and student B works with the client for the next 45 minutes, each student receives credit for only the time he/she actually provided services—that is, 30 minutes for student A and 45 minutes for student B. The applicant must maintain documentation of time spent in supervised practicum, verified by the program in accordance with Standards III and IV.

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.

Implementation: A minimum of 325 clock hours of clinical practicum must be completed at the graduate level. At the discretion of the graduate program, hours obtained at the undergraduate level may be used to satisfy the remainder of the requirement.

**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.

Implementation: Direct supervision must be in real time. A supervisor must be available to consult with a student providing clinical services to the supervisor’s client. Supervision of clinical practicum is intended to provide guidance and feedback and to facilitate the student’s acquisition of essential clinical skills. The 25% supervision standard is a minimum requirement and should be adjusted upward whenever the student’s level of knowledge, skills, and experience warrants.

**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.

Implementation: The applicant must demonstrate direct client/patient clinical experiences in both assessment and intervention with both children and adults from the range of disorders and differences named in Standard IV-C.

**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).

Implementation: The Clinical Fellowship may be initiated only after completion of all academic course work and clinical experiences required to meet the knowledge and skills delineated in Standards IV and V. The CF must have been completed under the mentorship of an individual who held the ASHA Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology (CCC-SLP) throughout the duration of the fellowship.
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.

Implementation: No less than 80% of the Fellow’s major responsibilities during the CF experience must have been in direct client/patient contact (e.g., assessment, diagnosis, evaluation, screening, treatment, clinical research activities, family/client consultations, recordkeeping, report writing, and/or counseling) related to the management process for individuals who exhibit communication and/or swallowing disabilities. Full-time professional experience is defined as 35 hours per week, culminating in a minimum of 1,260 hours. Part-time experience of less than 5 hours per week will not meet the CF requirement and may not be counted toward completion of the experience. Similarly, work in excess of the 35 hours per week cannot be used to shorten the CF to less than 36 weeks.

Standard VII-B: Clinical Fellowship Mentorship
The Clinical Fellow must have received ongoing mentoring and formal evaluations by the CF mentor.

Implementation: Mentoring must have included on-site observations and other monitoring activities. These activities may have been executed by correspondence, review of video and/or audio recordings, evaluation of written reports, telephone conferences with the Fellow, and evaluations by professional colleagues with whom the Fellow works. The CF mentor and Clinical Fellow must have participated in regularly scheduled formal evaluations of the Fellow’s progress during the CF experience.

Standard VII-C: Clinical Fellowship Outcomes
The Clinical Fellow must have demonstrated knowledge and skills consistent with the ability to practice independently.

Implementation: At the completion of the CF experience, the applicant will have acquired and demonstrated the ability to

- integrate and apply theoretical knowledge,
- evaluate his or her strengths and identify his or her limitations,
- refine clinical skills within the Scope of Practice in Speech-Language Pathology,
- apply the ASHA Code of Ethics to independent professional practice.

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 Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology (CCC-SLP).

Implementation: Individuals who hold the Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology (CCC-SLP) must accumulate 30 certification maintenance hours of professional development during every 3-year maintenance interval. Intervals are continuous and begin January 1 of the year following award of initial certification or reinstatement of certification. A random audit of compliance will be conducted.

Accrual of professional development hours, adherence to the ASHA Code of Ethics, submission of certification maintenance compliance documentation, and payment of annual dues and/or certification fees are required for maintenance of certification.