

Speech-Language Pathology

Degrees Available at SIUE

- Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology

The SIUE graduate program in speech-language pathology is accredited by the Council of Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

Certification and Licensure: Upon graduation, students are eligible to apply for a Professional Educator License in the State of Illinois, Illinois license to practice Speech-Language Pathology, and ASHA certification following successful completion of the clinical fellowship year.

Speech-Language Pathology at SIUE

The graduate program in speech-language pathology combines classroom instruction, research and practical experiences. A full range of courses and practicum opportunities prepares students to work with a variety of individuals with communication needs in various work settings. The program is typically completed in five to six full-time semesters. For the past several years, 100% of our students have achieved a passing score on the PRAXIS examination. Courses and clinical experiences are provided during the day with some evening offerings. This program is completed entirely on the Edwardsville campus.

The speech-language pathology program offers unique opportunities for practicum experiences on-and off-campus. The program has agreements with nationally and internationally known hospitals, agencies, rehabilitation centers, nursing homes and educational facilities. The program can provide students with exceptional experiences with children and adults with neurological disorders, hearing impairments, autism, speech and language impairments, aphasia, stuttering and voice disorders.

The program also operates a Speech-Language-Hearing Center that provides intervention and assessment for children and adults with a wide range of communication needs, including speech, language, cognition, accent modification and transgender voice services. The Center, located on the first floor of the Vadalabene Center, includes nine fully-equipped treatment rooms and an observation room. Graduate students in speech-language pathology, under supervision of certified faculty, provide all the intervention and assessments completed in the Speech-Language-Hearing Center.

Why Speech-Language Pathology?

A career as a speech-language pathologist is extremely rewarding, and the need for professionals in these fields is expected to increase over the next decade. Opportunities in various work settings are numerous and include educational facilities, hospitals, rehabilitation centers, nursing homes, home health, colleges and universities, and many more.

Career Outlook

The career outlook for speech-language pathologists continues to be very positive. One hundred percent of students graduating with a master's degree in speech-language pathology from SIUE are employed within the first year of graduation and many students are employed before they graduate. In addition to a positive career outlook, most of our students complete the program within the expected time frame and pass the national PRAXIS examination.

Hands-on Learning

Speech-Language-Hearing Center

The Speech-Language Hearing Center is used as a learning environment for speech-language pathology graduate students. Sessions are conducted by graduate students and are directly supervised by a licensed and certified speech-language pathologist. Graduate student clinicians receive direct instruction and feedback for each session. Sessions are 30-60 minutes and are typically conducted twice per week. After an evaluation has been performed, services are provided based on the needs of the client.

Instructional Materials Center

The Instructional Materials Center is a faculty and student resource center available to the speech-language pathology program.

Externships

Off-campus practicum experiences are available at numerous sites, including all major hospitals, nursing homes, rehabilitation centers, agencies, pediatric medical and educational facilities. Our students work in facilities for individuals with head injuries, hearing impairments, cranio-facial anomalies, dysphagia, dementia, stuttering and more.



Faculty

Graduate Program Director

Steffany M. Chleboun, PhD, CCC-SLP
2006, University of Nebraska at Lincoln
sppa-inquiries@siue.edu

Kathryn Brady, PhD, CCC-SLP

2009, University of Missouri, Columbia

Lauren Heimbuecher, MS, CCC-SLP

Clinical Instructor

Jaime Henderson, MS, CCC-SLP

Coordinator of the Speech-Language-Hearing Center

Marie Klopfenstein, PhD

2012, University of Louisiana-Lafayette

Tedd Masiogale, MA, CCC-SLP

Clinical Instructor

Allison Meder Sauerwein, PhD, CCC-SLP

2018, University of Kansas

James V. Panico, PhD, CCC-SLP

2005, University of Nebraska at Lincoln

Assistantships

A variety of opportunities exist for graduate assistantships. Deadlines for these assistantships vary, and students are strongly encouraged to submit their application for assistantships at the same time they apply to the speech-language pathology program. More information is available online at siue.edu/education/applied-health.

Year 1 (Summer Semester - optional start)

Elective*

Fall Semester

541 Child Sp. Sound Disorders
503 Research
544 Child Language Disorders
549 Clinic Practicum

Spring Semester

542 Voice Disorders
545 Adult Acquired Disorders
540 Early Intervention
549 Clinic Practicum

Year 1

Year 2 (Summer Semester)

548 Dysphagia
Elective*
549 Clinic Practicum

Year 2

543 Stuttering
547 Motor Speech Disorders
549 Clinical Practicum

560 Professional Issues
549 School Externship
549 Medical Externship
Comprehensive Exam

+ Students may choose to begin their graduate studies the summer prior to the first fall semester. Students may take an elective during their summer session.

* Students must complete two hours of electives within the area of specialization or in related areas. These courses vary from summer to summer.

Admission Requirements

1. Minimum cumulative 3.0 GPA (A=4.0)
2. Competitive scores on the GRE. SIUE does not have a minimum score requirement. Applicants to the speech-language pathology program must use Institution Code 0701: SOUTHERN ILLINOIS-EDWARD CSDCAS
3. Resume information will be collected from the information provided in the experiences portion of the CSDCAS application. A separate resume is not required.
4. Supplemental Materials: Videos of applicants responding to a prompt or series of questions.
5. Three letters of recommendation. At least one of the letters of recommendation must come from program faculty. We strongly encourage multiple letters of recommendation from program faculty.
6. Transcripts from all schools attended. All official transcripts MUST be sent to CSDCAS at: CSDCAS Verification Department, P.O. Box 9113, Watertown, MA 02471. If currently enrolled, fall transcripts with most recent (fall) grades posted must be submitted to CSDCAS for application to be completed. In addition, each applicant must complete an academic update to enter their fall grades and allow verification by CSDCAS. Applications will not be considered without CSDCAS verification of these fall grades. It is the student's responsibility to refer to the CSDCAS procedure for proper and timely submission of transcripts and academic updates.
7. International Students: If English is not the applicant's native language, he or she must demonstrate native or near-native ability in spoken English. The applicant must take and submit official test scores for either the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or International English Language Testing System (IELTS). A minimum TOEFL iBT score of 100 or IELTS score of 7 is required to be considered for admission to our master's program

TOEFL scores should be sent directly to CSDCAS using code C122; CSDCAS does not accept IELTS scores; therefore, your official IELTS scores should be sent directly from the testing service to our program:

Speech-Language Pathology Graduate Program
Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
Campus Box 1147
Edwardsville, IL 62026-1147

Application Deadline

The application deadline for the graduate program is January 15 for the following fall semester. This deadline corresponds to the CSDCAS designation of E-submit. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that the application is E-submitted by January 15 and that all materials have been submitted (subsequently qualifying the application as Complete) by February 1. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

Admission decisions are typically completed during the first part of March.

How to Apply

All transcripts, GRE scores, letters of recommendation and supplemental materials are to be submitted through the Centralized Application Service (CSDCAS). We encourage students to read the CSDCAS Application Instructions before submitting their application.

Academic Advising Information

Students admitted to the program are assigned a faculty advisor who will assist them with their program and registration.

Graduation Requirements

Students must successfully complete all academic and clinical requirements and an oral comprehensive examination, thesis defense, or presentation of research experience.

Curriculum

Thirty-six semester hours of acceptable graduate credit are required to complete the Master of Science in speech-language pathology.

These hours include:

Academic core courses (34 hours): SPPA 503, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 547, 548, 558, 560

- Option 1 (comprehensive exam): core courses, one elective and a culminating comprehensive examination, or
- Option 2 (thesis): core courses, six thesis credits (SPPA 599) and a culminating thesis, or
- Option 3 (research experience): core courses, two research credits (SPPA 510) and a research experience outcome

Students must also complete an average of 22-27 semester hours of on- and off-campus clinical experiences to meet certification and licensure requirements. Students are able to complete the program in five consecutive, full-time semesters. Students should refer to their individual plans of study for more information.

Students receiving more than two C's or any one grade below a C will be dismissed from the program.

Retention Policy

Retention/Dismissal: Students must achieve grades of C or higher in all coursework (academic and clinical). Students who receive three or more C's, or a grade of D or lower in any coursework will be dismissed from the program.