



Admissions Guide

Master's Degree in Communication Sciences & Disorders



*Information related to admission
requirements and how to apply*

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

This guide is divided into **two** sections:

- **Part I** is a summarized version of our MS Degree program and is designed to provide a brief overview of our program and to highlight pertinent information regarding the application process.
- **Part II** expands upon the information provided in Part I and provides more information about the program itself.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION SCIENCES & DISORDERS

Our Department has four degree programs (Bachelor of Science in Speech and Hearing Science (BS), Master of Science in Communication Sciences and Disorders (MS), Clinical Doctorate of Audiology (AuD), and Doctorate of Philosophy in Rehabilitation Sciences (PhD)). This program booklet provides information necessary for the Master of Science in Communication Sciences and Disorders: on-campus program, distance education program, (including our partnerships with Arizona State University and University of Alaska Anchorage) and the pre-requisites necessary to become eligible for admission to the MS program. You can learn more about our other degree programs at www.ecu.edu/csd.

ON-CAMPUS PROGRAM

- Our campus MS degree is typically 5-6 semesters long (Fall-Spring-Summer-Fall-Spring).
- Students complete 3 semesters in our on-campus clinic, one part-time internship, one full-time internship.
- A thesis is optional.
- Assistantships may be available for employment within the department.

DISTANCE EDUCATION (DE) PROGRAM

We have three separate, yet similar, distance education options.

- Students who would like a Distance Education model can apply for our “DE” program. Across 8-9 semesters, the students take at least 42 credits of classes and at least 12 credits of clinical work and graduate with at least 54 credits. The student is **required to attend an on-campus orientation** before the start of their classes and then completes all course work and clinicals in their geographical location with few exceptions.
- Students in Arizona can apply for the “Arizona Program” whereby they take at least 42 credits from ECU and at least 12 credits in clinical courses from Arizona State. ECU transfers in the ASU clinical credits and awards the degree. The student completes all their work in their own geographical location or on campus at Arizona State University. This program is 3 years (8-9 semesters). This program is for students who are residents of the state of Arizona only.
- Students in Alaska can apply for the “Alaska Program” whereby they take at least 42 credits from ECU and at least 12 credits in clinical courses from University of Alaska Anchorage. ECU transfers in the UAA credits and awards the degree. The student completes all their work in their own geographical location or in Anchorage, Alaska. This program is 3 years (8-9 semesters). There are opportunities to do one full-time internship outside of the state of Alaska. This program is for students who are residents of the state of Alaska only.
- A thesis is not available for any distance education program.

NON-CLINICAL MS DEGREE

- For individuals who do not want to become a clinical speech-language pathologist (in any setting), we have a science-based MS degree. This degree does not provide training in clinical therapy or diagnostic processes and is designed for people who plan to pursue a PhD

INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLYING TO THE MASTER'S DEGREE

Thank you for your interest in applying to the MS degree programs in Communication Sciences & Disorders at East Carolina University!

Please follow these instructions for all MS degrees in Communication Sciences & Disorders at East Carolina University including the Campus program, Joint program with University of Alaska-Anchorage, Joint program with Arizona State University, and our regular Distance Education program.

We typically accept 28-35 for the campus program, up to 10 from Alaska, up to 5 from Arizona, and 13-15 from the ECU DE program.

Please check our website for "Information Session" dates and RSVP at: masterscsdi@ecu.edu.

COMPLETE THE EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY APPLICATION

Applicants will apply directly to East Carolina University Graduate School. You need to go to [Find Your Program CSDI](#) Click on "Apply Now" and choose your concentration.

Complete the online application and pay a \$75.00 fee.

The application period begins mid-late July. We require that applications for ECU be completed by January 15. International applicants may need to apply much earlier to ensure that all materials are received by January 15.

Please make sure the email you use for this application will remain current throughout the entire process and is one that you check on a regular basis.

MS Degree in CSDI

Program Summary

FACE-TO-FACE

5-7

semester program

Designed to train clinical speech-language pathologists. Coursework and clinical experiences are face-to-face at ECU in Greenville, NC. Nationwide opportunities are available for full-time internships.

JAN. 15th

Applications are due Jan. 15th each year for fall enrollment. No spring or summer enrollments.

Minimum

GPA

3.0

Clinic Training

- 3 semesters on-campus clinic as well as sites within the vicinity of Greenville
- 1 part-time internship
- 1 full-time internship

Typical Applicant



- 3.8 Overall GPA
- 3.82 Pre-req GPA
- Exhibits strong ethics, critical thinking skills, interpersonal skills, and initiative.



Most Recent
Application Cycle

- 150 applicants
- 32 accepted

DISTANCE EDUCATION

8-9

semester program

Designed to train clinical speech-language pathologists. Course work is online and clinic is in the geographical location of the student.

JAN. 15th

Applications are due Jan. 15th each year for fall enrollment. No spring or summer enrollments.

Minimum

GPA

3.0

Clinic Training

- 4-6 semesters of clinical training in the geographical area of student

Typical Applicant



- 3.8 Overall GPA
- 3.82 Pre-req GPA
- Exhibits strong ethics, critical thinking skills, interpersonal skills, and initiative.



Most Recent
Application Cycle

- 80 applicants
- 13 accepted
- 4 Alaska accepted
- 2 Arizona accepted

Visit www.ecu.edu/csd for more application information

REQUIRED PRE-REQUISITES FOR MS PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

- For all clinical programs (ECU campus, ECU DE, Alaska, Arizona), pre-requisite background knowledge is required for eligibility to the MS program. A background of undergraduate courses in speech and hearing sciences is essential.
- For those students who do not have an undergraduate degree in the field, specific undergraduate courses must be taken prior to beginning the MS program.
- The graduate program in speech-language pathology or communication sciences requires completed coursework in the following areas at the undergraduate level for admission:
 - Phonetics
 - Anatomy of Speech and Hearing
 - Language Development
 - Acquisition of Development of Articulation and Phonology
 - Speech Science
 - Neurology of Speech and Language (recommended)
 - Introduction to Audiology+
 - Introduction to Aural Rehabilitation+
 - A graduate or undergraduate statistics course*
 - At least 6 credits in Biology/Physical Sciences**
 - At least 6 credits in Social/Behavioral Sciences*

*NC state law requires 3 credits of Audiology and 3 credits of Aural Rehabilitation. Thus, anyone who is in NC or plans to do their MS degree in NC must have at least 6 credits of Audiology/Aural Rehabilitation on their transcript prior to the MS degree. Therefore, we require all of our students – campus or DE – to have these credits **prior** to enrolling in any of our MS degree options.

*ASHA certification requirements include completion of a statistics course. The Statistics course MUST have the word statistics in the title; general math classes are not acceptable.

Beginning January 1, 2020, applicants' coursework in physical science must include content in either **physics or chemistry. Please use the following link to see ASHA specifics related to the requirements. <https://www.asha.org/Certification/Course-Content-Areas-for-SLP-Standards/>

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

There are slightly different requirements for the campus and DE programs, so please read carefully.

All MS Students (campus, ECU DE, Arizona or Alaska):

- Minimum of a 3.0 overall GPA
- Minimum of a 3.2 in SLP pre-requisite courses
- Observation Hours (25 clock hour minimum)
 - **Campus students:** are required to submit documentation of at least 25 clock hours guided observation of SLP or Audiology sessions by **August 1st before the Fall semester** of enrollment
 - **All DE students:** are required to submit documentation of at least 25 clock hours guided observation of SLP or Audiology sessions by **December 1st of first fall semester.**
- 3 letters of recommendation (1 must be from academic professor) that can verify your ability to succeed in a rigorous graduate program
- [Completed Course Description Document](#) (also found on our [Website](#)). Download the file, complete and upload with application
- [Completed Pre-requisite Excel file](#) (also found on our [Website](#)). Download the file, complete and upload with application
- Resume (max 2 pages)
- Completion of Casper, a situational judgement test taken online. Visit www.TakeAltus.com to create your account and sign up to take Casper.
- Completion of an essay within the application portal (400 words or less)
- Have a BS/BA in speech-language pathology or a related field OR have taken the pre- requisite courses listed on page of this booklet.
- To reserve your place in the Communication Sciences & Disorders (MS, all cohorts) program once admitted, you will need to send a non-refundable deposit of US \$100 prior to the deadline indicated in your acceptance materials. This US \$100 will be credited towards your tuition when you enroll at East Carolina University; if you do not enroll, your deposit will be forfeited.

ALL DE Students (ECU, Arizona or Alaska):

- Live at least **75 miles away from Greenville NC** for the duration of the program.
- The Distance Education MS degree is the exact same degree as the campus program. We require the same admission criteria and use the same procedures.
- You can apply to both programs. You will need to complete two ECU applications
- One application should indicate Campus and one application should indicate DE.
- Students enrolled in the program must have a computer capable of running Microsoft Windows 8.1 or Windows 10 and Microsoft Office 2013 Professional or newer.
- It is recommended that all students have access to a computer that meets the minimum specifications of the recommended Basic PC or Basic Mac listed [here](#).

APPLICATION MATERIALS

For a more detailed understanding and explanation of these requirements please see page 13 or click [here](#).

- Complete application and application fee
- Official transcripts for all colleges/universities attended
 - Official transcripts from all universities you have attended should be sent to the **ECU Graduate School**.
- Three recommendations (1 from academic professor)
- Writing Prompt (400 words or less): Why is ECU the school in which you want to pursue your graduate degree in speech-language pathology? Express how your values and strengths align with the mission of the program, college, and ECU.
- [Completed Course Description Document](#) (also found on our [Website](#)). Download the file, complete and upload with application
- [Completed Pre-requisite Excel file](#) (also found on our [Website](#)). Download the file, complete and upload with application
- Resume (max 2 pages)
- Complete the CASPER assessment and Report CASPER scores to ECU via TakeAltus.com

CSDI has a multi-phased application and student selection process. Applicants who pass Phase 1 will be invited to participate in Phase 2 which includes an interview.

- **Interview:** Top 50-100 applicants (dependent on total number of applicants) will be invited to participate in an interview with admissions committee members

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

The final application due date is **January 15**. Begin application process immediately.

| TASK | Recommended Due Date | Date You Did It |
|---|--|-----------------|
| Complete online ECU application | Mid - September | |
| Send original transcripts directly from every school ever attended. | End of September | |
| Send original FOREIGN transcripts with transcript evaluation to ECU. (If applicable) | End of September | |
| Ask references to write you a letter | Mid - September | |
| Complete Casper test | No later than December 7 th | |
| Request letters again to be completed by December 1 st | November 15 th | |
| ORDER FALL transcript from current university to ECU once grades from Fall are posted | End of November | |
| Check that letters of reference have been submitted | No later than December | |

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE MASTER'S PROGRAM & APPLYING

What if I don't have an undergraduate degree in Communication Sciences & Disorders?

There are currently two options:

1. If your undergraduate degree is in a field other than Communication Sciences & Disorders, you must have at least 18 credit hours of required undergraduate courses. The specific courses are in the Pre-Requisites Section of this packet.;
2. We have a program called Provisional Acceptance Program for students who have not obtained an undergraduate degree in speech and have not taken the pre-requisite courses. This is a campus only option. It is a three-year program; in which the first year, you are taking all of the pre-req classes. If you receive a B or higher in all of the classes, then you are automatically accepted into the Master's program for the following two years. If you fail to make a B or better, you are no longer in the program. Courses cannot be re-taken.

This is a very competitive program therefore in order to be competitive applicants should have a GPA higher than 3.5. If you choose this option, you will apply during the regular admission cycle (opens mid-to-late July and closes Jan 15th), choose provisional, and submit all required aspects except the pre-req information. If accepted, you will start that following fall.

Are the prerequisite courses offered at ECU online?

No. Prerequisite courses are offered online at many universities across the US.

Are the prerequisite courses offered on-campus at ECU?

Yes, but the prerequisite courses are only offered to those accepted into our undergraduate program. For more information on this process visit: <https://communications-disorders.ecu.edu/education/undergraduates-bs/>.

What other undergraduate courses do I need?

1. Students must demonstrate at least 6 credits of Biological/Physical Sciences. Accepted 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). Beginning January 1, 2020, applicants' coursework in physical science must include content in either **physics or chemistry**. Please use the following link to see ASHA specifics related to the requirements. <https://www.asha.org/Certification/Course-Content-Areas-for-SLP-Standards/>
2. Also, you are required to have at least 6 credits of Social/Behavioral Sciences such as psychology & sociology courses. These must be completed before you begin your master's degree. They can be from a community college; does not have to be within your undergraduate degree. Acceptable courses in social/behavioral sciences should include psychology, sociology, anthropology, or public health.

Do you offer any financial aid/assistance?

Yes. You should first contact ECU Student Financial Aid Office (252 737-6610) for information regarding financial aid. Campus students may have the opportunity to apply for graduate assistantships once they are accepted to the MS program. There are no assistantships for DE students. You will apply for assistantships after you are accepted to our program, not with the MS application.

I have taken some graduate courses in the field at another university. Will you accept transfer credits toward the degree?

We may accept up to 9-15 semester hours of graduate transfer credit from another institution(s) only if those credits did not apply to a degree you have been granted. These courses must be in a graduate program in speech-language pathology from an ASHA-accredited university. Requests for such transfer credit must be made at time of acceptance. **Transfer requests must be completed during the first Fall semester of your program.** The course syllabus and official transcripts from the transferring institution must accompany the request. The course(s) to be transferred must be in the content area of the courses required in our department. Our instructors will determine if the course content warrants approval of the transfer credit. You should email the course syllabus to masterscsdi@ecu.edu the day you receive your acceptance to the Graduate School. Grades do not transfer into the program.

The Distance Education program-of-study is for three years. Can I shorten it by taking more courses per semester?

No. We offer undergraduate, Master's and PhD degrees for full time students and we must adhere to a schedule and class size that we can effectively manage. We therefore cannot make any changes in the program-of-study without those changes adversely affecting the quality, and possible accreditation of the program. Therefore, you will not be allowed to take more than what has been outlined. All students must maintain a 3.0 GPA to remain in good academic standing. Students enrolled in the Alaskan partnership with University of Alaska at Anchorage or the Arizona State University have a different clinical program and need to consult with Dr. Karen Gallagher at UAA and Ms. Kelly Ingram at ASU about the clinical portion of the program at their respective universities.

Is the DE program a part-time program?

No. Even though you are not taking "full-time" credits, you will find graduate courses much more intense and via the DE mechanism, 8 or 9 credits per semester will seem like 12-15 credits. This program was not designed to assist people to keep working full-time and complete an MS degree at the same time. We understand the need to work is an individual decision; however we strongly discourage students from attempting to work full-time while in the program. We find very consistently that students who attempt to do so, are not successful.

The campus program-of-study is usually 5 semesters. Does it ever take longer?

Yes. There are times when a student, for many reasons, is unable to complete the program in the traditional 5 semesters. This may include clinical deficiencies, lacking clinical hours, taking time to do a research thesis, illness, personal circumstances, etc.

Traditionally it is five semesters, but six or seven is also reasonable in certain situations.

What are the minimum GPA requirements for the MS degree?

The minimum GPA for admission into the MS program is 3.0. We accept only a B or better in prerequisite courses.

What GPA profiles do typically accepted students have?

Students typically accepted usually have a 3.8 or higher in the major (i.e., the required prerequisites). Generally, students who have GPAs of 3.4 or higher demonstrate the most competitive applications.

Do you accept international applicants?

International applicants are welcome to apply to the campus program which is located in Greenville, North Carolina. We are unable to accept international applicants into the distance education program, even if residing in the United States.

Do DE students have to come to Greenville, North Carolina?

All students, ECU DE and on-campus, are **required** to attend a 1-2 day orientation on-campus in Greenville, NC prior to the first Fall semester they are enrolled. This is usually held in August. After that, DE students may be required to return to Greenville if their clinical skills are determined to be deficient and probationary clinic is required. We work diligently with clinical supervisors in the students' geographical locations to prevent this from occurring.

Will I have online classes if I am an on-campus student?

Many faculty are now utilizing technology that qualifies as having "online" classes. Both on-campus and DE students often collaborate on projects through various software programs such as Canvas, WebEx, SabaMeeting and/or Adobe Connect.

Sometimes classes are "watch when you want" format and sometimes the professors require you to be in an online lecture at a specific date & time. This is an expectation of participation in the program. You will need to work these costs into your financial considerations before applying.

Is the DE program completely online?

We consider the Distance Education program a “distance education” program, not an online program. Your lectures are online, but there are classes that require library research, activities in the community (service learning), and observations at health care facilities for example. Some classes require group work and assist you with having “cyber meetings” with your classmates. You may need to speak with a faculty member and will need to make yourself available 8:00 – 5:00 PM Eastern to have phone conferences/meetings with classmates. This requires flexibility during your workday – whatever your time zone. The DE program is NOT considered a part-time program because of its intensity. You are enrolled for full-time credit most of the time and therefore you need to be prepared to handle some aspect of graduate school nearly every day, regardless of whether you are in clinicals or not. You may be required to be present during a specific date & time for classroom lectures.

How much does the Master’s program cost?

Please consult with the Tuition & Fees experts – the Cashier’s Office. Go to www.ecu.edu and in the search box, type “tuition.” That will show you the link for the main Cashier’s Office page. Look for the link for the current semester to see what tuition is today. You should expect that your tuition will be higher as tuition does tend to increase unfortunately each year.

How do I apply?

See instructions on page 4 or click [here](#).

Who do I contact with questions?

All questions about the MS programs can be directed to the Director of Master’s Education at mastersCSDI@ecu.edu.

Part 2

APPLICATION MATERIALS EXPLAINED

Transcripts - From All Schools Ever Attended

1. Official transcripts from all universities you have attended, even for one course, AP credit in high school, or for non-SLP degrees must be submitted.
2. If you have the international evaluation of your transcripts, please send those to East Carolina University. Official evaluations are required and must be submitted to ECU by the evaluation agency. Acceptable agencies include WES (World Education Services), IEE (International Education Evaluations, Inc.), or ECE (Education Credential Evaluators).
3. Please **do not** send any transcripts to the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders.
4. If you are taking classes in the Fall, we want that transcript. Please ask your university to send it as soon as finals week is over in December. You can request the transcript earlier and pay for it - and indicate to your university to send it after final exam grades are posted to the transcript. Do this ahead of time so that your transcript arrives and can be processed prior to January 15th.

Essay

Applicants will be asked to respond to a writing prompt within the application portal. The applicant's personal response assists the Admissions Committee in determining if the applicant is a good fit for our program, faculty members, and perspective of speech-language pathology. The brief response (400 word count) should reflect genuine impressions about you as an individual and a future professional. A 400 word limit has been established, spelling and grammar will be considered. Questions may change annually but past questions have included:

- Express your reason(s) for pursuing a graduate degree in speech-language pathology.
- Explain why you believe East Carolina University's Master's in speech-language pathology program is the right program for you.
- Describe the greatest achievement in scholarship, leadership, and/or service.
- Reflect on your personal strengths and weaknesses.

3 Letters Of Recommendation

Make sure you tell your references to complete their letters by December 1st so they are not late. We require that one of your letters comes from an academic professor. Your letters need to show that you are capable of a rigorous graduate program, not just that you are a good candidate for our program. We need to know that you are ready for the rigors of tough academics and the pressure of a very busy schedule. Academic faculty are the best judges of how people will do in an academic setting. Letters should speak to the applicants: Ethics, teamwork, confidence, initiative, communication, critical thinking, reliability, and/or interpersonal skills.

Interview

All applications will be reviewed and ranked. The top (75-100 campus; 25 DE; ~10 UAA/ASU) applicants will be invited to participate in a virtual interview via WebEx and a situational judgement task/test portion of the application. Applicants will be notified via email no later than mid-February. If they have advanced to the interview phase.

This interview will require you to have access to a device with an internet connection and a camera/video recording feature with microphone. While we anticipate that the entire interview should take less than 30 minutes, you may want to allow time to prepare yourself for technical difficulties.

Resume

Maximum of 2-page resume. A template will not be provided. Please follow the provided outline below and provide brief narrative descriptions for the important experiences to be highlighted.

1. Education
2. Work and/or Volunteer Experience
 - a. Include dates and primary responsibilities in positions
3. Significant shadowing experiences in health care and/or speech-language pathology
 - a. Dates and hours, if appropriate
4. Awards and/or Honors
5. Leadership activities and/or organization memberships
6. Research Experience
 - a. Describe experiences, interests, readiness (e.g., use of spreadsheets, SPSS/SAS, use of statistics)
7. Presentations and/or publications

Prerequisite Course Descriptions

Applicants will prepare a word document that includes the catalog course descriptions for all prerequisite courses taken. These can be copy and pasted from the institution's course catalog where you took the courses. [Course Description Document](#) (also found on our [Website](#)).

Prerequisite Course Listing and Grades

Applicants will complete a list of all prerequisite courses taken, number of semester hours, grade, and term/year taken. [Pre-requisite Excel file](#) (also found on our [Website](#))

Please upload the form to your application once completed. When filling out the form, you multiply the number of credit hours by the points awarded to the letter grade (A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1). This number goes in the total credit points column and the Excel sheet will automatically calculate your prerequisite GPA.

Casper Assessment

Visit www.TakeAltus.com to create an account and complete the Casper assessment.

The Casper test comprises 12 sections of video and written scenarios. Following each scenario, you will be required to answer a set of probing questions under a time contract. The test typically takes between 60-90 minutes to complete. Each response is graded by a different rater, giving a very robust and reliable view of personal and professional characteristics important to our program. No studying is required for Casper, although you may want to familiarize yourself with the test structure at TakeAltus.com, and ensure you have a quiet environment to take the test. We strongly urge you to take advantage of the 12-section practice test, which will not only immerse you in the test environment, but will also ensure you meet the technical requirements to access and complete the test. Casper test results are valid for one admissions cycle. Applicants who have already taken the test in previous years will therefore be expected to re-take it.

For a more detailed look at the Casper test, please see this [video](#).

In order to take Casper, you will be responsible for securing access to a laptop or desktop computer with webcam and audio capabilities. You will require the following for both account creation and completing Casper:

- Government-issued photo ID
- Valid email address (the same one you will use to submit your application)
- Working webcam
- Working microphone
- Reliable high-speed internet connection

Please go to www.TakeAltus.com to create your account and sign up to take Casper (via Altus Suite). You will select Speech-Language Pathology (CSP-10101 – U.S. Professional Health Sciences), under your specific country, and register using your full name and a piece of government-issued photo ID.

Select a Casper test date. You will be provided with a limited number of testing dates and times. Please note that these are the only testing dates available for your Casper test. There will be no additional tests scheduled. Please use an email address that you check regularly and that you have used for your application; there may be updates to the test schedule.

Important: To account for identity verification and payment processing timeline, ensure that you register for your test at least 3 days before your preferred test date and time. Last-minute bookings are not recommended. Ensure you have selected East Carolina University for distribution before the posted Distribution Deadline. Likely, there will be no additional tests scheduled, but the most up to date information can be found by browsing the Test Dates and Times on www.TakeAltus.com.

Application Timeline

Application Due January 15th

- July 15(typically) - Students may begin submitting applications to ECU Graduate School (www.ecu.edu/gradschool)
- Dec 8 – Last day to take Casper test
- Jan 15 - Deadline for **complete** application.
- Mid-February - Interview invitations will be sent via e-mail. Online interviews will be held throughout the month of February.
- Mid-to-late March - Notifications will go out by email regarding **Accepted Student List** and **Alternate List**. Denials will go out at a later date once spots in the program are filled. Official notification of acceptance and denial will follow from the ECU Graduate School by email.

Seat Deposit Information

To reserve your place in the Communication Sciences & Disorders (MS, all cohorts) program once admitted, you will need to send a non-refundable deposit of US \$100 prior to the deadline indicated in your acceptance materials. This US \$100 will be credited towards your tuition when you enroll at East Carolina University; if you do not enroll, your deposit will be forfeited.

REQUIREMENTS FOR CLINICAL CLOCK HOURS

Clinical Hours Requirements (DE and On-Campus)

The Clinical Hours Requirements pertain to students in the speech-language pathology emphasis; it is not part of the non-clinical communication sciences emphasis. This pertains to both the On Campus and DE programs including AK & AZ.

Each graduate student in the speech-language pathology track of the Master's degree in Communication Sciences & Disorders is required to accrue clinical clock hours through clinical courses. There are slightly different requirements for the different types of students in the program: On-Campus (OC), Distance Education (DE), and Alaskan Distance Education (AKDE) and Arizona Distance Education (AZDE)

Guided Observation Hours (25 clock hour minimum)

In accordance with the 2020 ASHA standards, CCC-SLPs who are clinical educators/supervisors involved in the clinical preparation (including guided observation) of student clinicians must meet the following requirements: a) current CCC-SLP, b) 9 months of full time, post-certification clinical experience, c) completed 2 hours of professional development in supervision and d.) attested on ASHA's website that they have completed the 2 hours of supervision training. Therefore, **all guided observation hours earned on or after 1/1/2020 must be completed in accordance with the 2020 Standards.** Students who are admitted and enrolled in the ECU MS program must submit the Supervision Attestation Verification Letter with their observation hour record. Students can obtain this letter by following the steps listed below:

Visit:

<https://www.asha.org/eweb/ashadynamicpage.aspxsite=ashacms&webcode=ccchome>

Type in Supervisor's ASHA #
 Click on Supervisor's Name
 Scroll down to Generate Verification Letter
 Enter name, Street Name, City, State, Zip Code
 Click on Generate Verification Letter
 Print and attach to observation log

Observation Hours WILL NOT be counted unless the required documentation is provided.

Please note: Clinical practicum and observation hours earned on or before 12/31/2019 need to have only met the 2014 Standards.

All students (campus or DE) are required to submit documentation of at least 25 guided clock hours observation of SLP or Audiology sessions. ASU DE Cohort and Campus students are required to submit documentation by August 1st before the Fall semester of enrollment. ECU DE Cohort are required to submit documentation by December 1st (end of first semester of enrollment). UAA DE Cohort students are required to submit documentation by May 1St (end of second semester of enrollment). Failure to submit documentation by deadlines will result in a delay in starting clinical hours. Students must submit the following documentation to the Director of Master's Education for verification and approval.

No more than 10 hours of indirect observation will be accepted; this includes video observation, such as masterclinician.org. At least 15 hours must be direct (face to face) observation.

Clinical Clock hours in Speech-Language Pathology (375 hour minimum)

Clinical internships and on-campus clinic are used to accrue clinical clock hours.

On campus students are enrolled in clinic each semester of the program (typically five semesters). On-campus students typically have 3 semesters of on-campus clinic, one part-time internship, and one full-time internship.

Alterations of this schedule may occur based on the needs of the student and the clinical case load in the on-campus clinic. Alterations typically require students to add additional semesters to the program.

DE students complete clinic hours through clinical internships in their geographical location. In extreme circumstances, students may be required to return to Greenville for clinical placement (e.g., deficient skills or lack of sites in geographical location is delaying program). DE students are required to obtain a minimum of 12 credits of clinic over a minimum of 3 distinct sites; one clinical internship must take place in the final year of the program. Typically, students achieve >400 hours by completing 4-6 rotations across 4-6 semesters. The Director of Master's Education and the Internship Coordinator will make the final decision about if/when DE students will be required to come to Greenville for a clinical rotation.

Alaskan DE students follow the clinical program of the University of Alaska - Anchorage.

Arizona DE students follow the clinical program of Arizona State University.

All students (campus or DE and AZDE, AKDE) are required to obtain a minimum 375 clock hours of speech-language pathology diagnostics and/or treatment sessions during their program; 375 is a minimum and 400-500 is recommended.

- Students may request up to 50 hours accrued at the undergraduate level be counted in their 375 total. Students must submit proof of up to 50 hours to the Director of Master's Education prior to their first semester of enrollment for verification and approval.
- Hours worked as a speech-language pathology assistant cannot be counted.

Clinical Clock hours in Audiology/Hearing Screenings

ASHA requires students to demonstrate competency in the area of "hearing."

On campus and in-state DE students must have hearing *screening* hours supervised by an audiologist (CCC-A) in order to count those hours towards your 400 total.

Out-of-state DE and UAA and ASU cohorts may have hearing screening hours supervised by an audiologist or speech-language pathologist, depending upon licensure laws in that state. It is the student's responsibility to determine if they need CCC-A or CCC-SLP supervision for their hearing screening hours to count towards the 400 total if living outside of NC. Alaska and Arizona students are required to follow the policy of the UAA and ASU regarding hearing screenings.

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Hours of guided observation | Minimum 25 |
| Speech-language pathology hours (50 at undergraduate level, if applicable) | Minimum 375 |
| Minimum Total (Department may require additional hours beyond this minimum) | Minimum 400 |
| All hours listed above are MINIMUMS. The Department of CSDI reserves the right to require additional hours based on student performance, state licensure requirements, and ASHA certification requirements. | |

Rev May, 2017. Approved June

DESCRIPTION OF PRE-REQUISITES

1. **Phonetics:** Applied phonetics using International Phonetic Alphabet and pertinent modifications. Detailed descriptions of American English speech sounds and transcription of contextual speech representing mainstream and non-mainstream dialects. Transcription abilities developed to assess and treat speech disorders.
2. **Language Development:** Normal acquisition and development of language from birth through preschool years, components of language, cognitive and communicative prerequisites, and language learning theories.
3. **Introduction to Audiology:** Concepts related to normal hearing, causes and effects of defective hearing, and hearing testing procedures.
4. **Aural Rehabilitation:** Habilitation, rehabilitation of the hearing impaired as related to hearing aid use, speech-reading, auditory training, and total communication. Management philosophies related to children and adults.
5. **Development of Articulation & Phonology:** Emphasis on birth to five years and critical periods through the early teen years. Content areas include birth cry, babbling, cross linguistic and universal patterns of acquisition, morphophonology, metaphonology, historical and contemporary normative data issues, and interrelation of normal phonological development with other areas of language growth.
6. **Anatomy & Physiology of the Speech & Hearing Mechanism:** Basic information, including acoustics, anatomy and physiology of the ear and central auditory nervous system, and psychoacoustics.
7. **Neurology/Neural Processes of Speech/language/swallowing (recommended):** Study of neuroanatomy and neurophysiology including current research of nervous system structures and functions important for speech and language. Critical analyses of current theories of the neurophysiology utilized in speech and language.
8. **Speech Science:** Physiology and acoustic correlates of speech production mechanism.

9. (6) Hours of Biological/Physical Science:

Beginning January 1, 2020, applicants' coursework in physical science must include content in either **physics or chemistry**. Please use the following link to see ASHA specifics related to the requirements and course content areas. <https://www.asha.org/Certification/Course-Content-Areas-for-SLP-Standards/>

10. (6) Hours of Behavior/Social Sciences:

These classes are about the systematic analysis and investigation of human and animal behavior through controlled and naturalistic observation and disciplined scientific experimentation. These areas of study attempt to accomplish legitimate, objective conclusions through rigorous formulations and observation.

What if I am not sure if a class I have taken will count?

If you have any questions regarding if a class would qualify as a prerequisite, please e-mail us a course description and/or course syllabus, and we will review it. You can e-mail us at masterscsdi@ecu.edu.

SLP REQUIRED PRE-REQUISITES NEEDED FOR ADMISSION INTO THE MS DEGREE

You will be required to complete [Pre-requisite Excel file](#) (also found on our [Website](#)) as part of your application-below is an example for how to complete the form and calculate the credit points/GPA. Do NOT include +/- for Letter Grade

| Prerequisite Summary Form CSDI East Carolina University | | | | | |
|--|--|----------------------------------|--------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| DIRECTIONS- PLEASE READ | | | | | |
| The Total Credit Points will calculate automatically as the student fills in the columns "Letter Grade" and "# of course credits"; do NOT include -/+ for courses. If it is a class IN PROGRESS , fill in the Actual Course Title and the <i>anticipated</i> Term Complete Semester/Year; DO NOT fill in the "Letter Grade" or "# of course credits" and DELETE the formula out of the Total Credit Points (You should no longer see #VALUE!). The Student GPA should automatically fill in once you have entered all information into the table and there are no formula's (#VALUE!) in the Total Credit Points | | | | | |
| Student Name: PeeDee Pirate | | | | | |
| Requirement (Credits) | Actual Course Title | Term Completed Semester and Year | Letter Grade | # of course credits | Total Credit Points |
| Phonetics | PCSD 307: Phonetics | Fall 2019 | A | 3 | 12 |
| Language Development | ENG 335: Language Development | Spring 2020 | B | 3 | 9 |
| Anatomy & Physiology of the Speech & Hearing Mechanism | PCSD 313: Anatomy and Physiology of Speech and Hearing Mechanism | Spring 2020 | A | 3 | 12 |
| Speech Science | PCSD 450: Speech Science | Fall 2020 | A | 3 | 12 |
| Development of Articulation & Phonology | PCSD 314: Phonology and Language Disorders (IN PROGRESS) | Spring 2021 | | | |
| Intro to Audiology *Must have min of 3 credit hours* | PCSD 361: Introduction to Audiology Hearing Science | Spring 2020 | A | 3 | 12 |
| Aural Rehabilitation *Must have min of 3 credit hours* | PCSD 370: Intro Aural (Re)Habilitation | Fall 2020 | A | 3 | 12 |
| Neurology/Neural Processes of Speech/Language/Swallowing (recommended/leave blank if none) | PCSD 455: Neurology Human Communication | Fall 2020 | B | 3 | 9 |
| Statistics | MAT 152: Statistical Methods I | Spring 2019 | A | 4 | 16 |
| Physical Science THIS MUST BE CHEMISTRY OR PHYSICS | PY 212: College Physics II | Fall 2019 | A | 3 | 12 |
| Biological Sciences | BIO 240: Principles of Human Anatomy and Physiology | Summer 2019 | A | 3 | 12 |
| Social/Behavioral Science *Must have a total of 6 credits* | SOC 381: Sociology of Medicine | Fall 2019 | B | 3 | 9 |
| Social/Behavioral Science *Must have a total of 6 credits* | PSY 370: Personality Psychology | Spring 2019 | A | 3 | 12 |
| | | | | Student GPA: | 3.75675676 |
| For a list of Academic Coursework that may meet the Biological/Physical Science 6 credit requirement and the Social/Behavioral 6 credit requirement, please visit https://www.asha.org/Certification/Course-Content-Areas-for-SLP-Standards/ | | | | | |

Please Note: There are no plus or minus marks for letter grades denoted on the prerequisite excel sheet. Thus, if you received an “A+“ in a course, that would result in an A letter grade. If you received a “B-“ in a course, that would result in a B letter grade. Please review your prerequisite excel sheet thoroughly before submitting. If you have any questions about your prerequisite excel sheet, please email us at masterscsdi@ecu.edu.

You can review our course descriptions at: <https://communications-disorders.ecu.edu/education/masters-ms/masters-of-science-admission-information/>

If you are not sure if one of your courses is an equivalent to ours, please email us the course description at masterscsdi@ecu.edu and we will confirm it for you. Some of your content may have been combined into two courses. You must have 3 credits of Audiology and 3 credits of Aural Rehabilitation per NC law. We do not require Introduction to Communication Disorders. The GPA of the courses listed above must be higher than 3.2 for you to be eligible for our MS program.