

SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY ASSISTANT (SLPA):

In Workflow

1. COMMDIS Chair (hemmeral@uwec.edu)
2. EHS Dean PreCurrComm (PIM) (prushijt@uwec.edu)
3. EHS Dean (PIM) (prushijt@uwec.edu)
4. University Senate APC (hemmeral@uwec.edu)
5. Provost/Chancellor (kleinepa@uwec.edu; beckejan@uwec.edu; forciesm@uwec.edu)
6. Institutional Research (herbiskj@uwec.edu)
7. Registrar (PIM) (langfeta@uwec.edu)
8. Degree Review (PIM) (olsoee@uwec.edu; relforml@uwec.edu; richaaud@uwec.edu; olsomce@uwec.edu)
9. Reg Cat (none)

Approval Path

1. Mon, 09 Jan 2023 17:05:06 GMT
Abby Hemmerich (hemmeral): Approved for COMMDIS Chair
2. Fri, 27 Jan 2023 17:44:12 GMT
Jill Prushiek (prushijt): Approved for EHS Dean PreCurrComm (PIM)
3. Fri, 27 Jan 2023 19:11:10 GMT
Jill Prushiek (prushijt): Approved for EHS Dean (PIM)

New Program Proposal

Date Submitted: Mon, 09 Jan 2023 16:39:53 GMT

Viewing : Speech Language Pathology Assistant (SLPA)

Last edit: Fri, 27 Jan 2023 17:43:31 GMT

Changes proposed by: Shannon Collins (collinss)

Preparer(s)

Preparer Name:

Abby Hemmerich and Shannon Collins

Program Level

Undergraduate

Program Type

Certificate (Credit-Bearing)

Name of Program

Speech Language Pathology Assistant (SLPA)

Administrative Department

Communication Sciences and Disorders

College

Education and Human Sciences

Effective Catalog Year

2023-2024

Is this content intended to be shared across multiple programs/catalog pages?

No

Catalog Placement Notes

This Speech Language Pathology Assistant (SLPA) Certificate is intended to provide students seeking a bachelor's degree in communication sciences and disorders the opportunity to add a 15-16 credit SLPA certificate meeting the criteria for the American Speech Language Hearing Association (ASHA) Speech-Language Pathology Certification (C-SLPA). Students will learn clinical procedures as well as roles and responsibilities of the SLPA. Each student will enroll in a clinical experience with an opportunity to earn 100 hours of supervised clinical practice in an off-site clinical setting.

Program Requirements (Includes Course Lists):

Program Requirements (Includes Course Lists):

The SLPA certificate is only open to Communication Science and Disorders majors with a minimum CSD GPA of 2.5. The SLPA Certificate will be awarded to those students who have completed the following courses at a grade level of C or above. The SLPA Certificate is a combination of 15-16 credits that include a clinical experience.

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		10
SEIP 200	Introduction to Diverse Learners	3
CSD 370	Clinical Procedures in Communication Disorders	3
CSD 471	Course CSD 471 Not Found	
Choose one of the following:		2-3
CSD 411	Facilitating Communication in Preschool Children	
CSD XXX	Course CSD XXX Not Found (Adult Communication Intervention)	
CSD 419	Classroom Language Applications in AAC	
Choose one of the following:		3
SEIP 306	Applied Behavior Analysis for Teachers	
PSYC 281	Introduction to Behavior Analysis and Therapy	

Additional Program Requirements (If Applicable)

Additional Admission Requirements Unique to Program (If Applicable)

Additional Admission Requirements Unique to Program (If Applicable)

Admission requirements:

- Declared CSD major
- Letter of intent that clearly states why you would want to pursue the SLPA Certificate
- Two recommendations from CSD faculty
- Minimum junior standing

Other Catalog Notes/Restrictions (If Applicable)

Learning Outcomes

Please state the Learning Outcomes for this New Program:

Description
Outcome 1 Demonstrate clinical writing and documentation necessary for a speech language pathology assistant.
Outcome 2 Explain policies and procedures for speech language pathology assistants including universal precautions, ethics, and client confidentiality.
Outcome 3 Implement intervention strategies for individuals in need of speech and language intervention in a variety of settings while earning up to 100 hours of clinical field work (practicum).

Summary and Rationale

Target Audience(s)

Target audiences are students majoring in communication sciences and disorders who may or may not want to pursue a master's degree in speech language pathology but wish to earn additional clinical experience and/or opportunity providing services to individuals with a communication disorder either prior to applying to a graduate program or instead of applying to a graduate program and could use their degree and SLPA certificate to obtain the SLPA certification from ASHA.

Evidence of long-term need

Historically in the state of Wisconsin some rural communities, specifically school districts and birth to three settings have not been successful in hiring an ASHA certified speech language pathologist to meet the needs of individuals who are eligible for federally funded speech and language services. There is a shortage of certified speech language pathologists in this state.

In addition, there is a shortage of speech language pathologists across the country. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (2021), employment of speech-language pathologists is projected to grow 21 percent from 2021 to 2031, much faster than the average for all occupations.

Because of the growing shortage of certified speech language pathologists in meeting the needs of people who have communication disorders, many states have created a pathway to provide services for those needing treatment for communication disorders. That pathway is the Speech Language Pathologist Assistant license (SLPA).

Currently, the state of Wisconsin does not have a license for speech language pathologist assistants; however the need is there with growing caseloads and unfilled speech language pathologist positions across the state. Therefore, this proposal for a SLPA certificate is a step to providing additional training for students majoring in communication sciences and disorders who desire to work in the field as a SLPA in other states or in Wisconsin to assist speech language pathologists.

Anticipated Enrollment

20 per year

Alignment with university mission

This SLPA certificate will prepare students to provide critical speech and language intervention in underrepresented communities and beyond. The SLPA certificate is an effort to be responsive to the needs of the communities in the state of Wisconsin, particularly those in rural settings. This certificate aligns well with our mission by providing educational opportunities responsive to the needs of communities, state, region and beyond as stated in the University Mission.

Statement of benefits to students

Students earning the SLPA certificate will be prepared to work in select settings as a speech language pathologist assistant under the supervision of an ASHA certified speech language pathologist without having to earn a master's degree in communication sciences and disorders. Additionally, this can give students an opportunity to earn additional experience prior to applying to a graduate program. It also gives students experience navigating an interdisciplinary collaboration while in those settings. Additionally, graduate programs across the region and beyond are often a barrier for students due to their competitive nature and cost. The SLPA certificate will provide an additional pathway for students, and they will be prepared to provide the much-needed services.

Department(s), program(s), college(s), and university predecessor programs

NA

Relationship to existing programs

The SLPA certificate program is an extension of the Communication Sciences and Disorders major providing an option for students to work in select settings as a speech language pathologist assistant under the supervision of an ASHA certified speech language pathologist without having to earn a master's degree in communication sciences and disorders.

Resources

Does the department have the necessary staffing to offer this program?

Yes

Explain need for student support, library resources, etc.:

NA

Describe funding needs to initiate and maintain the program, including source(s) of funding and any needed resource reallocation:

No new funding required.

Proposed frequency of offering for courses included in the program:

Once per semester

Proposed arrangements for ongoing faculty advising for students in the program

Faculty advisors will provide advising for students and support for the off-campus clinical coordinator.

Provide justification that this program is not a duplication of another program that is currently being offered

Currently in the state of Wisconsin there is not a speech language pathology assistant program. Therefore, the proposed certificate would be a potential recruitment tool for students seeking a degree in communication sciences and disorders and desiring additional training and clinical experience.

If applicable, select impacted departments:

Departments

Psychology

Special Educ & Inclusive Pract

Describe impacted courses or programs in other areas of the university:

Enrollment in SEIP 200, 306 and PSYC 281 enrollments may increase. CSD students already often take these courses as electives. CSD Department has talked with Department of Psychology Chair and chair is aware of potential increase in enrollment in PSYC 281 and has consented to including PSYC 281 in this certificate. The CSD Department also talked with the Department of Special Education and Inclusive Practices Chair and the chair is aware of potential increase in enrollment in SEIP 306 and has consented to including SEIP 306 in this certificate.

4 Speech Language Pathology Assistant (SLPA):

Key: 408