

SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY ASSISTANT, CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

A Speech-Language Pathology-Assistant (SLP-A) is defined as a professional who supports the speech language pathologist by engaging in tasks that are planned, delegated, and supervised by the speech-language pathologist. In doing so, the SLP-A provides exceptional patient care, provides speech language pathology services, and enhances the productivity of the speech-language pathology practice to improve patient experiences and services in accordance with local, state, and federal regulations (ASHA 2020).

The Department of Communication Disorders at Marshall University is committed to ensure all students graduating with a bachelor's degree in Communication Disorders secure employment. The Speech-Language Pathology Assistant Certificate Program is a 2 semester program (excluding prerequisite coursework) that provides a pathway students may select to achieve this goal.

Additional information can be found on the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, (ASHA) website. Scope of Practice of the SLP-A at <https://www.asha.org/siteassets/publications/sp2016-00343.pdf>.

Admission to the SLP-A Certificate Program

Students interested in enrolling in the SLP-A Certificate Program must:

- Have a minimum GPA of 2.8 overall (associate degree or bachelor's degree); formal transcripts must be submitted to the Chair of the department.
- Submit a formal letter of intent. This should provide answers to the following questions:

1) Why are you interested in enrolling in the SLP-A Program at Marshall University?

2) What are your professional goals?

3) What skill sets do you hold that qualify you to be an SLP-A?

- Submit 2 letters of recommendation. Letters of recommendation must be sent directly from the person writing the letter. No letters of recommendation will be accepted if sent via student.

The SLP-A Certificate Program at Marshall University has rolling admissions but all students will begin their curriculum requirements in the fall or summer. Required documents must be submitted to communicationdisorders@marshall.edu. The subject line for the email should state: SLP-A Application.

Entry to the program:

There are two pathways for entry into the SLP-A Certificate program.

- Pathway 1: The individual is pursuing a bachelor's degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders from an accredited institution.
- Pathway 2: The individual is pursuing or currently holds an associate or bachelor's degree from an accredited institution and has completed the following coursework in person or online: (Courses must have been completed no more than two years before you apply for the C-SLP-A).
- CD 101 Introductory or Overview Course in Communication Disorders
- CD 239 Phonetics
- CD 228 Language Development
- Speech Sound Disorders
- CD 328 Language Disorders
- CD 229 Anatomy and Physiology of the Speech and Hearing Mechanisms

Students who are interested in enrolling in the above courses to prepare for admission to the SLP-A Program should contact Pam Holland at holland@marshall.edu / 304-696-2985.

In order for students to remain in good academic standing and continue in the program, a GPA of 3.0 must be maintained.

Course Requirements for SLP-A Certificate

Code	Title	Credit Hours
CD 471	SLPA Practicum I	1
CD 471L	SLPA Practicum Lab	2
CD 472	Clin Prac School Children	1
CD 472L	SLPA Practicum Lab	2

Students without a bachelor's degree in communication disorders are eligible to apply for the certificate program.