



COLLEGE OF APPLIED HEALTH SCIENCES

Department of Speech and Hearing Science
901 S. Sixth St., MC-482
Champaign, IL 61820

Master of Arts (MA) in Speech and Hearing Science

1. The Degree

The Masters (MA) in Speech and Hearing Science is an advanced clinical degree. It is the standard credential for speech-language pathologists entering the profession. Our MA program is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CAA) of the American Speech-Language Hearing Association (ASHA). Speech-language pathologists develop competency in the prevention, diagnosis, and habilitation/rehabilitation of communication and swallowing disabilities, related communication and educational disabilities, and patient-centered practice that spans the lifespan. Through academic and clinical coursework, the objective of the program is to provide students with the knowledge and skills that will make them competent professionals. Meeting competency requirements results in students accumulating academic and clinical experiences that meet or exceed ASHA minimum requirements.

Additional websites of importance:

<http://www.asha.org/> , <http://www.asha.org/careers/>, <http://www.asha.org/certification/>

2. Structure of the Our Program

Duration of the MA SLP Program

Our MA program is a two-year degree program. Generally the second half of the second spring semester is an 8-week full-time external placement in an educational setting, followed in the summer by a 10-week full-time external placement in a medical setting.

Typical Program of Study in Speech-Language Pathology

- Six terms (Fall1, Spring1, Summer1, Fall2, Spring2, Summer2)
- Students enroll in 3 to 4 didactic courses and clinic during the first four terms
- Spring2: Students enroll in 2 to 3 8 week courses in Spring 2, then complete an 8-week school practicum
- Summer2: 10 week hospital practicum

MA in Speech Language Pathology at the University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign

Sample course sequence for students entering with a BA/BS in the field of Communication Sciences and Disorders:

Fall I **Credit Hours**

SHS 511 Assess/Manage Voice Disorders	4
SHS 431 Preschool Language Disorders	4
SHS 470 Neural Bases (pre-req for Dysphagia)	4
SHS 570 Quantitative Reasoning	2
SHS 477 Beginning Clinical Practicum	1
SHS 592 Proseminar	0
EDPR 203 Clinical Experience Fee	0

Spring I

SHS 410 Stuttering	4
SHS 430 Phonology & Articulation	4
SHS 513 Dysphagia	4
SHS 533 Advanced Language Diagnostics	4
SHS 477 Beginning Clinical Practicum	2
SHS 592 Proseminar	0

Summer I

SHS 514 Motor Speech Disorders	4
SHS 579 Ethics & Professional Issues	3
SHS 575 Schools Methods	2
SHS 577 Advanced Clinical Practicum	1
SHS 593 Special Problems	

Fall II

SHS 532 School-age Language Disorders	4
SHS 534 Aphasia and Related Disorders	4
SHS xxx Elective (Full Time)	2-4
SHS 577 Advanced Clinical Practicum	2
SHS 592 Proseminar	0

Spring II

SHS 571 Clinical Sociolinguistics (1 st 8 wks.)	4
SHS xxx Elective (1 st 8 wks)	2
SHS xxx Elective (1 st 8 wks)	2
SHS 576 Externship (School/Hospital 2 nd 8 weeks)	4
SHS 577 Advanced Clinical Practicum	
SHS 592 Proseminar	0

Summer II

577e Hospital Placement 4

Fall Electives

SHS 477 Stuttering Lab
SHS 572 Counseling in Comm Dis (1st 8 wks.) 2
SHS 593 Auditory Processing Disorders 3
SHS 593 Autism Spectrum Disorders 2
SHS 593 Cognitive Communication Disorders 4

Spring Electives

SHS 427 Language and the Brain (G4) 4
SHS 473 Augmentative/Alternative Comm 2 (1st 8 weeks) or 4 (16 weeks)
SHS 477 Stuttering Lab 1
SHS 586 Advanced Seminar in Developmental Communication Disorders
SHS 587 Advanced Seminar in Acquired Communication Disorders
SHS 588 Advanced Seminar in Neural Bases of Communication Disorders
SHS 593 Infant Feeding and Craniofacial Differences in the Medical Setting

Advanced seminars (SHS 586, 587, & 588) focus on a variety of specific topics that vary each semester based on faculty expertise and availability.

Requirements for Graduation

Sixty (60) graduate hours (52 academic and 8 clinical) are required for graduation, but SLP students typically graduate with 70 credit hours (52 academic and 18 clinical) ensuring minimal competencies across the SLP scope of practice. Students usually take 12-16 hours per semester: 12-14 academic hours and 2 hours of clinic per semester.

There are no comprehensive exams required.

Program Information

Collectively, we are a large faculty (19 academic faculty/instructors and 8 clinical faculty) representing diverse areas of research and clinical expertise. In addition to our departmental teaching faculty, some academic faculty members serve in administrative roles.

Prospective students are encouraged to read about each of the academic and clinical faculty at:

- <http://shs.illinois.edu/Faculty/>

Further program information can be found on this webpage:

<https://ahs.illinois.edu/master-of-arts-in-speech-%26-hearing-science-clinical>

Opportunities for Research Experience

All of our academic faculty members are engaged in research. There are many opportunities for students interested in research to join the ongoing endeavors of our faculty. Students should talk

with faculty members early in their program about their interests in research and opportunities to assist or conduct research projects related to ongoing faculty research programs. Engagement in research may occur in a variety of capacities, including volunteer work, paid research assistant work, independent studies or through master's thesis research projects.

3. Financial Matters

Cost of the Graduate Program

The current Graduate Masters in Speech & Hearing Science tuition rate for the Academic Year 2020-2021 is \$13,376 (12+ credit hours per semester) for residents of Illinois and \$28,664 for out-of-state students. Summer tuition rates for 2020 are \$548 and \$1,174 per credit hour, for residents and non-residents, respectively. Prospective students are urged to check the Office of the Registrar for more information about fees. Campus fees for the academic year are estimated at approximately \$5,016.

<https://registrar.illinois.edu/tuition-fees/tuition-fee-rates/g-tuition-rates-2021/>

Clinical Practicum Fees

Students in the MA program are assessed a one-time clinical experiences fee by enrolling in EDPR 203, to partially cover the cost of clinical instruction. EDPR 203 does not carry course credit or appear on transcripts but is a means by which students are assessed the clinical fee. For graduate students, this non-refundable fee, which is determined by the Board of Trustees, is based on the approved fee for the semester in which you enroll. For students entering in Fall 2018, the fee is \$790.00.

All MA-SLP students will be responsible for a one-time fee of \$100 for their subscription to Calipso Client which is utilized to maintain their record of clinical education and track clinical progress.

4. Admissions and Admissions Process

We typically offer admission to about 100 of our applicants, and approximately 25 accept our offers and enter the MA program annually.

What are the GRE Scores and GPA of Accepted Applicants?

There is no GRE requirement for this pandemic year, nor will we be taking voluntarily shared GRE scores into our admissions ranking process. The Graduate College requires a minimum GPA of 3.00. Accepted applicants typically have a GPA over 3.5.

Review <http://shs.illinois.edu/graduate-admissions> for further details

Applying with a Bachelor's Degree from a Different Field

Students with a bachelor's degree from a field other than Communication Sciences and Disorders are welcome to apply directly to the MA program. If accepted, they enter as Graduate students on limited status, and take any prerequisite courses at the Undergraduate level. The following courses, or their equivalent from another accredited program, are required:

- SHS 200 Phonetics
- SHS 240 Hearing Science
- SHS 300 Anatomy
- SHS 301 Speech Science
- SHS 320 Development of Spoken Language
- SHS 450 Audiology

Students without a degree in the field are termed "fast-trackers." The duration of their program varies, depending upon the number of prerequisite courses needed. If all of them need to be taken, the program typically is three years. Fast-trackers begin the program in the fall.

5 Clinical Experience

Will students be able to complete necessary clinical hours if quarantine/virtual learning is required while in the program?

- YES WE CAN!
 - Student hours are carefully monitored so that ALL students meet clinical hour requirements.

What will this program look like due to COVID?

- PPE & sanitizing between patients
- Weekly COVID testing

Most students begin their first semester working with one to three clients. The number of clients increases as the student's skills develop.

- During the pandemic a heavy emphasis has been on small cohorts of students (6 to 7 each) under a single supervisor and telepractice.

We expect that in Summer 1 and continuing through the first half of Spring 2, most students will be placed at external sites in addition to working with clients at the clinic.

For the full time school placement, students are placed in school districts throughout Illinois. Some students choose to stay in the Champaign-Urbana area and others choose to complete the school placement near their hometown.

Many students are placed in hospitals in the Chicago or Champaign-Urbana area for the final 10 week medical placement. Placements in hospitals throughout the United States may be possible, based on availability.

6. University of Illinois Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Clinic

The University of Illinois Audiology and Speech Language Pathology Clinics are located in the University of Illinois Research Park. <https://ahs.illinois.edu/slp-clinic>

Tuition and Fees

Grad Masters in Speech & Hearing Science Tuition Rate for Academic Year 2020-2021

Tuition	Residents	Nonresidents/International
Grad Masters in Speech & Hearing Science Tuition Rate (Fall 2020 & Spring 2021)	\$13,376.00	\$28,664.00
Campus Fees Total (Fall 2020 & Spring 2021)	\$5,016.00	\$5,016.00

Estimated Tuition and fees per semester (MA Program)

Term	Residents		Nonresidents/International	
Fall 2020	Tuition	\$6,688.00	Tuition	\$14,332.00
	Fees	\$2,508.00	Fees	\$2,508.00
	Clinical Experience fee	\$790.00	Clinical Experience fee	\$790.00
	Calipso Client Fee	\$100.00	Calipso Client Fee	\$100.00
Spring 2021	Tuition	\$6,688.00	Tuition	\$14,332.00
	Fees	\$2,508.00	Fees	\$2,508.00
Summer 2021 Estimated	Tuition (10 credits)	\$5,480.00	Tuition (10 credits)	\$11,740.00
	Fees	\$1,646.00	Fees	\$1,646.00
Fall 2021 Estimated	Tuition	\$6,688.00	Tuition	\$14,332.00
	Fees	\$2,508.00	Fees	\$2,508.00
Spring 2022 Estimated	Tuition	\$6,688.00	Tuition	\$14,332.00
	Fees	\$2,508.00	Fees	\$2,508.00
Summer 2022 Estimated	Tuition (4 credits)	\$2,192.00	Tuition (4 credits)	\$4,696.00
	Fees	\$1,351.00	Fees	\$1,351.00
Total Estimated Tuition & Fees	\$48,343.00		\$87,683.00	

*These are estimated tuitions and fee amounts. Each individual student may vary some depending on their registration and the number of credit hours they are taking.

Additional Information

Prospective students are urged to check the Office of the Registrar for more information about tuition and fees. <http://registrar.illinois.edu/tuition-fee-rates> Please be sure to choose the Graduate and Professionals link. Clinical Experience Fee is a onetime fee. More information can be found at the following link: http://www.cote.illinois.edu/clinical/edpr_203.html

External Placement Sites 2011-2020

MA Program in Speech Language Pathology

East-Central Illinois Affiliations

Medical Settings

Advocate BroMenn Medical Center, Normal, IL	OSF St. Francis, Peoria, IL
OSF St. Joseph, Bloomington, IL	Palm Terrace SNF, Mattoon, IL
Carle Foundation Hospital and clinics, Urbana, IL	Paris Community Hospital, Paris, IL
Champaign-Urbana Nursing and Rehab Savoy, IL	Paris Skilled Nursing Facility, Paris, IL
Clark-Lindsey Retirement Village, Urbana, IL	Riverside Medical Center, Kankakee, IL
Decatur Memorial Hospital, Decatur, IL	Sarah Bush Lincoln Hospital, Mattoon, IL
Heartland Healthcare, Champaign and Danville, IL	OSF St. Mary, Decatur, IL
Helia Healthcare, Champaign, IL	University Rehab, Champaign, IL
North Logan Health Care Center, Danville, IL	Unity Point Health, Peoria, IL
	VA Illiana Health Care System, Danville, IL

Specialized Populations

Extended School Year - Champaign & Urbana School Districts

Carle Auditory Oral School

Early Intervention Providers

Private Practice

Head Start

Public Schools

Champaign Early Childhood Center

Urbana Pre-Kindergarten Program

ESL Center- Champaign, IL

Life Skills Program- Urbana Middle School

Life Skills Program – Springfield Elementary School

Bilingual Endorsement

ASHA does not require you to hold any license or certificate to be a bilingual service provider.

1. ASHA states that Audiologists or SLPs who present themselves as bilingual for the purposes of providing clinical services must be able to speak their primary language and to speak (or sign) at least one other language with native or near-native proficiency in lexicon (vocabulary), semantics (meaning), phonology (pronunciation), morphology/syntax (grammar), and pragmatics (uses) during clinical management. In addition to linguistic proficiency, the audiologist or SLP must have the specific knowledge and skill sets necessary for the services to be delivered.
2. Bilingual SLPs must be able to independently provide comprehensive diagnostic and treatment services for speech, language, cognitive, voice, and swallowing disorders using the client's/patient's language and preferred mode of communication. They must also have the linguistic proficiency to:
 - a. Describe the process of normal speech and language acquisition – for both bilingual and monolingual speakers of that language, including how those processes are manifested in oral and written language (or manually coded languages when applicable)
 - b. Select, administer, and interpret formal and informal assessment procedures to distinguish between communication differences and communication disorders
 - c. Apply intervention strategies for treatment of communication disorders in the language or mode of communication most appropriate for the needs of the individual
3. The State of Illinois offers a bilingual special education approval for working in the public schools (which is not necessarily a must to serve as a bilingual therapist). This endorsement is acquired through the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE). To acquire bilingual special education approval through ISBE you must:
 - a. Hold a Professional Educator's License (PEL) through the state of Illinois
 - b. Pass the "Target Language Proficiency – Spanish (056)" available through Illinois Licensure Testing System (ILTS). Other languages can be found at https://www.il.nesinc.com/PageView.aspx?f=GEN_Tests.html under Language Proficiency Tests for an Educator License with Stipulations Endorsed as Transitional Bilingual.
 - c. Complete a class covering the assessment of bilingual and multicultural children (offered at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign as CI 517).

Additional Information

1. The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign partners with practicing bilingual SLPs to provide practicum experience for students interested in pursuing bilingual service delivery.
2. In order to apply for the endorsement, you must have an ELIS account through ISBE. Within your account, there is a place that you can apply for the endorsement.

<http://www.asha.org/practice/multicultural/Resources-Recruitment-Bilingual-Service-Providers/>

Updated 10/30/2020