

ASHA Speech-Language Pathology Assistants Certification Program Update

TIMELINE

March 2019 – Test questions for certification exam were written

August 2019 – Test questions for certification exam were reviewed

October/November 2019 – Final review of 2 forms of certification exam is being conducted

November 2019 – First pilot exam administration will be completed at ASHA Convention to complete item analysis

March 2020 – Passing point studies will be completed to provide a recommended passing score for the ASHA Council for Clinical Certification to approve

July 2020 – Begin accepting applications

October 2020 – Certification exam will be available nationwide

SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY ASSISTANTS CERTIFICATION: ELIGIBILITY PATHWAYS

www.ashaassistant.org

To be eligible to take the speech-language pathology assistants certification exam, applicants must complete one of three pathway options that best fits their education and qualifications. In addition to finishing all the requirements of that option, applicants must also complete the following mandatory requirements:

- Completion of a 1-hour of ethics course*
- Completion of a 1-hour course in universal safety precautions*
- Completion of a 1-hour patient confidentiality training course (HIPAA, FERPA, etc.)*
- Clinical field work: A minimum of 100 hours, to include
 - 80 hours of direct patient/client/student services under the supervision of an ASHA-certified speech-language pathologist (SLP)
 - 20 hours of indirect patient/client/student services under the supervision of an ASHA-certified SLP

*These three courses must be completed no more than 2 years prior to application. These requirements may also be met as part of an academic course.

EDUCATION OPTION 1

Completion of a minimum 2-year SLPA program degree from an accredited institution (e.g., associate's degree from a community college, technical training program, certificate program, or bachelor's degree).

EDUCATION OPTION 2

- Bachelor's degree in communication sciences and disorders from an accredited institution

- Complete ASHA's Online SLPA Assistant Education Training Modules** or equivalent

EDUCATION OPTION 3

- College degree (associate's or bachelor's) from an accredited institution
- Pass coursework from an accredited college institution in the areas below:
 - Introductory or overview course in communication disorders
 - Phonetics
 - Speech sound disorders
 - Language development
 - Language disorders
 - Anatomy and physiology of speech and hearing mechanisms
- Complete ASHA's Online Assistant Education Training Modules** or equivalent

**Available prior to program launch in late 2020.

ASHA SLPA Certification and SD SLPA Licensure

Individuals who complete an A.A.S. degree in SLPA at MTI and pass the certification exam will be eligible for ASHA SLPA Certification. (Education Option 1)

Individuals who hold a bachelor's degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders, complete the SLPA Credential program at MTI, and pass the certification exam will be eligible for ASHA SLPA Certification. (Education Option 2)

Individuals who hold a bachelor's degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders, complete ethics, universal precautions, and confidentiality training, complete clinical fieldwork hours on the job, complete the ASHA training modules, and pass the certification exam will be eligible for ASHA SLPA Certification. (Education Option 2)

Individuals who obtain ASHA SLPA certification through Education Option 3 are not eligible for SD SLPA licensure. (This pathway was developed for individuals in some states that have not established degree requirements for SLPA credentials.)

Fieldwork hours must be completed with an ASHA certified Speech-Language Pathologist who has 9 months of clinical experience post-award of the CCC and have completed at least 2 hours of professional development in the area of clinical education and supervision.

QUESTIONS

Complete the form at: www.ashaassistants.org

Contact:

Deb Flynn
Deb.flynn@mitchelltech.edu

Jennifer Schultz
Jennifer.schultz@mitchelltech.edu