

SLPA Information Session

February 25, 2025

Contact

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Overview of the SLPA Program

This course sequence serves as extension coursework to the CSUS CSAD Bachelor of Science Program to prepare students for SLPA license application. This course is designed to meet the State of California's registration and licensing requirements for Speech-Language Pathology Assistants and the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) SLPA Certification Program.

Students must have completed the CSAD undergraduate sequence prior enrolling in the SLPA Program. Students are eligible to apply for the SLPA Program for up to five years after graduating from the CSUS CSAD undergraduate program. Students are **not allowed** to enroll in the SLPA Program (summer 2025) and the MS CSAD (fall 2025/spring 2026) Program at the same time. If you accept a seat in **any** MS CSAD program, you must decline a seat in the SLPA program.

Students complete the **CSAD 140: Clinical Methods for Speech Language Pathology Assistants** course during the summer semester. Students complete the **CSAD 140L: Clinical Practicum** experience through a local school or private practice (assigned by the SLPA Program Coordinator). Each student is assigned to a speech language pathologist (CCC-SLP) who is the supervisor/preceptor for the SLPA practicum. Internship sites vary by setting, location, and schedule; therefore, students may complete an 8-12 week internship dependent on these factors. Students are required to obtain 80 clinical contact hours (minimum 100 total hours) at their practicum site **and** to meet core clinical competencies. Completion of the 80 clinical contact hours (minimum 100 total hours) alone does not necessitate the end of the practicum experience. Students are responsible for furnishing their own transportation to clinical sites.

Applying to the SLPA Program

Students apply to the SLPA program through a Qualtrics form that will be posted to the department website and sent out to senior students via email. The SLPA Application will open in late March and **close on Wednesday, April 9, 2025** at midnight. The following information is required for the SLPA application:

- Descriptions of related work and volunteer experiences
- Personal statement questions, including:
 - Why are you interested in being a SLPA?
 - How have your background and/or experiences prepared you for a SLPA practicum experience?
 - How will you develop and maintain a collaborative, professional relationship with your SLP supervisor/preceptor?
 - What additional factors (e.g., technical skills, flexibility, resiliency, etc) do you possess that will support your future endeavors as a SLPA?
- Copy of resume
- Permission to access student grades to consider them as part of the SLPA application

The SLPA Applications Committee includes: Dr. Tonia Davis (chair), Dr. Lisa D'Angelo, Dr. Aishah Patterson, Dr. Celeste Roseberry-McKibbin, Dr. Darla Hagge, and Dr. Heather Thompson. Applications will be reviewed by the entire committee.

Additional Requirements of the SLPA Program

Prior to beginning the SLPA practicum experience, students must provide evidence of the following:

- Vaccinations (Hepatitis B, MMR, TB 2 step, TDAP, Varicella*, Meningococcal*, COVID*)
- Proof of health insurance
- CPR certification
- Background check (department authorized)

Students should not schedule vacations until after they have their practicum dates. A “safe” time to schedule vacations is after your practicum is over, while you are waiting for your license to be processed.

Cost of SLPA Program

For 2025, SLPA Course Fees are estimated at \$475/unit, or \$2,850 for both CSAD 140 and 140L. This is subject to change and does not include books, transportation, or parking. Students should request information about payment plan options by contacting the College of Continuing Education's Credit Registration Services at 916-278-6984 or ccecreditreg@csus.edu. The SLPA Program (through the College of Continuing Education) cannot take financial aid.

Schedule for CSAD 140

Fridays, 8am-3:30pm (with 15 minute breaks between sessions and a half hour lunch break)

- June 13, 20, 27;
- July 11, 18, 25 (off for Fourth of July)

It is critical that students are present for every class session due to the “workshop” nature of the course. Students who miss class will receive an incomplete until they are able to meet the learning objectives of the missed material. Missing class will place their ability to acquire SLPA license at risk.