

**Master of Arts in Speech-Language Pathology  
On-Campus Program**

Frequently Asked Questions

Program Information

*Is the program accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CAA)?*

- Yes, both the residential and online programs for the MA, Speech Language-Pathology are accredited by the CAA through September 30, 2025.

*What is the general student to professor ratio?*

- We use a cohort model so all students in the cohort take the same classes together each semester. So, each class has 26 students except Neuroscience and Speech Science which include the Audiology program students so they will have 36 students.

*Do we accept international students?*

- Yes, we welcome international students in the program. International students need to take the TOEFL test and demonstrate English competency in written and oral forms. During practicum and internships, students need to be supervised by an ASHA certified supervisor.

*Is the program's approach more theoretical or practical?*

- Our program approach is both pragmatic and theoretical. We provide support for our students using a clinician-researcher model. Please see the overview video of our program on our [webpage](#) and linked [here](#).

*What career planning and job search assistance is available through the department?*

- Our program has a job board where information about opportunities is posted for students to access. Additionally, there is an on-campus center that offers counseling, job search training, resume and interviewing support. The program has a 100% employment rate within 6 months of graduation.

### *How competitive is admission to the program?*

- We receive a high number of applications every year. Admissions data are available on our [website](#).

### *How do you evaluate applicants?*

- We use a holistic approach to evaluating applicants with the goal of finding students who have potential to succeed in graduate studies and whose goals align with our program philosophy. We consider overall GPA (minimum 3.0 requirement), major GPA, responses to short-response questions, and letters of recommendation. Additionally, applicant's transcripts are reviewed for undergraduate academic rigor as well as specialized skills and leadership experiences.

### *Is the GRE required?*

- No, we do not require students to submit GRE scores. If a student does submit them, we do not review them or consider the scores in our application evaluation.

### *When will I find out the status of my application?*

- All applicants who successfully submit both a graduate school application and a CSDCAS application will be notified of their application status (i.e., offer of admission, offer of spot on the waitlist, denial) at the end of March each cycle. Applicants who have been offered admission or a spot on the waitlist have until the national decision deadline of April 15<sup>th</sup> to inform us of their decision.

### *How often do students on the waitlist typically get accepted into the program?*

- Approximately 30% of students on the waitlist are accepted into the program though this varies from year to year.

### *Do you rank the waitlist?*

- After the national decision deadline of April 15<sup>th</sup>, we do rank the waitlisted applicants based on the aforementioned process and offer admission to students one-at-a-time until we reach our cohort number of 26 students.

### *Why was my application denied?*

- As we take a holistic approach to evaluating applications, we are unable to provide specific detail on why your application was denied. Please see the information above which describes how we evaluate applications.

## Undergraduate Preparation

*Do I need to have an undergraduate degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders to participate in the program?*

- No. However, this program assumes an undergraduate background in Communication Sciences and Disorders or Audiology and Speech-Language Sciences. Students who do not have a bachelor's degree in these majors, must complete a core of undergraduate classes prior to beginning the program. In addition to core leveling courses, the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association requires to take a core of liberal arts courses. These requirements have often been met through a student's general education. Please see our website for [Required Undergraduate Participation](#).

*If I have a bachelor's degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders or Audiology and Speech-Language Sciences, but I'm missing one or more of the required undergraduate courses, do I need to take them?*

- Yes, all incoming students will need to have successfully completed all required prerequisites prior to beginning the graduate program.

*Are any of the leveling courses offered online?*

- Yes, we offer the following courses online each summer: ASLS 266, 365, 370, 469, and 478. There are also several completely online leveling programs which are listed below. This list does not constitute a recommendation or endorsement of any of these programs and is not comprehensive. It is provided for informational purposes only.
  - Eastern New Mexico University
  - Idaho State University
  - LaSalle University
  - University of Colorado Boulder
  - University of South Florida
  - Utah State University

*If my prerequisite coursework is incomplete, can I be admitted to the program or should I wait to apply after I'm done with my coursework?*

- We suggest you wait until most of your coursework is complete before applying. If you are taking classes in the fall in which you apply, we suggest waiting to submit your application until your fall semester grades are on your transcript so we can have a more complete understanding of your academic ability. If you have coursework you are scheduled to complete before you would begin the graduate program, you are still encouraged to apply.

*Am I able to transfer credits from another master's degree that I already have or started and didn't complete?*

- Possibly. Classes must meet the requirements of our required courses. You may be able to transfer up to 9 credits.

*Can I take one of your courses if I am not enrolled in the master's degree program?*

- No. Classes are only available to currently enrolled students.

## Financial Information

*What is the cost of tuition and fees for your program?*

- Please see this [link for a tuition calculator](#). The program is 66-73 credits.

*Are scholarships or financial assistance available?*

- Each year, we typically award a number of graduate assistantships (contingent upon funding from the graduate school). These are awarded based upon merit. We have been fortunate to offer other smaller awards as well. We also have several hourly positions (\$15/hour) to support some of the grant-funded programs of the faculty. These positions are typically awarded at the beginning of the first spring semester.

*How can I be considered for a scholarship or other department-awarded positions?*

- All applicants who are offered admission into the program are considered for these opportunities. There is nothing additional you need to do.

*Are there any other sources of financial support for graduate students at UNC?*

- Yes. There are several graduate assistantships typically offered each year from programs/units outside the department. Please see the [graduate school website](#) for these other sources of funding.