

MA in Communication Sciences and Disorders

Admission

Minimum requirements for application to the MA graduate program:

1. Hold a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution or a recognized institution in another country whose requirements for the bachelor's degree are substantially equivalent to a U.S. bachelor's degree.
2. Minimum grade requirements: 2.750 overall GPA and 3.000 GPA in the last 60 semester credit hours. Receive a grade that generates at least 2.000 credit points per credit hour in all prerequisite courses.
3. Three letters of recommendation.
4. Professional resume.
5. Official scores for the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or Miller Analogies Test (MAT) taken within the last five years.
6. Applicants whose native language is not English must submit official scores for either the TOEFL, the academic module of the IELTS examination, or the PTE-Academic examination, taken within the last two years. No waivers are allowed. Minimum acceptable scores to be considered for admission are: TOEFL - 100 Internet-based with a score of 23 or higher on the speaking portion; IELTS - an overall band score of 7.5; PTE-Academic - a score of 73.

To be considered for admission, the following steps must be completed by the published deadline:

1. Online application for admission to the WSU Graduate School, including upload of transcripts from all institutions attended.
2. Application to the Communication Sciences and Disorders Centralized Application Service (CSDCAS) including all transcripts, letters of recommendation and supporting documents.

Notes:

1. *Application to the MA graduate program is competitive, which means there are more applications than positions offered each year.*
2. *The ability to meet the essential functions for students in the clinical speech-language pathology program is required (contact the program for more information).*
3. *Refer to the department's website (<http://wichita.edu/csd>) for complete information.*

Admission to the MA program is considered for students who have completed an undergraduate major in the area of speech, language and hearing disorders. Selected undergraduate or closely allied courses may be considered. Additionally, students with a degree from another field will be considered for admission after completion of prerequisite courses. Admission is for fall semester only. The deadline to submit a completed CSDCAS application is February 1 (11:59 p.m. EST). The Graduate School application, application fee, and transcripts are due by February 1.

Undergraduate students may request early admission to the MA program under the senior rule policy if they:

1. Meet the requirements for senior rule (<http://catalog.wichita.edu/graduate/admission-graduate-study/graduate-credit-undergraduates>) status as described in the Graduate School policies section of the Graduate Catalog;

2. Meet GPA requirements for senior rule status and have a 3.700 GPA in the last 60 credit hours;
3. Provide three letters of recommendation from CSD faculty or clinical educators. Two letters from CSD faculty and one letter from a faculty member in a related academic area is acceptable; and
4. Have a minimum MAT score of 415 or a minimum GRE score of 157 Verbal, 159 Quantitative, and 4.5 Analytical Writing.

Consult the department for an application packet. Early admission is contingent on faculty review of all application materials.

Course	Title	Hours
Tool Requirements		
(Tool subjects may be taken at the undergraduate or graduate level, but are not counted toward the degree.)		
Research Methods (ex. PSY 311, CESP 701, HP 800)		3
Statistics (ex. PSY 301, CESP 704, PHS 804, STAT 370)		3
Total Credit Hours		6

Program Requirements

The Master of Arts (MA) in communication sciences and disorders may be earned with an emphasis in speech-language pathology. This program requires students to complete 61 credit hours (thesis or nonthesis track). Prospective students with an undergraduate degree in another field should review the department website for details on prerequisite coursework (for example, undergraduate CSD courses, ASHA-required basic science courses, research methods, and statistics) and consult a CSD advisor prior to applying to the program.

A plan of study must be filed within the first year of the program. Transfer credit policies are listed in the appropriate section of the Graduate Catalog.

Course	Title	Hours
Didactic Coursework		
CSD 705	Counseling in Communication Disorders	3
CSD 710	Autism Spectrum Disorder	3
CSD 809	Language and Literacy for Young Children: Assessment and Intervention	3
CSD 810	Motor Speech Disorders	2
CSD 811	Dysphagia	2
CSD 811L	Dysphagia Lab	2
CSD 812	Aphasia	3
CSD 814	Speech-Sound Disorders	2
CSD 815	Augmentative and Alternative Communication	2
CSD 816	Language and Literacy for School-Age and Adolescents	3
CSD 817	Voice Disorders	3
CSD 818	Fluency Disorders	3
CSD 819	Cognitive Communication Disorders	2
CSD 832A	Critical Thinking in Clinical Practice I	3
CSD 832B	Critical Thinking in Clinical Practice II	2
CSD 832C	Critical Thinking in Clinical Practice III	2
CSD 836	Clinical and Research Writing	1
CSD 837	Clinical Assessment of Speech-Language Disorders	1

CSD 838	Supervisory Process in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology	1
HP 801	Interprofessional Evidence-Based Practice	1
Nonthesis/Thesis Options		
Select one of the following options:		3
Nonthesis Option (3 hours total):		
CSD 891	Nonthesis Research	
Thesis Option (3 hours total):		
CSD 895	Thesis Research	
CSD 899	Thesis	
Clinical Practicum (14 credit hours)		
CSD 821	Educational Settings Practicum	3
The following is repeatable for a maximum of 7 credit hours:		7
CSD 822	General Clinic Practicum	
CSD 823	Medical Settings Practicum	3
CSD 831	Auditory Assessment — SLP Practicum	1
Total Credit Hours		61

Successful completion of the program requires the following:

1. Satisfactory performance on all didactic and clinical evaluative measures as determined by program faculty, clinical educators and externship supervisors with at least a 3.000 GPA;
2. Satisfactory performance in completing the mentored research project; and
3. A passing score on the Praxis exam as determined by the state of Kansas.

An alternative assessment (e.g., an in-house written comprehensive examination) will be implemented if students have not passed the Praxis exam for a second time prior to meeting all other requirements for graduation.

Further, students must enroll in a clinical practicum course every semester during the master's program to complete the necessary clinical hours for graduation via supervised practicums at the WSU Evelyn Hendren Cassat Speech-Language-Hearing Clinic, hospital, school, or other practice environment. To ensure that the placement will provide candidates the best clinical opportunities, the placement of the candidate may or may not be in the metropolitan area of Wichita. Although WSU has a number of sites established, the candidate may also independently seek placement for that experience. However, the final decision as to the suitability and location will be approved by the program faculty. A competency-based evaluation of the student's performance will be made at regular intervals throughout the clinical experience.

Before graduation, students must have successfully completed a minimum of 400 clinical clock hours (at least 25 observation hours and at least 375 clinical hours) to satisfy requirements of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) for the Certificate of Clinical Competence (CCC-SLP) and must have demonstrated clinical competency in completing those hours as determined by both in-house and external clinical supervisors. Students must also have demonstrated knowledge and skills learning outcomes in compliance with ASHA standards for certification.

Students enrolled in the department's clinical practicum courses are required to provide proof of medical clearance (see department for details) prior to the start of the course and to renew annually. Semester

clinic fees will also apply. The cost of professional liability insurance coverage (not less than \$1 million per single claim/\$3 million aggregate per year) and general liability insurance coverage (not less than \$1 million per single claim/\$3 million aggregate per year) is included in the program fee. Students are required to obtain a criminal background check at their own expense as part of the clinical placements. Students should consult the beginning of the College of Health Professions section of the catalog for additional requirements which may be needed to participate in clinical settings. In addition, applications for external practicum placements must be made one year in advance and are subject to departmental approval.