## AUDIOLOGY AND SPEECH PATHOLOGY
### What can I do with this major?

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<tr>
<th>AREAS</th>
<th>EMPLOYERS</th>
<th>STRATEGIES/INFORMATION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY</strong></td>
<td><strong>Schools, K-12</strong></td>
<td><strong>A master's degree from an accredited speech-language pathology program is required to enter the field.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Speech-language pathologists assess and treat patients who have speech, language, voice, fluency, or oral motor disorders. They also assist people who wish to improve their communication skills through changes in vocal pitch, quality, or accent. Speech-language pathologists utilize special instruments and tests to develop individualized treatment plans for patients.</td>
<td>** Universities and colleges**</td>
<td>Forty-seven states require licensure or certification of speech pathologists and forty-one states require continuing education.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Screening</td>
<td>Physicians' offices</td>
<td>A passing score on the national examination and postgraduate supervised clinical experience are required for certification.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assessment</td>
<td>Speech, language, and hearing centers</td>
<td>Some states may require additional certification to work with special education populations in public schools.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treatment</td>
<td>Home healthcare offices</td>
<td>Medicaid, Medicare, and private health insurers require a practitioner to be licensed for reimbursement of fees.</td>
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<td>Behavioral Modification</td>
<td>Nursing homes</td>
<td>Approximately one half of speech-language pathologists work in schools and another half are employed in healthcare institutions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Follow-up</td>
<td>Residential facilities</td>
<td>A doctorate is required for university teaching and research positions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>Federal agencies including:</td>
<td>Speech pathologists may work closely with physicians, social workers, psychologists, and other therapists in the diagnosis and treatment of patients.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Consultation</td>
<td>Department of Veterans Affairs</td>
<td>Supplement coursework with classes in anatomy, physiology, psychology, and personal communication.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supervision</td>
<td>National Institutes of Health</td>
<td>Maintain a high grade point average and seek related experiences to be competitive for graduate school.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teaching</td>
<td>Department of Health and Human Services</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research</td>
<td>Department of Education</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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### AREAS

**AUDIOLOGY**

Audiologists identify, diagnosis, and treat people experiencing disorders associated with the ear and hearing. These disorders may include hearing loss or balance problems. Audiologists utilize technical equipment such as audiometers and computers to assess a patient's impairment and to plan a course of treatment. Audiologists are concerned with the nature and extent of hearing loss and how this may impact a client's quality of life.

- **Prevention**
- **Screening**
- **Diagnosis**
- **Assessment**
- **Treatment Including:**
  - Dispense Hearing Aids
  - Fit and Program Cochlear Implants
- **Follow-up**
- **Administration**
- **Supervision**
- **Teaching**
- **Research and Development**

### EMPLOYERS

- Schools, K-12
- Universities and colleges
- Hospitals
- Physicians' offices
- Speech, language, and hearing centers
- Private individual or group practice
- Home healthcare offices
- Nursing homes
- Residential facilities
- Rehabilitation centers
- Federal agencies
- Including:
  - Department of Veterans Affairs
  - National Institutes of Health
  - Department of Health and Human Services
  - Department of Education
  - Armed Services
  - Public health departments
  - Health Maintenance Organizations
  - Health and personal care stores (hearing aid stores)
  - Hearing manufacturing industry

### STRATEGIES/INFORMATION

Most states require a Master's degree in audiology to be eligible for licensure. Eight states require a doctoral degree. Doctoral degrees are becoming more crucial for clinical practice opportunities. All fifty states require licensure or certification of audiologists to practice. Forty-one states require continuing education. Most insurance companies require licensure for reimbursement of fees. Twenty states require audiologists to have a Hearing Aid Dispenser license to dispense those devices. The other states accept an audiologist license. Obtain the Certificate of Clinical Competence in Audiology (CCC-A) offered by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. Certification is also offered through the Board of Audiology. A passing score on the national examination and post-graduate supervised clinical experience are required for certification. Doctoral degree required for university teaching and research positions. Supplement coursework with classes in science, math, physics, genetics, and normal and abnormal communication development. Learn to work well on a team as most audiologists collaborate with physicians, physical therapists, and occupational therapists.

### GENERAL INFORMATION

- Join the National Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association while in school.
- Volunteer in a healthcare setting to gain experience working with people in all age groups.
- Display a desire to help and work with people who have disabilities.
- Patience is necessary as rehabilitation may progress slowly.
- Develop excellent communication and computer skills.
- Learn about communication among various cultures.
- Earn excellent grades and obtain strong recommendations for graduate school admission.
- Attend one of 230 universities accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology.

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PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS
  o *American Academy of Audiology
  o Academy of Doctors of Audiology
  o American Auditory Society
  o The Audiology Foundation of America
  o Audiological Resource Association
  o National Association of Future Doctors of Audiology
  o *American Speech Language Hearing Association
  o American Speech Language Hearing Foundation
  o Council of Academic Programs in Communicative Sciences and Disorders
  o National Center for Voice and Speech
  o State Speech and Hearing Associations
  o American Academy of Private Practice in Speech Pathology and Audiology

OCCUPATIONAL OUTLOOK INFORMATION
  o Audiologists
  o Speech-Language Pathologists
  o Healthcare Industry Guide

MISCELLANEOUS CAREER INFORMATION
  o Explore Health Careers
  o Advance for Audiologists
  o Speech-Language Pathologists.org
JOB POSTINGS

- Therapy Jobs
- Audiology Online
- Speech Pathology Jobs

* = Recommended Sites