

Effective November 15, 2005

505-3-.52 SPEECH AND LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY PROGRAM

(1) Purpose. This rule states field-specific content standards for approving programs that prepare individuals as speech and language pathologists who provide related educational support or direct intervention for all students whose individual education program indicates instructional needs in the area of communication disorders. This rule supplements requirements in Rule 505-3-.01, Requirements and Standards for Approving Professional Education Units and Educator Preparation Programs.

(2) Requirements.

(a) Initial preparation for entry-level certification is at the bachelor's level. This certificate is nonrenewable and must be upgraded to the master's degree level preparation in Speech and Language Pathology.

(b) To receive approval for an initial preparation program at the bachelors level, a state-approved professional education unit shall offer a preparation program described in program planning forms, catalogs, and syllabi addressing the following standards for the preparation of speech language pathologists published by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association:

1. The program shall prepare candidates who know the principles of biological sciences, physical sciences, mathematics, and the social/behavioral sciences.

2. The program shall prepare candidates who know basic human communication and swallowing processes, including their biological, neurological, acoustic, psychological, developmental, linguistic and cultural bases.

3. The program shall prepare candidates who know the nature of speech, language, hearing, and communication disorders and differences and swallowing disorders, including the etiologies, characteristics, anatomical/physiological, acoustic, psychological, developmental, and linguistic and cultural correlates. Specific knowledge shall be demonstrated in the following areas:

(i) Articulation

(ii) Fluency

(iii) Voice and resonance, including respiration and phonation

(iv) Receptive and expressive language (phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics) in speaking, listening, reading, writing, and manual modalities.

(v) Hearing, including the impact on speech and language.

(vi) Swallowing (oral, pharyngeal, esophageal, and related functions, including oral function for feeding; orofacial myofunction)

(vii) Cognitive aspects of communication (attention, memory, sequencing, problem-solving, executive functioning)

(viii) Social aspects of communication (including challenging behavior, ineffective social skills, lack of communication opportunities)

(ix) Communication modalities (including oral, manual, augmentative, and alternative communication techniques and assistive technologies).

4. The program shall prepare candidates who possess knowledge of the principles and methods of prevention, assessment, and intervention for people with communication and swallowing disorders, including consideration of anatomical/physiological, psychological, developmental, and linguistic and cultural correlates of the disorders.

5. The program shall prepare candidates who know standards of ethical conduct.

6. The program shall prepare candidates who know processes used in research and the integration of research principles into evidence-based clinical practice.

7. The program shall prepare candidates who have knowledge of contemporary professional issues.

8. The program shall prepare candidates who have knowledge of certification, specialty recognition, licensure, and other relevant professional credentials.

(c) The program shall include a minimum of 400 hours of supervised clinical experience in the practice of speech-language pathology, including a minimum of 25 hours of clinical observation and a minimum of 375 hours in direct client/patient contact.

(d) The program shall meet all requirements specified in Rule 505-3-.01 (4.f.), Special Georgia Requirements.

Authority O.C.G.A. § 20-2-200