



TO: Professional Licensing Agency
402 West Washington Street
Room WO72
Indianapolis, IN 46204

FROM: Indiana Speech Language Hearing Association
2346 S. Lynhurst Drive
Suite D101
Indianapolis, IN 46241

Dear Professional Licensing Agency,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on requirements for licensure as a speech-language pathologist or audiologist in Indiana schools.

The Indiana Speech Language Hearing Association is providing the following comments:

- Eliminate the need for additional licensure from DOE.
- Make continuing education consistent with American Speech Language Hearing Association (ASHA) requirements: 30 hours/ 3 years or 10 hours/year.
- Require that practitioners use a workload approach and use the ASHA workload calculator to document workload.
- Require that practitioners use Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS).
- Require that SLPAs pass the ASHA certification exam in order to practice in the schools. ASHA has outlined three pathways for SLPA certification.

To be eligible to take the speech-language pathology assistants certification exam, applicants must complete one of three pathway options that best fits their education and qualifications. In addition to finishing all the requirements of that option, applicants must also complete the following mandatory requirements:

- Completion of a 1-hour of ethics course*
- Completion of a 1-hour course in universal safety precautions*
- Completion of a 1-hour patient confidentiality training course (HIPAA, FERPA, etc.)*
- Clinical field work: A minimum of 100 hours, to include

- 80 hours of direct patient/client/student services under the supervision of an ASHA-certified speech-language pathologist (SLP)
- 20 hours of indirect patient/client/student services under the supervision of an ASHA-certified SLP

*These three courses must be completed no more than 2 years prior to application. These requirements may also be met as part of an academic course.

EDUCATION OPTION 1

Completion of a minimum 2-year SLPA program degree from an accredited institution (e.g., associate's degree from a community college, technical training program, certificate program, or bachelor's degree).

EDUCATION OPTION 2

- Bachelor's degree in communication sciences and disorders from an accredited institution
- Complete ASHA's Online SLPA Assistant Education Modules** or equivalent

EDUCATION OPTION 3

- College degree (associate's or bachelor's) from an accredited institution
- Pass coursework from an accredited college institution in the areas below:
 - Introductory or overview course in communication disorders
 - Phonetics
 - Speech sound disorders
 - Language development
 - Language disorders
 - Anatomy and physiology of speech and hearing mechanisms
- Complete ASHA's Online Assistant Education Modules** or equivalent

**Available prior to program launch in late 2020.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at slatham@saintmarys.edu

Sincerely,



Susan Latham, Ph.D., CCC-SLP
ISHA President

