

MASTER OF SCIENCE EDUCATION PROGRAM IN SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

Mission Statement: Educating future Speech-Language Pathologists to be compassionate, innovative leaders and effectively serve the local and global communities through competent and ethical decision making.

Vision Statement: Empowering our students to affect meaningful and progressive change, through mindful engagement as global citizens within the greater community, as well as effectively serving those with communication impairments.

Program Goals:

1. To provide graduate education in the Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology program and to prepare students to meet the most current professional standards for clinical certification and licensure
2. To develop the professional preparation of future clinicians in the areas of communication sciences and disorders which includes, but is not limited to, speech production, language, cognition, voice, fluency, feeding and swallowing, resonance, and auditory (re)habilitation in both the pediatric and adult populations
3. To give students a wide range of clinical and research opportunities to meet the needs of the community, state, and nation and to prepare students for any occupational setting following the completion of the program
4. To ensure a strong foundation of evidence based practice including research, client and caregiver considerations, and clinical experience
5. To foster and utilize a life-long commitment to professional development as it relates to the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association standards, scope of practice, and ethics requirements

GOAL 1

Enroll cohorts of increasing size beginning Fall 2022

1. Strategy 1: Implement enrollment plan including admissions requirements to enroll:
 - a. Matriculation in Fall 2022: 10 students
 - b. Matriculation in Fall 2023: 15 students
 - c. Matriculation in Fall 2024: 20 students
 - d. Matriculation in Fall 2025: 25 students
 - e. Matriculation in Fall 2026: 30 students

2. Strategy 2: Develop effective marketing strategies at both the program and university level to cultivate awareness of the undergraduate and new graduate program in the state of West Virginia
3. Strategy 3: Monitor student success in the areas of competencies, degree completion, and assessment as well as recognizing areas that need improvement

GOAL 2

Develop and implement a graduate program with appropriate curriculum that is aligned with CAA standards to meet the needs of our clients and community

1. Strategy 1: Align the graduate curriculum with ASHA Standards meeting all areas of competency
2. Strategy 2: Develop an appropriate clinical experience that aligns with the graduate curriculum
3. Strategy 3: Monitor the effectiveness of both the curriculum and clinical experience through appropriate assessment

GOAL 3

Recruit a diverse faculty with specialized areas of expertise that will ensure program excellence

1. Strategy 1: Develop attractive opportunities within the program to not only teach but meet the needs of the professional within areas of specialized research, clinical and community service opportunities, and student mentoring/supervising
2. Strategy 2: Ensure that faculty compensation within the profession is competitive with area graduate programs
3. Strategy 3: Encourage faculty professional development by providing opportunities of growth in specialized areas of interest

GOAL 4

To grow a solid financial base for the program to offset declining financial support from the university and state

1. Strategy 1: Develop an attractive tuition, scholarship, and housing model to ensure proper recruitment of students
2. Strategy 2: Identify grant and award opportunities to support the program
3. Strategy 3: Ensure that proper marketing strategies and exceptional services are provided in the clinic to help support program growth and needs
4. Strategy 4: Foster relationships with the West Liberty University Foundation members to locate potential donors and partner with them to create more effective ways of communication with alumni for support of program growth

SPEECH AND HEARING CLINIC

Clinic Mission Statement: To provide all clients with unmatched speech, language, and hearing services in the areas of screenings, evaluations, treatments, and support while providing a clinical training program for our undergraduate student clinicians. Our goal is to provide a comfortable learning environment, ensure positive outcomes and to improve the quality of life for our patients.

Clinic Outcomes:

1. To improve the quality of lives in our patients not only in the Ohio Valley but the surrounding areas of West Virginia, Ohio, and Pennsylvania by providing exceptional service(s) in the area of communication disorders using state-of-the-art equipment, devices, and therapy tools
2. To provide our undergraduate student clinicians with excellent clinical experience and evidence-based training in assessment and treatment of communication disorders by utilizing current technology and therapy materials needed to better prepare them for graduate work and future licensure/certification
3. To provide our students with appropriate professional development as it relates to the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association standards, scope of practice, and ethics requirements

GOAL 5

To enhance and grow our client base offering a wide range of speech, language, and hearing services needed in the surrounding community and state of West Virginia.

1. Strategy 1: Develop effective marketing strategies to provide the community with information about the services provided within the new clinic
2. Strategy 2: Provide unmatched and excellent services as well as a comfortable learning environment to ensure that patients will return for future sessions
3. Strategy 3: Build and nourish relationships with area providers and placements to guarantee rapport and trust with current clientele
4. Strategy 4: Develop and attend community service opportunities to spread awareness and education to prospective patients