Master of Arts in Speech-Language Pathology
at Central Michigan University

SLP at CMU
CMU’s Department of Communication Disorders offers a Speech-Language Pathology Master of Arts Program that is consistently ranked among the nation’s top academic and clinical programs.

This program, which is accredited by the American Speech-Language Hearing Association’s Council on Academic Accreditation (ASHA), prepares students for clinical certification with a strong emphasis on the scientific investigation of human communication behaviors, as well as assessment and treatment of a variety of communication disorders.

Students complete the program prepared to work in many different settings, including:
- government health facilities
- hospitals
- industry
- nursing care facilities
- private practices
- rehabilitation centers
- research laboratories
- schools

Program Curriculum
Speech-Language Pathology students enroll in a set of core courses in aphasia, acoustic phonetics, motor speech disorders, and language disorders and learning disabilities. Each student must complete one of three capstone experiences prior to graduation: Plan A-Thesis (CDO 798), Plan B-Internship (CDO 795) or Plan B-Independent Study (CDO 790).

Students are required to finish a minimum of 375 clinical hours under the direct supervision of an ASHA-certified professional. At least 250 of the required clinical hours must be completed at the graduate level. Graduate students also complete a clinical practicum each semester and participate in the Summer Specialty Clinics as clinicians during the summer following their first year in the program.

Selection Criteria and How to Apply
To be considered for admission to the Speech-Language Pathology Program, applicants must have completed or be in the final stages of completing an undergraduate degree in communication disorders or equivalent coursework. Applicants must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0 and a minimum grade point average of 3.0 in major coursework.

Applications must be submitted via CSDCAS no later than January 15 to be considered for the fall semester. The most qualified applicants will be invited to interview with the Speech-Language Pathology Admissions Committee and will be notified of their admission status during the spring semester. For additional application requirements and instructions, log on to our website at:
https://www.cmich.edu/colleges/CHP/hp_academics/communications_disorders/academic_programs/speech-language_pathology/Pages/Application_Requirements.aspx

All applicants must take the Graduate Record Exam (GRE). Paper copies are no longer required, as all scores are sent directly from ETS to CSDCAS using our program code: 0742 Central MI U CSDCAS.

Admission is available only fall semester.
Financial Assistance

Financial aid for speech-language pathology students includes fellowships, assistantships, scholarships, and loans. Many graduate students are awarded competitive scholarships. Students receiving assistantships qualify for in-state tuition rates, and assistantships may be renewed depending on the quality of the student’s academic, clinical, and management achievements.

Students interested in applying for university fellowships are advised to take the GRE before December so they can submit their scores with the fellowship applications, as the GRE is required for the fellowship. The fellowship application deadline is February 6. For further information, log on to the College of Graduate Studies’ web site: www.grad.cmich.edu. Information about other financial assistance is available through the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid: https://www.cmich.edu/ess/OSFA/Pages/default.aspx.

On-Campus and Off-Campus Clinical Facilities and Opportunities

The Department of Communication Disorders offers students a multitude of opportunities to gain clinical and research experience, both on and off campus.

Health Professions Building

CMU’s Health Professions Building greatly enhances the university’s health care education, research, and outreach services. The $50 million dollar facility offers a technologically advanced environment conducive to student learning, collaboration, and discovery. The building’s clinical, instructional, and research wings house state-of-the-art clinical facilities, laboratories, classrooms, and other resources that support CMU’s growing health professions programs and offer students practical learning and research opportunities.

Speech, Language and Hearing Clinics

Through these clinics, students provide clinical services to patients from throughout central and northern Michigan. People of all ages are offered clinical services in the areas of voice and swallowing, aphasia, traumatic brain injury, speech, language, augmentative communication, and audiology.

Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) Services

Hearing Clinics enable students to gain evaluation, research, and clinical experience with people who need augmentative and alternative communication services. Certified professionals oversee all services the students provide to area patients.

Summer Specialty Clinic

For more than half a century, CMU has offered highly regarded Summer Specialty Clinics for children with communication disorders. Speech-language pathology student clinicians, working under the supervision of certified professional staff, provide assessment and treatment for a variety of communication disorders.