

2025–2026 Online Speech-Language Pathology Assistant (SLPA) Program Review

Form: Annual Program Review

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Program: Online – Speech-Language Pathology Technology

Year: 2025-2026

Begin Date: 01/06/2026

A. Program Learning Outcomes

1. Date of Review: 01/06/2026

2. Program outcomes review: The SLPA Advisory Board met twice reviewing program syllabi and outcomes. Faculty compared outcomes to ASHA certification standards, Scope of Practice, Assistants Code of Conduct, and SD SLPA responsibilities. No changes were made.

3. Outcomes up-to-date in Coursedog and on program web page: Yes

B. Course Syllabi

Course syllabi include course title/number, credit hours, instructor, contact information, prerequisites, description, competencies, required texts, grading criteria, freedom of expression, academic integrity, ADA, nondiscrimination.

Date of Review: 01/06/2026

Syllabi up-to-date in Coursedog: Yes

Syllabi reviewed: SLPA 200 Intro to Audiology and Aural Rehab – positive feedback; SLPA 202 Clinical Observation II – workload significant; instructors exploring adjustments; student rep noted high learning value.

C. Program Competencies

1. Date of Review: 01/06/2026

2. Competency review: SLPA 200 and 202 competencies reviewed by SLP subject matter experts and advisory board including a student representative. All competencies reviewed by faculty prior to semester. No changes made.

3. Competencies up-to-date in Coursedog: Yes

D. Course Assessments

Assessments used: oral examinations/presentations, written essays, written reports, examinations, comprehensive final exams, journals, peer evaluations, self-evaluations, clinical/internship observations, class participation, portfolio projects, capstone projects, other projects, videos of student mastery, quizzes, lab demonstrations, simulations.

Assessments matched to competencies: Yes

Changes since last review: None

Higher-level thinking examples: Assessment projects require students to create materials, demonstrate screening/treatment use, analyze clinical situations, and apply SLPA Scope of Practice and ASHA Assistants Code of Conduct.

E. Certifications

ASHA C-SLPA certification is voluntary. Students informed of certification availability and requirements in SLPA 103 and SLPA 240. Certification scores cannot be used for program assessment. Faculty will continue monitoring C-SLPA process.

F. Program Internships/Externships

All SLPA II students complete SLPA 240 Clinical Fieldwork – 8-week experience under licensed/certified SLP. Supervisors complete midterm and final evaluations. Faculty conduct at least one site visit to observe services and interview student and supervisor.

Curriculum changes: New rubric developed for standardized competency ratings; new planning/communication tool created for supervising SLPs and students (implementation Spring 2026).

H. Enrollment

Fall 2025 10-day count was 80%, exceeding benchmark.

I. Retention

Fall 2025 retention rate was 74%, slightly below benchmark. Late/missing work policy changed for Spring 2026 to support online students.

J. Graduation

Spring 2025 graduation rate was 45%, below benchmark. Students left for personal or academic reasons.

K. In-field Job Placement

2024 placement rate was 100%, exceeding benchmark.

L. Student Satisfaction

Not addressed this cycle.

M. Alumni Satisfaction

Not addressed this cycle.

N. Employer Satisfaction

Not addressed this cycle.

O. Professional Development

All faculty complete minimum 10 hours continuing education annually for licensure and ASHA certification. Faculty attend and present at state/national conferences. SLPA faculty attended ASHA Convention Fall 2025 presenting sessions on supervision and program development.

Updates from meetings integrated into coursework. Networking with directors, supervisors, and employers enhances program relevance.

P. Professional Organizations

Faculty belong to professional organizations: Yes

Students made aware of organizations: Yes

Q. Advisory Board Recommendations

ASHA phonemic inventories and cultural/linguistic diversity resources to be shared with students; incorporated into SLPA 106 and 230.

New online orientation created by Center for Student Success; new LMS tutorial created by SLPA faculty; Intro to Gen AI module added—implemented Fall 2025.

Simucase Career Readiness modules on professionalism to be introduced in SLPA 103 in Spring 2026.

Personnel responsible: NA

Implementation date: 01/06/2026

R. Program Improvement Plans

New screening instrument KLST-3 needed. Updated audiological screening equipment and faculty iPads needed within 1–2 years.

Anticipated costs: KLST-3 \$1,500; Audiometers & OAE Screeners \$39,000; iPads \$3,100.

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