Chapter 3
Clinical Program Requirements

Overview
The clinical program is designed to give students multiple opportunities for practicum in various clinical settings in the community. Clinical practica are infused throughout the program each semester and provide opportunities for students to integrate and apply academic learning at progressively higher levels of performance and independence. Clinical sites include the Pacific University College of Education Early Learning Community (ELC), Early Intervention and Early Childhood Special Education sites, K-12 public schools, hospitals, rehabilitation centers, skilled nursing facilities, and other clinical sites serving individuals with speech-language needs. Clinical competencies, clinical evaluations, clock hours, and client demographics will be tracked electronically. The clinical program, semester by semester, can be found in the Appendix.

Clock Hours
Graduate students must complete a minimum of 400 clock hours of supervised clinical experience in the practice of speech-language pathology. Twenty-five hours must be spent in clinical observation, and 375 hours must be spent in direct client/patient contact. It is required that students complete 25 hours of observation prior to beginning the graduate program. Student clinicians will be assigned to clinical practicum only after they have sufficient coursework to qualify for such experience. Clock hours can be obtained only for the time during which the student clinician is providing direct evaluation or treatment services for clients who present communication disorders or with the client’s family. Ancillary activities such as writing lesson plans, scoring tests, transcribing language samples, preparing treatment activities, and meetings with practicum supervisors may not be counted as clock hours. (Standard V-C)

Supervision
Students are supervised by faculty members and speech-language pathologists in the community who hold the Certificate of Clinical Competence (CCC) from ASHA and who are licensed by the state. Clinical practicum hours must be supervised by individuals who hold a current CCC in the area in which the observation and practicum hours are being obtained. The Director of Clinical Education will verify supervisor’s current ASHA Certification with the Council on Clinical Certification.

Clinical faculty from the university will make regular visits to each clinical site to provide support for both the student and the site supervisor. Clinical faculty will have the opportunity to communicate with site supervisors and students on a regular basis, via email, phone and site visits. Site supervisors will be informed that the nature and amount of clinical supervision must be adjusted to the experience and ability of the student, according to ASHA guidelines. Direct supervision must be in real time and must be no less than 25% of the student’s total contact with each client and must take place periodically throughout the practicum. (Standard V-E)

Clinical faculty and students will have the opportunity to schedule individualized appointments on a regular basis throughout each semester.
Clinic Populations
Graduate students will have practicum experience with client populations across the life span and from culturally and linguistically diverse populations, in addition to populations with various types and severities of communication disorders, differences and disabilities. (Standard V-F)

Skill Competencies
Graduate students must complete a program of study that includes supervised clinical experiences sufficient in breadth and depth to achieve the following skills outcomes: (Standard V-B)

1. Evaluation:
   a. Conduct screening and prevention procedures (including prevention activities).
   b. Collect case history information and integrate information from clients/patients, family, caregivers, teachers, relevant others, and other professionals.
   c. Select and administer appropriate evaluation procedures, such as behavioral observations, nonstandardized and standardized tests, and instrumental procedures.
   d. Adapt evaluation procedures to meet client/patient needs.
   e. Interpret, integrate, and synthesize all information to develop diagnoses and make appropriate recommendations for intervention.
   f. Complete administrative and reporting functions necessary to support evaluation.
   g. Refer clients/patients for appropriate services.

2. Intervention:
   a. Develop setting-appropriate intervention plans with measurable and achievable goals that meet clients'/patients' needs. Collaborate with clients/patients and relevant others in the planning process.
   b. Implement intervention plans (involve clients/patients and relevant others in the intervention process).
   c. Select or develop and use appropriate materials and instrumentation for prevention and intervention.
   d. Measure and evaluate clients'/patients' performance and progress.
   e. Modify intervention plans, strategies, materials, or instrumentation as appropriate to meet the needs of clients/patients.
   f. Complete administrative and reporting functions necessary to support intervention.
   g. Identify and refer clients/patients for services as appropriate.

3. Interaction and Personal Qualities:
   a. Communicate effectively, recognizing the needs, values, preferred mode of communication, and cultural/linguistic background of the client/patient, family, caregivers, and relevant others.
   b. Collaborate with other professionals in case management.
   c. Provide counseling regarding communication and swallowing disorders to clients/patients, family, caregivers, and relevant others.
   d. Adhere to the ASHA Code of Ethics and behave professionally.

These standards must be met in the following areas:
- Articulation
- Fluency
- Voice and resonance, including respiration and phonation
- Receptive and expressive language (phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics) in speaking, listening, reading, writing, and manual modalities
- Hearing, including the impact on speech and language
- Swallowing (oral, pharyngeal, esophageal, and related functions, including oral function for feeding; orofacial myofunction)
- Cognitive aspects of communication (attention, memory, sequencing, problem-solving, executive functioning)
- Social aspects of communication (including challenging behavior, ineffective social skills, lack of communication opportunities)
- Communication modalities (including oral, manual, augmentative and alternative communication techniques and assistive technologies)

Graduate students will demonstrate skill competencies through clinical practica, academic course work, simulations, and laboratory activities. The document *Meeting Clinical Skills Competencies* can be found in the Appendix.

As students’ progress through the clinical levels, they will be expected to have a broader base of knowledge to apply to the clinical setting, and to implement clinical strategies more independently, efficiently and effectively.

**Student Requirements**

**Health Insurance**
All enrolled students are required to be covered by medical insurance. The University offers an insurance plan through Academic Health Plans to cover medical needs beyond the scope of services provided at the Student Health Center. At the beginning of each academic year, the Business Office bills all students for the yearly premium of the University Insurance Policy. You may waive this insurance by providing the Business Office with information of other health insurance coverage (see waiver form in link below).

To review the medical coverage offered by Academic Health plans, click on the link below. The policy has a $100,000 Lifetime Maximum benefit with an option for an additional $100,000 at a higher cost. Additional $100,000 in coverage must be opted for at the beginning of each year (forms are in link below). Please check coverage and exclusion category carefully in the brochure to determine if this policy meets your needs. For questions about coverage or to inquire about more comprehensive coverage, please call our local insurance representatives, WSC Insurance, at 503-357-3154.

/www.academichealthplans.com/pacificu/

**Immunizations**
The following immunizations and titers are required before entering the graduate program in speech-language pathology:

1. Measles/Mumps/Rubella (MMR) vaccine
2. Tetanus-Diptheria-Pertussis (Tdap) or Tetanus/Diptheria (Td) in past 2 years
3. Tuberculosis (TB) skin test
4. Hepatitis B virus (HBV) vaccine (series of 3 vaccines over 6 month period)
5. Varicella (Chickenpox)
6. Annual flu vaccine (required for most practicum sites)

In addition, the following immunization is recommended:

1. Hepatitis A (2 doses)

Students are responsible for submitting the Pacific University Health Profession and Immunization Form to the Student Health Services by the designated date with verification of immunizations and titers. Students are required to sign for authorization to release vaccine related information to the School of Communication Sciences and Disorders. Students should retain a copy of their immunization records and health form.

Federal Criminal Background Check and Drug Test
Students are required to complete a criminal background check and a 10-panel drug test before entering the graduate program through Certifiedbackground.com. The results of the background check and drug test are posted to the CertifiedBackground.com web site in a secure, tamper-proof environment, where the student and the Director of Clinical Education can view them. Findings on the criminal background check and/or drug test may prevent students from progressing through the program. Additionally, findings on the criminal background check and/or drug test may prevent students from being eligible for Oregon Licensure as a speech-language pathologist.

To order your background check and drug test from CertifiedBackground.com, please follow the instructions on the CertifiedBackground Instruction Form in the Appendix.

Fingerprints
All graduate students are required to have their fingerprints on file with the State of Oregon’s school licensure authority, Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC). Students will receive a fingerprinting packet which must be returned, with the fee to TSPC. Students will receive instructions for completing fingerprints from the Director of Clinical Education. If a student’s fingerprints are already on file with TSPC, this must be verified with the CSD Student Services Manager.

CPR and First Aid
Graduate students are required to complete CPR and First Aid training as part of the clinical orientation. It is each student’s responsibility to maintain documentation of completion of CPR and First Aid training. The CPR and First Aid Registration Form can be found in the Appendix.

Blood Borne/Airborne Pathogens Exposure, Infection Control Training, and OSHA Safety Guidelines
Graduate students are required to complete Blood Borne/Airborne Pathogens Exposure, Infection Control Training, and OSHA Safety Guidelines trainings as part of the requirements for clinical practica. Students may be required by a clinical site to complete additional on-site training. Instructions for completing these trainings will be given to students by the Director of Clinical Education.

HIPAA/Privacy Training
Students are required to complete HIPPA and privacy training as part of the clinical orientation. It is each student’s responsibility to maintain documentation of completion of HIPPA/Privacy training. The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) was enacted by Congress in 1996. HIPAA guidelines legally enforce the protection of confidential information at all stages of healthcare delivery.
Additional training may also be required by some facilities before beginning fieldwork. Instructions for completing the training will be given to students by the Director of Clinical Education.

**Consent for Sharing of Information to Clinical Sites**

Students will be asked to allow the School of Communication Sciences and Disorders to share information regarding results of background checks, HIPAA training, Bloodborne pathogens training, CPR and First Aid certification and drug testing with clinical sites. Signing the consent form is voluntary. Lack of consent may impact clinical practica and externship placements. Students may revoke this consent at any time. The *Student Consent for Sharing of Information to Clinical Sites* is available in the Appendix.

**Liability Insurance**

Liability Insurance for students is required by all clinical sites. The following coverage is maintained by Pacific University for staff and students:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coverage</th>
<th>Limits of Liability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Professional Liability</td>
<td>$1,000,000 per occurrence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Including staff and students</td>
<td>$3,000,000 per year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Liability</td>
<td>$1,000,000 per occurrence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Premises</td>
<td>$2,000,000 per year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auto Non-Owned &amp; Hired Liability</td>
<td>$1,000,000 Combined</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excess Liability</td>
<td>$9,000,000 per year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workers Compensation</td>
<td>Statutory, Not including students</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Students may choose to purchase additional liability insurance.

**NIH Ethics Training**

All incoming students will be required to complete the National Institutes of Health’s Protecting Human Research Participants online course. This is required during the first semester of the Master’s degree program. Upon the completion of the course, students must print a copy of the verification of completion and provide it to the CSD Administrative Manager where it will be kept in a file. In addition students should keep a copy in a safe place for their own records.

Students are required to complete this course so that if and when they wish to participate in research they have completed the necessary requirements. As of February 15, 2007, all investigators (both faculty and students) and faculty advisors at Pacific University listed on submitted proposals are required to have completed [online training](http://phrp.nihtraining.com/users/login.php) regarding the protection of human subjects in research. At present, research assistants do not need to complete the training. The training requires approximately three hours total to complete, but does not have to be done all in one session.

Once we have your name on file, you do not need to resubmit the documentation each time you submit a proposal. However, please note that your proposal will not be reviewed until all investigators listed on the proposal have completed the training.

The instructional course and assessment is sponsored by the National Institute of Health* and is widely used by many IRBs for training purposes. The link to the training can be found at: