

## SLPA Information Session

March 5, 2026

### Contact

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### Overview of the SLPA Program

This course sequence serves as extension coursework to the CSUS CSAD Bachelor of Science Program to prepare students for SLPA license application. Only students who complete the BS in Communication Sciences and Disorders at Sacramento State are eligible to apply. This course is designed to meet the State of California's registration and licensing requirements for Speech-Language Pathology Assistants and the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) SLPA Certification Program.

Students must have completed the CSAD undergraduate sequence prior enrolling in the SLPA Program. Students are eligible to apply for the SLPA Program for up to five years after graduating from the CSUS CSAD undergraduate program. Students are **not allowed** to enroll in the SLPA Program (summer 2026) and the MS CSAD (fall 2026/spring 2027) Program at the same time. If you accept a seat in **any** MS CSAD program, you must decline a seat in the SLPA program.

Students complete the **CSAD 140: Clinical Methods for Speech Language Pathology Assistants** course during the summer semester. Students complete the **CSAD 140L: Clinical Practicum** experience through a local school or private practice (assigned by the SLPA Program Coordinator). Each student is assigned to a speech language pathologist (CCC-SLP) who is the supervisor/preceptor for the SLPA practicum. Internship sites vary by setting, location, and schedule; therefore, students may complete an 8-12 week internship dependent on these factors. Students are required to obtain 80 clinical contact hours (minimum 100 total hours) at their practicum site **and** to meet core clinical competencies. Completion of the 80 clinical contact hours (minimum 100 total hours) alone does not necessitate the end of the practicum experience. Students are responsible for furnishing their own transportation to clinical sites.

### Applying to the SLPA Program

Students apply to the SLPA program through a Qualtrics form that will be posted to the department website and sent out to senior students via email. The SLPA Application will open in late March and **close on Wednesday, April 8, 2026** at midnight. The following information is required for the SLPA application:

- Descriptions of related work and volunteer experiences
- Personal statement questions, including:
  - Why are you interested in being a SLPA?
  - How have your background and/or experiences prepared you for a SLPA practicum experience?
  - How will you develop and maintain a collaborative, professional relationship with your SLP supervisor/preceptor?
  - What additional factors (e.g., technical skills, flexibility, resiliency, etc) do you possess that will support your future endeavors as a SLPA?

- Copy of resume
- Permission to access student grades to consider them as part of the SLPA application

The SLPA Applications Committee includes: Dr. Tonia Davis (chair), Dr. Lisa D'Angelo, Dr. Aishah Patterson, Dr. Celeste Roseberry-McKibbin, Dr. Darla Hagge, and Dr. Heather Thompson. Applications will be reviewed by the entire committee.

### **Additional Requirements of the SLPA Program**

Prior to beginning the SLPA practicum experience, students must provide evidence of the following:

- Vaccinations (Hepatitis B, MMR, TB 2 step, TDAP, Varicella\*, Meningococcal\*, COVID\*)
- Proof of health insurance
- CPR certification
- Background check (department authorized)

### **Cost of SLPA Program**

For 2026, SLPA Course Fees are estimated at \$525/unit, or \$3,150 for both CSAD 140 and 140L. This is subject to change and does not include books, transportation, or parking. Students should request information about payment plan options by contacting the College of Continuing Education's Credit Registration Services at 916-278-6984 or [ccecreditreg@csus.edu](mailto:ccecreditreg@csus.edu). The SLPA Program (through the College of Continuing Education) cannot take financial aid.

### **Schedule for CSAD 140**

For 2026, the schedule will be as follows:

Fridays, 8:30am-4pm (with 15 minute breaks between sessions and a half hour lunch break) on the following days: **July 17; 24; 31; August 7; 14; 21.**

It is critical that students are present for every class session due to the "workshop" nature of the course. Students who miss class will receive an incomplete until they are able to meet the learning objectives of the missed material. Missing class will place their ability to acquire SLPA license at risk.

### **Schedule for CSAD 140L**

Varies, depending on site; typically Monday-Thursday (with CSAD 140 on Fridays). Students should assume that their practicum may run from August 1, 2026-October 31, 2026, although dates vary depending on site/location. Students should not schedule vacations during this time period, as you are expected to be at your site 4-5 days a week.