

CREDENTIALING

State Licensure

Individuals who practice speech-language pathology in Connecticut must be licensed or be in the process of being licensed by the Department of Public Health (DPH). This **license is required** for all SLPs working in **any setting** in the State of Connecticut.

Teacher Certification

The Initial Educator Teacher Certification (Special Endorsement in Speech-Language Pathology) application **must be in progress** in order to work in Connecticut public and certified private schools. Please note: a teaching certificate is not the same as the license issued by the DPH which is also necessary in order to practice at any employment location in Connecticut, including public and private schools.

ASHA Certification

The ASHA Certificate of Clinical Competence (CCC) is awarded following successful completion of a master's degree from an ASHA accredited program, achieving a passing score on the NESPA exam (Praxis II), and completion of the SLP Clinical Fellowship (CF) experience. The CCC permits the holder to provide independent clinical speech-language and/or audiology services and to supervise clinical practice. Individuals who hold the CCC are required by signature to subscribe to the [ASHA Code of Ethics](#).

Procedures

Prior to beginning the licensure application process, students must take the Praxis II exam during a semester prior to the final semester. Scores should be sent to:

- CT State Department of Public Health (code R7051)
- ASHA (code R5031)
- SCSU Records (code R3662)

A paper copy of the score should be given to the Department Secretary.

**** To avoid extra fees**, be sure to use all the above codes when registering for the exam.

Applying for State Licensure

1. Once the degree has been posted on the transcript, the student may apply for State Licensure.
 - Spring graduates: degrees will be posted in May.
 - Summer graduates: degrees will be posted in August.

2. Students who wish to apply for licensure before the degree is posted, may begin the application process upon completion of the final practicum and submission of all signed and recorded clock hours. Inform the Department Secretary who will generate a letter to be signed by the Graduate Program Coordinator that ascertains completion of coursework and clinical clock hours, and the degree completion date. This letter will be sent directly to the Department of Public Health.
3. All students must complete the State Licensure application. The form and instructions may be found at:

<http://www.portal.ct.gov/DPH/Practitioner-Licensing--Investigations/SLP/Supervised-Professional-Experience-in-Connecticut>

The following should be sent to the Department of Public Health:

- Application & fee
- Praxis II scores
- Transcript

Upon approval of the application, the applicant receives a **Letter of Authorization** from the DPH to begin the *Supervised Professional Experience (SPE)*, a minimum of nine-months full-time (30 hours per week minimum) or eighteen-months part-time employment (15 hours per week minimum) under the supervision of a licensed speech-language pathologist. The supervisor must be ASHA certified and licensed by the State of Connecticut. It is the applicant's responsibility to verify the supervisor's status (obtain a copy of the CT license and ASHA certification card). The supervisor must complete the SPE paperwork and submit it to the DPH within 6 weeks of beginning employment. The SPE approval form may be found at:

<http://portal.ct.gov/DPH/Practitioner-Licensing--Investigations/SLP/Supervised-Professional-Experience-in-Connecticut>

***Upon completion of the SPE and submission of the required documents, the DPH license will be issued.**

Applying for Teacher Certification

The Initial Educator Teacher Certification application must be in progress in order to work in Connecticut public and certified private schools. Teacher certification (Special Endorsement in Speech-Language Pathology) from the Department of Education (DoE) is *required* for all SLPs working in public and certified private schools. It is strongly recommended that *all* graduating students apply for school certification, even if not planning to work in the schools.

1. Begin the process for DPH licensure prior to initiating the school certification application. The DPH **Letter of Authorization** is required for school certification approval.

2. Complete the Short Form Application for CT Initial Educator Certificate. The *Special Service Endorsement, Speech and Language Pathologist* code is 061.
<http://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Certification/General-Certification-Application-Information-and-Forms/How-To>
3. Select “First-Time Applicants from a Connecticut Educator Preparation Program” to access the **ED 170A form**.
4. Send pages 1 and 2 to SCSU’s Certification Officer, Mr. Bungert in the Teacher Certification Office, Davis 104, **not to the CMD department**.
5. **Once the degree has been posted on the transcript**, the Certification Officer will sign the application and affix the university seal.
The Certification Officer will return the application to the candidate with a **Letter of Eligibility for SPE**.
6. The completed application should be sent to the DoE with the **Letter of Eligibility for SPE** from the Certification Officer AND the **Letter of Authorization** from the DPH.
7. The DoE will issue the CT Initial Educator Certificate, which is valid for a period of three years.

The Certificate may be renewed up to six times, for a total of 21 years *even if the applicant has not worked as an SLP in the educational system*. Therefore, students who initially plan to work in a setting other than the educational system, but may at some point want to work in schools, may want to obtain the Educator Certificate and keep it current. This will insure that the opportunity will be available with no further requirements that may have been implemented in the interim. There is a fee to renew the Certificate each time, however keeping the Certificate current and preserving this option is a valuable benefit.

****Those who plan to teach in a state other than CT, must obtain and complete that state’s application and send it to Certification Officer in the Teacher Certification Office, Davis 104, not to the CMD department.**

Applying for ASHA Certificate of Clinical Competence (CCC)

Application for ASHA CCC may be made before, during, or at the completion of the Clinical Fellowship (CF) experience, however certification is not finalized until completion of the Clinical Fellowship (CF) experience. Those students who have been NSSLHA members for two consecutive years at the time of graduation are eligible for the NSSLHA conversion rate which provides a discounted membership rate.

The ASHA application for CCC may be found at:

<http://www.asha.org/uploadedFiles/2014-SLP-CCC-Application-Standards.pdf>

- Complete pages 1-3 of the application.
- Send the completed form to the Graduate Program Coordinator (entire form, not just sign-off page)
- The Graduate Program Coordinator will sign and return the form to you via US Postal Mail (ASHA requires an original signature).
- Submit the signed application form along with the official transcript with posted degree and relevant fees. Passing Praxis exam scores must be sent directly to ASHA from ETS.

The certification process will be finalized upon completion of the CF experience which may be done part-time or full-time. The CF supervisor must be ASHA certified and licensed by the State of Connecticut. It is the applicant's responsibility to verify the supervisor's status (obtain a copy of the CT license and ASHA certification card). [The Speech Language Pathology Clinical Fellowship \(SLPCF\) Report and Rating Form](#) is not submitted upon beginning employment, but rather only upon concluding the CF requirements (unlike the SPE plan which must be filed within 6 weeks of starting employment; see above under State Licensure). The form is completed by both the CCC candidate and the supervisor.

For the most up-to-date information regarding how to apply for SLP Certification, go to: <https://www.asha.org/certification/SLPCertification.htm>

Professional Development

SLPs are expected to maintain and update their professional knowledge on a regular basis after graduation. Many opportunities exist within local and national professional organizations to accomplish this. ASHA and other certification entities, in order to maintain continuance, require the mandatory accumulation of Continuing Education Units (CEUs). It is the responsibility of the professional to be aware of the CEU requirements, if any, for each certification and/or licensing maintenance.

Connecticut State Teacher's Certification Continuing Education Requirements:

SLPs who have been issued the Professional Educator Teaching Certificate are subject to teacher certification continuing education requirements. The Professional Educator Teaching Certificate will be continued every five years upon the successful completion of no fewer than nine continuing education units (90 hours) or their equivalent, during each successive five-year period.

Connecticut Department of Public Health Licensing Continuing Education Requirements:

An individual applying for license renewal must complete a minimum of 20 hours of qualifying continuing education within the preceding twenty-four-month period for which the license is being renewed.

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) Certification Maintenance

All ASHA certified members are required to complete continuing education in order to maintain their certification status. Thirty hours of professional development over a three-year period are required.

Membership in the Connecticut Speech-Language-Hearing Association

SLPs employed in the State of Connecticut are encouraged to join the Connecticut Speech- Language-Hearing Association (CSHA). Membership in this organization enables SLPs to keep current regarding the Connecticut clinical community and permits participation in all CSHA activities. Members will be listed in the Connecticut Speech-Language-Hearing Association Membership Directory and the CSHA e-mail blasts in which clinical community events are listed. Through numerous CSHA committees, members have an opportunity to shape the role of the speech-language pathologist and audiologist in the State of Connecticut. CSHA is closely allied with ASHA through legislative participation.

CSHA offers a waiver of the first-year membership to recent graduates in speech-language pathology and audiology.