

SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST

Speech-language pathologists (SLPs), sometimes called speech therapists, work to prevent, assess, diagnose, and treat, speech, language, social communication, cognitive-communication, and swallowing disorders in children and adults.

CAREER DESCRIPTION*

- » National median salary: \$89,290
- » National projected career growth: 18%
- » According to ASHA, 54.2% of SLP's are employed in educational settings; 39.3% are employed in health care settings
- » Help individuals improve vocabulary and sentence structure used in oral and written language
- » Help individuals develop and strengthen muscles used to swallow
- » Counsel individuals on how to cope with communications disorders

TYPICAL EDUCATION**

- » Years of School (including undergraduate): 6
- » Average Entering GPA: 3.3805 (2020)

NEARBY SCHOOLS

- » University of Nebraska at Omaha
- » University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- » University of Nebraska at Kearney
- » Midwestern University-Illinois
- » University of Northern Colorado
- » University of Northern Iowa

COMPETITIVE STUDENTS ALWAYS...

- » Maintain a 3.5 GPA to remain competitive
- » Volunteer in the community (local health departments, community engagement organizations)
- » Begin networking – make positive connections with faculty and community leaders
- » Participate in professional student organization
National Student Speech-Language Hearing Assoc.
- » Listen and communicate well

WHAT PRACTICING PROFESSIONAL SAY

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Being a SLP has exceeded my expectations because it is always interesting and far from boring. The field evolves through research, so there are constantly techniques and approaches to learn.”

-Kimberly Scanlon, SLP

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I've been working as a medical Speech Language Pathologist in a trach/vent unit for 7 years. I find the work challenging, yet rewarding considering I get to witness patients transition from an inability to talk, eat, and drink to ultimately hearing their own voice and taking that first bite of food for the first time in months... It's truly rewarding.”

-Brett Cail-Forrest, SLP

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At its core, communication sciences and disorders (CSD) is about working with people to improve their speech, language, hearing and other communication abilities. The goal of all CSD professionals is ultimately the same—to help humans effectively communicate— but how and where you work to achieve that goal is up to you. For more information go to:

<https://hearingandspeechcareers.org>

UNO Health Careers Resource Center
307 Allwine Hall | 402.554.5980
unohealthcareers@unomaha.edu
cas.unomaha.edu/hcrc

*Data and information from the Bureau of Labor Statistics

**Data and information from UNL

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