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

CAREER DESCRIPTION*
» Typical Salary: $68,240 (NE); $76,610 (National)
» Projected job growth: 18% (National)
» 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 communication disorders.

WHAT PRACTICING PROFESSIONALS SAY

Nothing is as rewarding as seeing someone become confident in their own voice.”
-Briana Ralph, CCC-SLP

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 new techniques and approaches to learn.”
-Kimberly Scanlon, SLP

TYPICAL EDUCATION**
» Years of school (including undergraduate): 6
» Approximate cost of 2 year program: $15,650
» Average entering GPA: 3.84 (2018)
» GRE often required for admission
» Average entering GRE Score: 304 (2018)
» Typical entry-level education: Master’s Degree

NEARBY SCHOOLS
» University of Nebraska-Lincoln
» University of Nebraska- Kearney
» Midwestern University- Illinois
» University of Northern Colorado
» University of Tulsa
» University of Northern Iowa

TIPS FOR SUCCESS
» Volunteer in the community (local health departments, community engagement organizations)
» Maintain a GPA above 3.0 to remain competitive
» Begin networking – make positive connections with faculty and community leaders
» Must be able to listen and communicate well.

*Data and information from Bureau of Labor Statistics
**Data and information from UNL

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