1. How can I get information about the graduate programs in speech-language pathology or audiology at Arizona State University?

You have four primary options. First, check at the departmental web site and follow links for students: [http://www.asu.edu/clas/shs](http://www.asu.edu/clas/shs). Second, this FAQ has been created to answer many questions that are commonly asked by prospective students. Third, we have an e-mail account set up that is monitored by faculty members who serve on the admissions committee. Specific questions should be sent to: shsgrad@asu.edu. Fourth, we hold information meetings for prospective students twice monthly. These meetings are run by a member of the Department's Graduate Admissions Committee and will provide you with a broad base of information concerning the program, the faculty, and the application process. There is also time to address any specific questions that you may have. So we can prepare sufficient numbers of handout materials, you must register to attend a session by calling (602) 965-2374.

2. How do I apply to the graduate program?

You must complete an application form and submit the appropriate fee to the Division of Graduate Studies at Arizona State University. The application form is available online at [http://www.asu.edu/graduate/](http://www.asu.edu/graduate/). You should also arrange to have an official copy of your transcripts submitted to the Division of Graduate Studies. The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is an admissions requirement to our program and you should arrange to have an official report of your GRE scores transmitted to ASU as well. Finally, prospective graduate students should also include three letters of reference and a statement of intent in which you detail, in 200 words or less, your reasons for pursuing graduate study in speech-language pathology.

All application materials should be sent to the Division of Graduate Studies at Arizona State University (Find more information about the application process here). Your application is considered complete after we have received the materials you submitted to the graduate college (application and transcripts), an official score report of the GRE, three letters of recommendation, and your statement of intent. The admissions committee does not review incomplete files; all items must be present before you are considered for admission to the program. You can find more information about the master's program.

3. Where do I send the materials that go directly to the department?

All application information should be sent to the Division of Graduate Studies. You should also visit the [web site of the Division of Graduate Studies](http://www.asu.edu/graduate/) for the most up-to-date application procedures.

Division of Graduate Studies
Arizona State University
Wilson Hall, Room 101
4. What is the application deadline?

December 15 prior to the August in which you wish to begin studies.

5. Is it possible to begin study during a spring semester?

No. Our courses are sequenced. Therefore students may only begin graduate study during a Fall term.

6. What if my application is late? Will I still be considered?

All completed files are reviewed by the admissions committee. However, we have a limited number of openings in each fall class and our applicant pool substantially exceeds our capacity. Hence, qualified students whose files are complete by January 15 are more likely to receive an offer of admission that are similarly qualified students whose files are completed at a later date.

7. When will I be notified of the admissions decision?

If your application was completed by the posted deadline (December 15) you should receive notification in late February or early March.

8. Standardized tests do not represent my true abilities. Do I have to take the GRE?

Yes. Our application requirements apply to all prospective students. There are no exceptions. However, if you wish, you may provide an explanation as to your testing history, or whatever other information you believe may assist the committee in obtaining an accurate understanding of your potential for success in our graduate program.

9. Do you have a minimum GRE score that is required for admission?

No. We view the GRE as one indicator of potential for graduate study. While we are generally looking for applicants that score above the 75th percentile in each category, over the years we have admitted students with a range of GRE scores. Thus, we neither accept nor reject applicants on the basis of their GRE scores alone.

10. Do you have a minimum undergraduate GPA that is required for admission?

Yes. Our minimum standard is an overall undergraduate GPA of 3.0 on a four point scale.

11. Do you ever make exceptions to the minimum GPA standards?

Yes. The admissions committee endeavors to construct a profile of applicants' potential that is not dependent upon any single criterion.
12. *How is the statement of intent evaluated? What kind of information should I include?*

The statement of intent should include a concise summary of the applicant's professional goals, specific interests within the chosen discipline, and relevant experiences to date.

Committee members view the statement of intent as an opportunity to gain information about individual applicants that goes beyond the more traditional indicators such as letters of reference, grade point averages, and GRE scores. As noted in the response to question #11, the committee relies on multiple sources of information, both subjective and objective, to reach an admission decision. An applicant's statement of intent is evaluated for clarity of writing and form. It is also an essential vehicle for understanding the applicant's professional goals, specific interests within the professions (e.g., adults, children, infants, toddlers, hearing impaired, etc.), and special experiences that may have generated initial interest in the discipline.

Additional detail that applicants may choose to discuss in the statement of intent includes explanatory information regarding (a) GRE scores, (b) past performance in school, or (c) other circumstances that applicants view as important for committee consideration. Inclusion of this type of information is entirely voluntary and left to the discretion of the individual applicants.


Letters of reference are evaluated to determine an applicant's potential for success in graduate school. For the most part, current or former professors are in the best position to provide this information. Employers may also be helpful in this regard, if you have been employed in the field (e.g., bachelor's level therapist, speech-language pathology assistant, audiology assistant) or even in a related capacity (e.g., teacher, teacher's aide, rehabilitation specialist, etc.). Letters from friends of the family usually do not provide information that is regarded as pertinent to the admissions committee.
14. I want to be a speech-language pathologist or an audiologist but I have an undergraduate degree in another discipline. Can I still apply to the graduate program?

Yes. However, you will spend your first year completing undergraduate background coursework. Specific requirements are as follows:

**Fall Offerings**

SHS 598 (250) Phonetics (3 credits) *(This requirement is just for Speech-Language Pathology students)*

SHS 598 (310) Anatomical/Physiological Bases of Speech (3 credits)
SHS 598 (311) Physical/Physiological Bases of Hearing (3 credits)
SHS 598 (367) Language Science (3 credits)
SHS 598 (384) Hearing Disorders (3 credits) *(This requirement is just for Audiology Students)*

SHS 401/501 Introduction to Audiological Evaluation (3 credits) *(SHS 598/311 is a prerequisite)*

**Spring Offerings**

SHS 598 (375) Speech Science (3 credits; *SHS 598/311 is a prerequisite*)
SHS 598 (376) Psychoacoustics (3 credits; *SHS 598/311 is a prerequisite*)
SHS 565 (465) Speech and Language Development (3 credits; *SHS 598/367 is a prerequisite*)

SHS 450 Observation (1 credit)

SHS 496/596 Aural Rehabilitation (3 credits; *SHS 598/311 and SHS 401/501 is a prerequisite*)

**Summer Offerings**

SHS 401/501 Introduction to Audiological Evaluation (3 credits; *SHS 598/311 is a prerequisite*)

SHS 496/596 Aural Rehabilitation (3 credits; *SHS 598/311 and SHS 401/501 is a prerequisite*)

Please note that post-baccalaureate students and graduate students must enroll in the SHS 598 or 500-level equivalent of the undergraduate course indicated in parentheses.
15. I have a bachelor's degree in another discipline. Can I complete undergraduate background courses at another institution and then apply to the ASU graduate program?

Yes. However, your advisor will review your background coursework to ensure that it is the equivalent of the course list posted in answer to question #14. As a result of that review, you may be required to complete additional background coursework at ASU.

16. I have taken some graduate coursework at another institution. Will it transfer?

You may transfer a maximum of 6 semester credit hours of graduate coursework, pending approval by your ASU graduate committee.

17. I have taken some speech and hearing graduate classes at ASU as a nondegree student. If I get admitted to the master's program will these classes count toward degree requirements?

A maximum of 9 semester credit hours of SHS graduate coursework may count, pending approval by your ASU graduate committee.

18. Can I get a master's degree on a part-time basis?

We admit students to the master's program with the assumption that they will undertake study on a full-time basis. However, it is possible to obtain the degree on a part-time basis, assuming a flexible schedule on the part of the student and observation of the 6-year time limit imposed by the Graduate College. The six years begins with the first course included on the student's approved program of study.

19. Do you have a "summers only" or weekends only program for master's students?

No. However, Northern Arizona University does offer a “summers only” program for the master's degree in speech-language pathology. Check it out at: http://www.nau.edu

20. What is the average time to complete all requirements for the master's degree, assuming full-time study?

Assuming that you enroll on a full-time basis and have completed all necessary undergraduate background coursework, master's degree requirements can generally be completed within a two-year span, including summers. For example, full-time students who enroll in Fall, 1999 could expect a graduation date of May or August of 2001.
21. I would like to visit the program and get more information. How do I arrange this?

Register to attend one of the twice monthly information sessions for prospective graduate students by calling: 602-965-2374 or by sending an e-mail request to: shsgrad@asu.edu

If you wish to visit at a time other than one of the scheduled sessions, please indicate such in your e-mail request. We will make every effort to accommodate your preferred time to visit our program.

22. I am interested in learning more about speech-language pathology or audiology as a discipline. Where can I find more information?

Check out the website for the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association at: http://www.asha.org