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Introduction

Welcome to the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at Missouri State University. We are happy that you are here! By now, you should know about our department and the programs we offer. There is a wealth of information on our website to familiarize you with what makes our department special. The purpose of this handbook is to assist you, the student, as you navigate through your professional education. Many policies, procedures, requirements and conditions that must be met in order to satisfactorily complete the degree programs are outlined herein. Additionally, various policies and procedures of the CSD Speech-Language-Hearing Clinic are delineated.

Please become familiar with the contents of this handbook and use it as a reference while in the graduate programs in CSD. Students are expected to adhere to the contents of this handbook and to seek clarification from the department head, clinic director or academic advisor if there are points that are unclear or questions that are not answered.

Mission Statements

On June 15, 1995, Missouri Governor Mel Carnahan signed into law Senate Bill 340 which gave MSU a statewide mission in Public Affairs. This mission defines a primary way in which a Missouri State education is different from that of other universities and one way by which we educate our students to imagine the future. The mission embodies the following three broad themes:

1. Ethical Leadership
   Goal: Students will articulate their value systems, act ethically within the context of a democratic society, and demonstrate engaged and principled leadership.

2. Cultural Competence
   Goal: Students will recognize and respect multiple perspectives and cultures.

3. Community Engagement
   Goal: Students will recognize the importance of contributing their knowledge and experiences to their own community and the broader society.
   Goal: Students will recognize the importance of scientific principles in the generation of sound public policy

As you progress through your graduate degree in CSD, you will find that the public affairs mission is woven throughout the curriculum.

The College of Health and Human Services Mission focuses on improving the health and well-being of people in Missouri, the nation, and the global community through education, research, and service. CHHS values multidisciplinary approaches, instills the public affairs mission, and encourages students and faculty to develop lifelong learning skills.
Communication Sciences and Disorders Department

Get involved! You are strongly encouraged to get involved and participate in student organizations. Here at Missouri State and in the CSD department, we want you to “Follow Your Passion, and Find Your Place”. Two student organizations you should check out are the Student Academy of Audiology (SAA) and the National Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association (NSSLHA).

The SAA is the national student organization of the American Academy of Audiology that serves as a collective voice for students and advances the rights, interests, and welfare of students pursuing careers in audiology. The SAA introduces students to lifelong involvement in activities that promote and advance the profession of audiology, and provides services, information, education, representation and advocacy for the profession and the public we serve. For more information, see [http://www.audiology.org/education/students/SAA/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.audiology.org/education/students/SAA/Pages/default.aspx)

The NSSLHA is for graduate and undergraduate students interested in the study of normal and disordered human communication behavior. It is the official national student association, recognized by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA). The Missouri State University chapter of NSSLHA participates in a variety of community events and fundraisers throughout the year. NSSLHA membership is available to full or part-time undergraduate and graduate students in CSD. NSSLHA members are entitled to several benefits, including NSSLHA publications, the ASHA Leader, a choice of one ASHA journal, reduced registration fees for the annual ASHA Convention, and significant savings on the first year of ASHA membership. Visit NSSLHA's website ([http://www.nsslha.org](http://www.nsslha.org)) to find out how to join.

What classes should I take? Upon admission, you are assigned an academic advisor. You will meet with your advisor a minimum of once toward the end of each semester to determine course enrollments for the following. You can run a degree audit to help you determine what courses are expected.

Curriculum: A brief description follows, with more information available online and from your academic advisor. Sample curriculums for all programs can be found at [http://www.missouristate.edu/csd/26974.htm](http://www.missouristate.edu/csd/26974.htm).

AuD Students: The AuD program prepares professionals to enter the workplace with a high level of skills and knowledge through intensive academic and clinical experiences. Clinical experiences are obtained both at the CSD Speech Language Hearing Clinic located on campus and at off campus locations. The program can be completed in eleven semesters. Occasionally if you lack requisite knowledge, you may need to take a few additional classes. Ask your academic advisor if your undergraduate classes meet all pre-requisites.

SLP Students: The SLP graduate program focuses on the academic, clinical and research foundations for a career as a speech-language pathologist. The program is designed to prepare students to make intelligent decisions and take appropriate, thoughtful action. Critical thinking and problem-solving to identify and meet the communication needs of individuals and families is encouraged. Clinical experiences are obtained both at the CSD Speech Language Hearing Clinic located on campus and at off campus locations.
**EDHH Students:** The program in Education of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing prepares students for employment as a teacher of the deaf and hard of hearing. The program embraces a comprehensive philosophy, preparing graduates to provide education to students with impaired hearing using an oral or manual approach. In order to earn teacher certification, graduates must also complete coursework required by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) for the state of Missouri. Your advisor will assist you with scheduling these classes. Practicum experiences are obtained in the Preschool Program (part of the on campus CSD Speech Language Hearing Clinic) and at off campus locations.

**Retention Requirements:** Please refer to the retention policies of the CSD program and the Graduate College. They can be found in the graduate catalog. In short, you must attain a minimum GPA of 3.0 in all graduate coursework associated with your degree.

**Student Professional Behavior Policy:** The CSD department reserves the right to refuse enrollment or program continuation to any student. This refusal will be determined by the judgment of the CSD Graduate Faculty and CSD Department Head based upon the student’s ability to successfully complete clinical practicum assignments or to assume patient care responsibilities and/or function as a clinician/teacher. Additionally if a student has failed to demonstrate an attitude of professionalism as judged by the CSD Graduate Faculty and CSD Department Head, a student may be dismissed from the program.

**Remediation Policy:** Students in CSD graduate programs are continuously monitored with regard to academic, clinical and professional growth. Students who fail to achieve satisfactory performance in any of the above areas will be subject to a plan of remediation. Depending upon the area of deficiency, a remediation plan will be developed by faculty and the department head. If additional input is required from other MSU personnel, those individuals will be consulted. Typical remediation plans may extend to one full academic semester or a portion of a semester. Throughout the remediation period students are monitored regularly. If a student does not meet the conditions of the remediation plan, he/she may be dismissed from the program.

**Continuous Enrollment:** As noted previously, students must maintain a full-time curricular load with courses taken in the prescribed sequence. The student and academic advisor will discuss circumstances that could lead a student to drop one or more classes. Following discussion, approval from program faculty and department head must be received. Because this constitutes less than successful progression through the program, a remediation plan may be developed and must be approved by all parties in order for the student to continue in the program. In certain situations it may be necessary for the student to reapply for program admission during the next application period.

**Essential Functions:** The Essential Functions of Audiologists, Speech-Language Pathologists and Educators of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing establish the expectations and requisite abilities considered necessary for successful employment. Students in the MSU Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders are to achieve the level of competency required for graduation and practice. It is recognized that degrees of ability vary widely among individuals. Admitted students who believe they do not possess or may not be able to acquire the essential functions set forth are encouraged to contact the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders. Any admitted student who may require academic accommodations to fulfill the essential functions due to a disability are encouraged to contact the Office of Disability Support Services, [http://www.missouristate.edu/disability/](http://www.missouristate.edu/disability/).

The Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at MSU seeks to ensure that qualified persons with disabilities are not denied admission or subject to discrimination in admissions.
Department is committed to enabling students by any reasonable means or accommodations to complete their course of study.

The following Essential Functions are consistent with the American Speech-Language and Hearing Association clinical skill performance guidelines and are also deemed necessary for successful practice as a teacher of the deaf and hard of hearing. Many of the essential functions are introduced and coached within CSD coursework and practicum.

**Physical Abilities:**

- Participate in professional responsibilities/activities for up to four-hour blocks of time with one or two breaks.
- Move independently to, from, and within the work setting.
- Provide for one’s own personal hygiene.
- Manipulate screening/diagnostic materials, including completion of screening/evaluation protocols.
- Effectively implement necessary treatment plan appropriate for the patient, including use of materials/instrumentation and data collection.
- Provide a safe environment for others in responding quickly to emergency situations including fire, choking, etc., and in application of universal precautions (standardized approach to infection control).
- Visually monitor patient responses and materials.
- Make accurate judgments about speech and/or acoustic signals. This ability may vary for students in the EDHH program.

**Behavioral and Social Attributes:**

- Maintain emotional and mental health required for use of intellectual abilities, prompt completion of responsibilities, and development of appropriate relationships with patients and colleagues.
- Maintain composure and emotional stability in demanding situations.
- Adapt to changing environments and situations.
- Communicate effectively with people in person, by phone, and in written form by considering the communication needs and cultural values of the listener. This ability may vary for students in the EDHH program.
- Understand and respect supervisory authority.
- Maintain appropriate professional behavior, including punctuality and regular attendance.
- Demonstrate compassion, integrity, interest, and motivation in delivering professional services to other individuals.
- Participate in collaboration with other professionals.

**Intellectual Abilities:**

- Demonstrate the mental capacity to learn and assimilate professional information, including the ability to read and comprehend professional literature and reports.
- Solve clinical problems through critical analysis.
- Seek relevant case information, synthesize, and apply concepts and information from various sources and disciplines.
• Write discipline-specific papers and clinical reports in English.
• Speak Standard American English intelligibly, including the ability to model English phonemes. This ability may vary for students in the EDHH program.
• Analyze, synthesize, and interpret ideas and concepts in academic and diagnostic/treatment settings.
• Maintain attention and concentration for sufficient time to complete clinical activities for up to four-hour blocks of time with one or two breaks.
• Schedule and prioritize activities, and provide documentation in a timely manner.
• Comply with administrative, legal, and regulatory policies.

Practicum: Practicum and student teaching placements are made by the faculty. Some sites are located in the Springfield area. Some sites are located well outside the Springfield area and will require driving and may require an overnight stay—these are typically sites where advanced AuD students are placed. For SLP and AuD students, your practicum supervisors (sometimes referred to as preceptors) must hold CURRENT ASHA Certification (CCC-SLP or CCC-A) and current state licensure. For EDHH students, cooperating teachers must hold teacher certification. The CSD program will ensure that individuals providing you with clinical education or teacher preparation have the proper credentials, however, it is in your best interest to be sure that certification and/or licensure is in effect for the entire time you are with that preceptor. Please be aware: clock hours associated with a practicum grade of “C+” or lower will NOT be counted toward the total number of clock hours needed for certification. Liability insurance and a drug screen/background check are required before you begin practicum assignments.

Liability Insurance: MSU CSD students must hold professional liability insurance. It may also be necessary for you to undergo further background and drug screening tests as well as orientation procedures for your practicum or externship sites. The cost of liability insurance and all background and drug screening tests are the responsibility of the student.

Drug Screening & Background Checks: Prior to beginning clinical practicum experiences, all CSD graduate students must successfully complete both a background check and drug screening. Procedures for both of these are shared with beginning students prior to orientation in August each year. Both have completion deadlines set each year prior to participation in clinical activities. Clinical sites may require additional immunizations, etc. Costs associated with requirements of clinical sites are the responsibility of the student. Each student must adhere to the standards set forth via successful completion of both screenings for the duration of their enrollment in CSD graduate programs.

What is the KASA? KASA stands for “Knowledge and Skills Acquisition”. It is a checklist that you must use to track your acquisition of the knowledge and skills necessary for clinical practice or success as a teacher of the deaf and hard of hearing. Your advisor and clinical faculty will acquaint you with the KASA process. You must progress satisfactorily through clinical levels and competencies. If you do not successfully achieve all competencies, regardless of grades or hours in the program, you will not be eligible for a graduate CSD degree until such time that the competencies have been demonstrated.

Research Requirements: All students must successfully complete a thesis (CSD 799/999) or research project (CSD 784/884) requirement. You will be given the opportunity to learn the research interests of the faculty in an effort to be paired with a research advisor with whom you share similar interests. Faculty will meet and discuss student interests and make assignments.
Many students wonder if they should do a thesis or a project. Your academic and research advisors can help you determine this. The thesis option is a rigorous undertaking, with greater depth and breadth of content than a research project, as defined and approved by the thesis committee. Therefore, you may be advised to choose the project option if the faculty believe that you have a limited possibility of successfully completing the thesis in a reasonable period of time, or for any other reason which might jeopardize you successfully completing your graduate degree.

**Thesis Requirements:**

- A thesis must be in final publication form (APA format), sequenced according to the Graduate School guidelines, approved by the thesis director and thesis committee and submitted to the department head at least 2 weeks before the Graduate School deadline.
- Thesis students will have a thesis committee who will assist with the research. The thesis advisor/thesis committee chair must be a member of the graduate faculty in CSD.
- The thesis must be at least 6 total credit hours (2 summer, 2 fall, 2 spring). If you do not complete your thesis in three semesters, you may be expected to enroll in additional hours, until it is completed. You will be graded each semester relative to the syllabus for thesis.
- Before beginning data collection, you must prepare a thesis prospectus, consisting of a fully-developed literature review, research question, and method section. The prospectus is to be presented to the thesis committee. After your data is collected and you have completed your results and discussion sections, you must formally defend your thesis before the thesis committee.
- SLP and EDHH students selecting a thesis option may use the oral defense of their thesis to satisfy the comprehensive examination requirement. Students must also present their thesis in an approved professional meeting. Appropriate presentation venues include the ASHA Annual Convention, Missouri Speech-Language-Hearing Association Meeting, AAA Annual Convention, CHHS Student Research Symposium, Missouri State University Graduate Student Interdisciplinary Forum.

**Project:**

- A final copy of the project must be approved by the Project Director and submitted to the Department Head two weeks before the Graduate School deadline. The project (in most cases) needs to be in publication form (APA format) and sequenced according to examples on file in the department office.
- Project students will have a project advisor. AuD students must also have a committee comprised of at least 2 additional individuals.
- The project must be at least 3 total credit hours for SLP and EDHH students and 6 credit hours for AuD students. Enrollment spans over a summer, fall and spring semester. If you do not complete your thesis in three semesters, you may be expected to enroll in additional hours, until it is completed.
- The content of the project must be appropriate to the topic selected as defined and approved by the project advisor. Contract timelines are established by the advisor.
- Project advisors will assign a grade each semester as prescribed in the project syllabus.
- Students are required to present the results of their project at an approved professional meeting (publication of the project is encouraged). Appropriate presentation venues include the ASHA Annual Convention, Missouri Speech-Language-Hearing Association Meeting, AAA Annual Convention, CHHS Student Research Symposium, Missouri State University Graduate Student Interdisciplinary Forum.
Comprehensive Examinations: Comprehensive examinations are a requirement of the graduate programs in CSD. The schedules of comprehensive examinations are different for each program.

- SLP and EDHH students will take comprehensive examinations in the spring semester of their second year. AuD students will take comprehensive examinations in the spring of their third year.
- Students must pass all comprehensive examinations.
- Students must take the examination on campus and at the time it is offered.
- Students will not be allowed to retake the examination in the same semester in which it was initially failed.
- All students will be responsible for notifying the CSD office of their intention to graduate so that an Application to take Comprehensive Examinations may be completed for them by the department staff.

**AuD Comprehensive Exam Policy:** In the spring of the third year, students will take comprehensive written examinations. The comprehensive examinations will include all course material covered to date. Students will be given a “PASS”, “LOW PASS” or “NO PASS” grade. If the result of any written comprehensive examination indicates that a student needs further examination (did not pass any written exam), the student will be contacted by the department and will be required to sit for an oral examination(s) that will be administered within 3-5 weeks. If the student is unable to demonstrate competency in the oral examination, a remediation plan will be developed and administered. The length and content of the remediation plan will be determined based on the competencies that must be demonstrated. If the student does not successfully complete the remediation plan, they will not be allowed to go to their offsite and will either be required to complete another remediation or will be dismissed from the program.

**SLP Comprehensive Exam Policy**

A written comprehensive examination will occur in spring each year.

**Step 1 – Written Comprehensive Examination**
A score of 75% or better in each subject area is required. If that criteria is achieved the student will be exempt from Step 2 below.

**Step 2 – Oral Comprehensive Examination**
For those students who do not achieve a 75% in a subject area, an oral examination will be given in the areas where a 75% was not achieved. The Oral Comprehensive will occur in April of each year. The oral component of the examination is evaluated as “successful” or “unsuccessful” by the faculty involved. If the student is unsuccessful, he/she will have to retake comprehensive examinations in the summer semester.

**EDHH Comprehensive Exam Policy**
Students must successfully complete a comprehensive examination following the completion of all content courses in EDHH graduate program. Comprehensive exams will normally be held during the last Spring semester. The format will consist of multiple choice questions only.

Students must have an overall test score of 70% or above to pass the comprehensive examination. If a student does not pass the comprehensive written examination, they will be required to take an oral exam. If the student fails the oral exam, a third format will be determined at that time.

According to the Graduate School Regulations, any student failing the comprehensive examination 3 times will not be allowed to continue in the graduate program.

**Praxis Exam:** For licensure or certification (DESE) all graduates must pass the Praxis examination in their respective areas. Passing of the Praxis is not a requirement for graduation. However, taking the Praxis examination and providing the department with a copy of your examination results is a requirement for graduation.

**Certification and Licensure**

- In order to be employed as an audiologist, a speech-language pathologist the individual must hold a state license from the professional licensing agency. In some cases, the individual may also need to hold professional certification from their respective professional association.
- In order to work as a teacher of the deaf or hard of hearing that individual must have teacher certification.

**CHHS Conflict of Interest Policy**

To guide and protect our students in some decision making processes, the College of Health and Human Services has developed a conflict of interest (COI) policy. If you have any questions about the following COI policy, please see the CSD department head.

*The faculty at Missouri State University holds students to the highest level of ethical conduct. With that in mind, this conflict of interest policy serves to direct students who are confronted with funding opportunities provided by industries, especially those industries that provide health related services or those that manufacture health related products, and including those organizations representing such companies or corporations. These entities are willing to provide financial support to students in order to offset expenses associated with activities at manufacturing sites or professional conferences. The faculty at Missouri State University understands that students, in most instances, would not be able to participate in the experiences sponsored by these entities if financial assistance was not provided. Industries also offer general scholarships to students to offset the costs associated with education. Applications for scholarships from industries that provide health related products or services must be examined and agreed upon by the student’s academic Department Head and program faculty. Concern exists that the industries provide financial assistance and gifts with the expectation that there will be a return on their investment (ROI), namely the future purchase of their products.*

*It should be noted that much of the information obtained from the experiences provided at meetings hosted by these entities can be obtained in classes on campus or on the internet. The faculty at Missouri State understands that there is a value to learning in other settings and interacting with*
other students and researchers outside of the University. There exists the possibility that industry could abuse their influence, and use their resources in ways that may be viewed as unethical.

Professional associations such as The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, The American Physical Therapy Association, The American Medical Association, The American Nurses Association, The American Academy of Audiology, The American Academy of Physician Assistants and others have conflicts of professional interest statements in their codes of ethics. Several of these conflict of interest policies state in general that professional judgments and practices should be rendered without primary consideration for personal financial gain. They also state that professionals should not accept gifts or benefits unless it can be clearly demonstrated that such gifts or benefits

- contribute to the welfare of persons served professionally
- do not reasonably appear to bias professional judgment
- enhance one's professional knowledge and skills
- do not diminish the dignity or autonomy of the professions

A. Attending Industry-Supported Educational Meetings - Students may attend industry supported educational meetings, if the Department Head and a majority of the program faculty agree that all of the following conditions are met:

- The meeting is open to all universities
- The educational objectives are established and well publicized
- The presentation of content or experience is unique and will not be covered by Missouri State courses
- Selection of educational methods and content is beneficial to the student and can be carried over to improved patient care
- There is a process by which attendees can evaluate the meeting and educational content
- That the content has been reviewed by a professional association and content is eligible for approved continuing education credit.

Students wishing to attend an industry supported event must submit a written request to the program prior to making travel arrangements and submitting registrations.

B. Industry Support of Expenses Incurred by Students Attending Industry Sponsored Educational Meetings
While attending approved industry supported educational events, students should not accept support from industry over and above food served before, during and after the event (i.e. breakfast, lunch, dinner and food breaks).

Students may accept reasonable travel and lodging provided by industry, if the event meets approval of the majority of the program faculty as outlined in section A above.

If an event has not been approved by the faculty through submission of a request for approval, the department head, reserves the right to cancel any industry sponsored travel plans or events made with a student or student organization, if the company has a Business Associate Agreement (BAA) and / or account number with Missouri State University. This is due to the fact that students or student organizations can be considered representatives of Missouri State University.

C. Applying for, Obtaining, Accepting Industry-Funded Scholarships
Students who apply for approved industry sponsored scholarships must understand that those funds, if provided, are for the purpose of paying the cost of university tuition and the student must notify the Office of Financial Aid regarding the award. If industry funded scholarships carry with them an expectation that the student’s name, image and possibly name of their academic institution may be used for the purpose of marketing, this would have to receive approval from the Missouri State University system.

D. Accepting gifts from Industry
Unless a department or program’s policies state differently, students may accept gifts from Industry in the following circumstances:

The value of the gift should be no more than $100. This means that the cost to the student (not Industry) of replacing the gift would be $100 or less, and, the gift should, in some way be of benefit to the patients the student will assess and manage in the future. That is, the gift should represent some real benefit to the student’s education and training (e.g. a textbook).

Disciplinary Action:
If a student accepts inappropriate gifts, travel funding, lodging, or food / drink from industry without following the above procedures (sections A through D), such behavior will be considered “unprofessional” and the student will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in the individual department’s Student Professional Behavior Policy.

This conflict of interest policy is a general College of Health and Human Services policy; however, individual departments could invoke stricter limits if the faculty believes it is necessary.

If any portion of this policy differs from standards in individual professional association codes of ethics, the stricter of the two shall apply.

Student Rights Policies

The Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities of Missouri State University: The Office of Student Conduct serves the students of the MSU community. The office is responsible for the implementation of the Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities, adjudicating alleged violations of the Code, safeguarding student rights, and dealing with emergency situations which involve students.

The Office of Student Conduct recognizes that every facet of student life is an opportunity for learning and inquiry. The Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities should be viewed as an educational tool designed to assist students in their endeavors to educate themselves and become active, involved, and responsible citizens. For more information, see http://www.missouristate.edu/Student Conduct/12331.htm.

Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity: Missouri State is an AA/EO institution, strongly and actively strives to increase diversity and provide equal opportunity within its community.

What should you do if you have a concern?
Concerns about grades: If you wish to appeal a grade or have an academic grievance, you may request assistance through a procedure outlined on the Registrar’s website. For more
information, see [http://www.missouristate.edu/registrar/catalog/graderev.html](http://www.missouristate.edu/registrar/catalog/graderev.html).

**Other issues, not related to grades:** If you have a complaint or concern regarding the CSD program with regard to fellow students, faculty, or any other issue you believe needs attention, first try to resolve the issue with the individuals directly involved. If you need further assistance, you should:

- speak with the Department Head
- speak with the Dean
- speak with the Provost

Complaints may be submitted to the Council for Academic Accreditation about any accredited program or program in candidacy status. Any student, instructional staff member, speech-language pathologist, audiologist, and/or member of the public may submit a complaint. For a complaint to be considered by the CAA, it must:

a. be against an accredited education program or program in Candidacy status in speech-language pathology and/or audiology,

b. relate to the Standards for Accreditation of Graduate Education Programs in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology, and specify where possible the relevant standards, and

c. include verification and documentation (e.g., copies of grievance processes, communications verifying completion of processes, etc.) if the complaint is from a student or faculty/instructional staff member at that institution, that the complainant exhausted all relevant institutional grievance and review mechanisms before submitting a complaint to the CAA, if relevant to the complaint.

For more information about submitting complaints to the CAA, please see [http://www.asha.org/academic/accreditation/accredmanual/section8.htm](http://www.asha.org/academic/accreditation/accredmanual/section8.htm)
**Certification FAQs**

- **Do I have to have a license prior to beginning my first job?**
  - All AuD and SLP graduates must be licensed prior to taking their first job. They must continuously be licensed for as long as they are providing professional services. AuD graduates are eligible in most states for a full license. It is against the law for a graduate to see patients, whether under supervision or not, unless they hold a license from the state in which they practice (some Veterans Administration Hospitals and federal employment situations may be exempt). Licensing information for the state of Missouri can be found at [http://www.pr.mo.gov/healingarts.asp](http://www.pr.mo.gov/healingarts.asp)

- **Do I need ASHA Certification?**
  - Although certification from a professional association (ASHA) is evidence that the individual has met the highest standards as set by their professional association, certification is voluntary. There are many benefits in obtaining the earned professional certification. Graduation from a CAA accredited program in SLP and/or AuD qualifies the student to apply for ASHA certification and licensure.
  - Certification requires passing the Praxis examination
  - Continued certification requires annual dues and continuing education
  - Certification and continued membership will allow for a simpler process in obtaining state licensure. It can be said that professional certification allows a degree of portability of licensure. Although, a professional must be licensed in each state they provide professional service. There is typically not licensure reciprocity from state to state.
  - To become a member of ASHA an applicant must provide an official transcript with the posted masters/doctoral degree, a completed application signed by the University Program Director/Department Head, and a passing score on the NTE examination
  - To become certified (CCC-SLP) a member must complete a clinical fellowship experience.
  - To become certified (CCC-A) a member must submit completion of the AuD degree.
  - Clinical fellowship is not a requirement for the graduate of an accredited AuD program.
  - [www.asha.org](http://www.asha.org)

- **Do I need AAA Certification?**
  - AAA is the American Academy of Audiology. AAA offers professional certification through the American Board of Audiology (ABA). This is also a voluntary certification.
  - [www.audiology.org](http://www.audiology.org)

- **Do I need DESE Certification?**
  - Teacher certification through the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education for the state of Missouri is required of teachers working in schools in the state of Missouri. Graduates of the EDHH program must have certification prior to taking their first teaching position in Missouri. SLP and AuD graduates are not required to have teacher certification in Missouri. It will be the student’s responsibility to check with their individual states to determine the requirements for employment. During spring of the second year EDHH students complete the Application for Teacher Certification. This will be kept in their advising file and upon completion of all requirements for certification, the department will forward the application to the College of Education and then on to DESE for approval. The department will recommend for certification as a teacher of the
deaf and hard of hearing (DESE and ASHA) only those students who have successfully completed the Master’s degree, including all clinical practicum requirements.  
http://dese.mo.gov/divteachqual/teachcert/

- Do I need CED certification?
  The Council on Education of the Deaf (CED) provides certification (voluntary) for teachers of the deaf and hard of hearing. The applicant is required to have completed a student teaching experience in the area in which certification is desired.  
http://www.deafed.net/PageText.asp?hdnPageId=58

- Can I (SLP) or (EDHH) work in the schools without DESE Certification?
  - SLP graduates can work in Missouri schools after they have provisional licensure. Provisional licensure is awarded upon graduation from a CAA accredited program and once the graduate has an offer of employment. The provisional license will allow the graduate to apply to DESE to request provisional certification. Once the provisional licensee meets all requirements for a full license, he/she may apply to DESE for full certification.
  - If the graduate from the EDHH program completes all requirements of the CSD masters program in EDHH and has all but 12 hours of teacher certification courses completed, he/she may apply to DESE for provisional certification. Once the remaining coursework is completed the graduate may apply to DESE for full teacher certification.