

Speech and Language Pathology Assistant Program

What are the pre-requisites for the SLPA program?

Charter Oak State College requires that students have at least an Associate's Degree in order to enroll in the SLPA program. This is due to the rigor associated with the courses. Students will take COM 102- Introduction to Language and Communication Development, as a prerequisite to other courses.

How long does it take to complete the program?

Charter Oak State College is working with a cohort-based model for the SLPA program. Students are admitted in either the fall or spring semester and will complete courses within two years.

How do I apply to the program?

Prospective students will apply to the program by going to <https://www.charter oak.edu/application/> and applying for the certificate program. Students will then request any official transcripts to be sent from institutions of higher education to validate that the Associate Degree requirement has been met. Once the application has been received, an admissions counselor will contact the student.

I am a dual-language speaker. Can I still be employed as a Speech and Language Pathology Assistant?

The **American Speech and Hearing Association (ASHA)** has set forth the following position statement for English Language Proficiency skills for professionals in the field. Students should be able to:

- Develop a thorough knowledge of normal and disordered communication and communication development;
- Acquire effective intervention skills;
- Effectively communicate with clients from a variety of cultural, ethnic, racial and linguistic backgrounds;
- Be able to model correctly speech or language skills targeted in therapy;
- Be able to write clearly and concisely in English using correct grammar.

Students are urged to consider their own skills in understanding, speaking, reading and writing in English in determining whether or not this program may be right for them.

Will I be able to work while I am in the program?

Absolutely! Generally, students will work while completing the program. However, this is a rigorous program and students should be aware of the intensive reading and writing assignments associated with the program. There is also a fieldwork component of 100 hours that students will need to complete during a 15-week practicum at the end of the program. Virtual SLPA meetings are held to accommodate the online format of this program.

Can I apply this coursework to a bachelor's degree?

Courses taken as part of the SLPA program can be applied to a bachelor's degree. While each institution makes its own determination of credit accepted for transfer, Charter Oak State College accepts the courses as part of its Bachelor of Science degree. Students can use these credits as free electives.

What types of facilities employ SLPA's?

SLPA's can be employed in a variety of settings. They can work in early intervention, school districts or in private practice therapy. They often work in schools and sometimes visit children in their homes. There is significant value-added to School Readiness or Head Start programs to have teachers trained as SLPA's. They work with children in need speech services while under the supervision of an SLP.

What is the salary range for an SLPA's?

While salaries are not guaranteed, SLPA's generally make between \$15.00-\$40.00 an hour, depending on experience as well as the type of program employing the SLPA.

What is the overall cost of the program? Is financial aid available?

The in-state program cost, inclusive of tuition and related fees, is \$9,605.00.

The out-of-state program cost, inclusive of tuition and related fees, is \$12,203.00.

There is financial aid available for students enrolled in degree programs at Charter Oak State College. However, currently there is no financial aid available for students enrolled only in the certificate program.

Questions about the Certificate Program can be directed to:

- Orchid Deer-Dalomba, Admissions Counselor; odeerdalomba@charteroak.edu; 860-515-3831
- Dr. Maureen Hogan, Early Childhood & Youth Development Coordinator; mhogan@charteroak.edu; 860-515-3882