



2011 - 2012  
Career and Technical Programs

A collaboration between  
Chemeketa Community College  
and Lane Community College

lanecc.edu

# Speech Language Pathology Assistant

**Purpose** To provide training to become a Speech Language Pathology Assistant (SLPA), a certified support person who carries out specific therapy-related tasks under the supervision of a licensed speech-language pathologist. The SLPA works closely with others in a variety of settings including schools, hospitals, rehabilitation centers, or private practice. As a member of a speech-language therapy team, the SLPA helps children and adults with communication disorders improve their ability to speak, listen and interact with others.

Lane partners with Chemeketa so that students may take classes at both institutions to become eligible for the SLPA certification through Chemeketa Community College. Chemeketa offers the required coursework for an individual to be eligible for certification as a Speech-Language Pathology Assistant with the Oregon State Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology. Chemeketa also offers students the option to obtain an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree in Speech Language Pathology Assistant with the completion of an additional 45 general education credits.

Lane offers the general education portion of the SLPA AAS degree and two Education courses. Since all of Chemeketa's SLPA courses are online, and the practicum is arranged locally, students are able to complete an AAS degree from Chemeketa and become eligible for the SLPA certification without the need to travel out of the Lane County area.

To earn either an SLPA Certification or the SLPA AAS degree, a student must complete a total of 90 credits: 45 credits of general education and 45 credits of required SLPA courses. The SLPA program description is available at [speechpathology.chemeketa.edu](http://speechpathology.chemeketa.edu)

**Learning Outcomes** Students who complete the program will be able to:

- assist a Speech Language Pathologist, who diagnoses disorders and provides treatment in the areas of speech, language, fluency, voice, and swallowing
- follow treatment plans and provide therapy designed by the Speech Language Pathologist
- assist with screenings conducted by the SLP
- give general input in the team process of planning for a client's therapy needs

**Application** All students must apply and be accepted into Chemeketa's SLPA program before they are eligible to enroll in Chemeketa's SLPA courses. Applications are usually due in February and accepted students begin program courses the spring

term immediately following acceptance. Students must complete pre-requisite courses (or their equivalent) prior to being accepted in the SLPA program and beginning coursework, such as these Lane courses:

- BT 010 Computer Keyboarding (if less than 25 wpm)
- CIS 101 Computer Fundamentals
- MATH 060 Beginning Algebra
- RD 090 College Reading Skills
- WR 115 Introduction to College Writing

All students in the SLPA programs must complete a criminal background check as part of the program. Current information regarding prerequisites, admissions procedures, and program costs is available at: [chemeketa.edu/programs/slpa/process](http://chemeketa.edu/programs/slpa/process)

Lane students may enroll in two of the SLPA-required courses that are offered at Lane, ED 258 Multicultural Education, and ED 130 Comprehensive Classroom Management without admission to the SLPA program.

A student enrolled continuously at Lane or Chemeketa, or enrolled continuously in a combination of courses alternating between the colleges, will be able to use the requirements in place when the student entered the program. Chemeketa's two-year interruption clause will apply. A candidate for the AAS in SLPA may be enrolled at either Lane or Chemeketa during the final term of classes and need not be enrolled at Chemeketa in the term the graduation application is submitted.

**Wages** Data from Chemeketa indicate that the pay range for SLPAs is \$14 to \$20 per hour with benefits. Most jobs currently are in school districts (K-12) or with Educational Service Districts.

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## Required Chemeketa Courses to be eligible for SLPA certification:

- ED 169 Overview of Students with Special Needs
- ED 229 Learning and Development
- SLP 180 Survey of Speech and Language Disorders
- SLP 181 Phonetics for Language
- SLP 182 Intervention Strategies for SLP Assistants
- SLP 183 Introduction to Language Development
- SLP 184 Language Therapy
- SLP 185 Anatomy of Speech, Language and Hearing
- SLP 186 Speech Intervention in Children, Adolescents and Adults
- SLP 187 Clinical Documentation and Materials Management
- SLP 188 Communication Disorders in Low Incidence Populations

# Speech Language Pathologist Assistant

## Required Lane Courses to be eligible for SLPA certification:

ED 130 Comprehensive Classroom Management .....	3
ED 258 Multicultural Education .....	3
ED 280 Cooperative Education: SLPA .....	6

\* Cooperative Education is part of the 45 credits that make up the OAR requirement of the Oregon Board for Speech Language Pathology and Audiology for 45 credits in speech language pathology technical coursework. Lane's ED 280 has a special section exclusively for SLPA students. Co-op courses require onsite clinical interaction and a weekly seminar with reading and assignments geared toward the direct clinical practice of a speech language pathology assistant. In collaboration with the SLPA program at Chemeketa, Lane provides a local practicum supervisor licensed in the SLPA field.

Additional Lane general education courses are required for Chemeketa's Associate of Applied Science Degree, Speech Language Pathology Assistant. Students choosing to earn Chemeketa's Associate of Applied Science Degree in addition to the SLPA Certificate may complete general education coursework at Lane. Students must pass the following courses with a grade of "C" or better:

## Writing

WR 121 Composition: Introduction to Academic Writing, or higher.....4 credits

## Mathematics

Math 070 Elementary Algebra, or higher.....4 credits

Recommended course

MTH 211 Fundamentals Elementary Math 1.....4 credits

## Computer Literacy

CS 120 Concepts of Computing or .....3-4 credits

CIS 101 Computer Fundamentals

## Speech

SP 100 or higher.....4 credits

Any Speech course from Lane's Associate of Arts Oregon

Transfer degree approved Arts and Letters offerings\*\* .....4 credits

**Physical Education or Health** .....3 credits

Any course from Lane's Associate of Arts Oregon Transfer degree approved Health offerings.

Recommended course

HE 252 First Aid .....3 credits

**Humanities/Fine Arts** .....9 credits

Any courses from Lane's Associate of Arts Oregon Transfer degree approved Arts and Letters offerings. \*\*

Recommended course

ENG 100 Children's Literature.....4 credits

**Social Science** .....12 credits

Any courses from Lane's Associate of Arts Oregon Transfer degree approved Arts and Letters offerings. \*\*

**Science**.....9 credits

Any two 4-credit classes from Lane's biological sciences with laboratories or physical sciences with laboratories course offerings. \*\*

\*\* Because of the variety and extent of courses that qualify in Social Science, Arts and Humanities, and Science please refer to the appropriate Lane catalog for a complete list of approved courses in these areas.