

Speech and Hearing Science, PhD

LAHEARPHD

Speech and hearing scientists are in high demand. With the right knowledge and experience, you could make a profound impact on shaping the future of research, education and policy in human communication.

Program description

Degree awarded: PHD Speech and Hearing Science

The PhD program in speech and hearing science is an interdisciplinary program that trains scholars in basic and applied research in the fields of speech, language, literacy and hearing sciences.

Students develop a strong foundation to conduct impactful research by pursuing an individualized program with the unifying theme of human communication and disorders.

This program's faculty are in a unique position to provide integrated training experience because of their focus on innovative approaches to the field. Faculty members' backgrounds include expertise in speech-language pathology and auditory neural prosthetics with distinctions in education, psychology, engineering, neuroscience and health care.

Students in this program may tailor their courses to their specific interests under the guidance of their faculty committee. This doctoral program is also available with concentrations in [auditory and language neuroscience](#) and [translational genetics of communication abilities](#).

At a glance

- **College/School:** [College of Health Solutions](#)
- **Location:** [Tempe](#)

Degree requirements

84 credit hours, a written comprehensive exam, an oral comprehensive exam, a prospectus and a dissertation

Required Core (2 credit hours)

SHS 701 Scientific Writing and Presentation in Communication Sciences and Disorders I (1)

SHS 702 Scientific Writing and Presentation in Communication Sciences and Disorders II (1)

Focused Electives (12 credit hours)

Research (21 credit hours)

SHS 792 Research (12)

research methods and statistics (9)

Electives or Additional Research (28 credit hours)

Other Requirements (9 credit hours)

professional seminars (9)

preliminary exam (0)

comprehensive exams (0)

Culminating Experience (12 credit hours)

SHS 799 Dissertation (12)

Additional Curriculum Information

Students entering the doctoral program with a master's degree in a related discipline may count up to 28 credit hours from the master's degree toward the total credit hours, with program approval.

Under guidance of a faculty mentor and supervisory committee, students complete 12 credit hours of restricted elective content-area coursework within speech and hearing science and other disciplines that can be tailored to the student's research interests. Students must fulfill teaching, grant writing and career development competencies through the professional seminars requirement.

The preliminary exam research project, completed during the first three semesters of the program, provides students with a jump start into research, preparing them for their subsequent dissertation.

Before commencing dissertation research, the student must pass written and oral comprehensive examinations covering their field of study.

Admission requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the College of Health Solutions.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's degree in a related field and do not wish to earn a clinical master's degree, or if they have earned a master's degree or equivalent in speech and hearing science, psychology, linguistics or a related discipline from a regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts of undergraduate and graduate study
3. personal statement
4. three references (academic or professional)
5. resume or curriculum vitae
6. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information

An applicant whose native language is not English must provide proof of [English proficiency](#) regardless of their current residency.

The personal statement, typically one to two double-spaced pages, should address the student's motivation to pursue a PhD with a specific faculty mentor in the program and include evidence of potential to succeed in a research-intensive doctoral program, as well as goals for the future. Examples of evidence of potential to succeed include technical skills, clinical experiences, and research achievements and interests.

An optional writing sample (6 to 10 pages) may be substituted with the program application. Writing samples include publications, research manuscripts, or a sample of academic writing.

Contact information of three references is required. References will be contacted via email to submit a letter of recommendation and respond to a series of questions about the applicant. References should be individuals who can speak to one or more of the following: the applicant's academic performance, clinical performance or potential to succeed in a research-intensive doctoral program. References are typically faculty, clinical or research supervisors. If the applicant has spent some time away from a research or academic environment, it is still recommended that they include references from previous experiences, in addition to a more recent clinical or research supervisor.

Tuition information

When it comes to paying for higher education, everyone's situation is different. Students can learn about [ASU tuition and financial aid](#) options to find out which will work best for them.

Application deadlines

Fall

Program learning outcomes

Program learning outcomes identify what a student will learn or be able to do upon completion of their program. This program has the following program outcomes:

- Upon graduation from the Doctorate of Philosophy in speech and hearing science, students will be able to develop curriculum and instruct in key knowledge areas in their particular area of expertise within speech and hearing science.
- Students completing the Doctor of Philosophy in speech and hearing science will engage with scholars in academic and professional settings.
- Students completing the Doctor of Philosophy in speech and hearing science will master the key concepts related to research in the field at an advanced level.

Career opportunities

Doctoral-level scientists in the field of speech and hearing science are well situated to pursue a position in which they can lead an independent research program, such as university professor, or research scientist in the private or public sector.

There is a particular need for doctoral-level scientists with speech-language pathology or audiology backgrounds in tenure-track academic positions.

Graduates are also prepared for careers in industry or health care environments.

Career examples include:

- medical science liaison
- professor or community college teaching faculty
- program officer in a nonprofit or government agency
- research scientist in a for-profit or nonprofit entity

Contact information

[College of Health Solutions](#) | HLTHN 401AA

CHSGrad@asu.edu | 602-496-3300