

Admissions Policy

Speech-Language Pathology Graduate Program



Revised 7-2022

Prospective Students: Admission Guidelines

The following are minimum requirements for initial admission consideration to the Speech-Language Pathology program at the University of Toledo. These standards are consistent with the Admission Criteria of the College of Graduate Studies

(<http://www.utoledo.edu/graduate/prospectivestudents/admission/guidelines.html>). Additionally, this document outlines the procedures for successful application and the admission policies.

Graduate Application Materials

Earned Degree:

Four-year Bachelor's degree in Speech-Language Pathology (or other communication disorders) program from a regionally accredited college or university that also holds accreditation of the Council of Academic Accreditation (CAA);

OR

Four-year Bachelor's Degree (or Master's Degree) from a regionally accredited college or university **in another field**, with or without appropriate leveling courses have been completed in a Speech-Language Pathology (or other communication disorders) program that is accredited by the CAA.

Please note, students may be enrolled in the leveling courses at the time of application will be considered for admission if their leveling course plan of study will be completed by the start date of the program to which they are applying.

Students who have not completed the leveling courses at the start of the graduate program will complete leveling courses as a graduate student at the UToledo Speech-Language Pathology program before registering for graduate course work.

Cumulative GPA:

The College of Graduate Studies of the University of Toledo admission criteria includes a 2.70 cumulative GPA for all previous academic work. However, applicants with less than a 2.70 cumulative GPA on all undergraduate work may be considered based upon GRE scores.

The Speech-Language Pathology program is highly competitive and the cumulative GPA for graduate students admitted to the program, on average, exceeds 3.5. In rare circumstances, students with a lower GPA will be considered. Examples include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Applicants who have earned a degree in another field and then decided to pursue a

degree in Speech-Language Pathology, when their GRE scores are above average and their leveling course grades demonstrate a remarkable change in grade/achievement level.

- Applicants who began their undergraduate degree in another field unsuccessfully, but transferred to Speech-Language Pathology, and demonstrate a remarkable change in grade/achievement level accompanied by above average GRE scores.
- Applicants who earned a Bachelor's degree in Speech-Language Pathology, worked in the field (*e.g., SLP Assistant) and in their clinical practice demonstrate remarkable growth and potential (most often noted by the recommendation of their supervisor and co-workers), and whose GRE scores are above average.

Major GPA requirement:

The Speech-Language Pathology program is highly competitive and the major GPA for graduate students admitted to the program, on average, exceeds 3.5. In rare circumstances, students with a lower major GPA will be considered. Examples include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Applicants who earned a Bachelor's degree in Speech-Language Pathology, worked in the field (*e.g., SLP Assistant) and in their clinical practice demonstrate remarkable growth and potential (most often noted by the recommendation of their supervisor and co-workers), and whose GRE scores are above average.
- Applicants who earned a Bachelor's degree in Speech-Language Pathology, were unsuccessful at their first attempt to gain admission to a graduate program in Speech-Language Pathology, and who are able to demonstrate the ability to successfully complete the graduate program through additional coursework (e.g., graduate coursework in a related field, earning a high GPA), and/or related professional experience as described above.

Letters of recommendation:

Three letters of recommendation are required. When requesting letters of recommendation, applicants should select faculty, supervisors, and other professionals who are able to discuss the applicant's ability to succeed in a graduate program in speech-language pathology as well as the profession, personal characteristics and experiences that may contribute to high achievement, and other related factors.

Essay requirement:

A personal essay (statement of interest) must be submitted with the application. Essays should be one-two pages in length, double-spaced, with 1-inch margins and a font size of 12 or larger. The Admissions Committee will also consider the following criteria when reviewing the essay:

Content: What is the message the applicant is conveying? Do the details enrich and develop the idea?

When developing the content, applicants should consider the following:

- why they are applying to the University of Toledo;
- what influenced them to choose speech-language pathology as a profession;
- what they would like the Admissions Committee to know or consider about them;
- How they expect they will contribute to the University of Toledo program as a student, and to the profession of Speech-Language Pathology in the future?

Voice: The feelings and conviction of the applicant are clear.

Organization: The internal structure or thread of the content is logical and provides an intriguing pattern of ideas.

Conventions: The mechanics of the essay (spelling, grammar, punctuation) are appropriate/correct.

Word choice: Rich, colorful, and precise language that moves and enlightens the reader is used.

Sentence fluency: The rhythm and flow of the language provides for a clear and natural message.

Overall presentation: The finished piece is easy to read and polished.

Transcript requirement:

The Speech-Language Pathology program requires official transcripts be submitted to CSDCAS at the time of application. CSDCAS will verify the transcripts and provide this information to the program for admission consideration (which typically occurs prior to completing the Bachelor's degree).

The College of Graduate Studies requires official transcripts from all universities/colleges applicants are currently attending or have attended only when admission is granted. Applicants do not need to submit official transcripts to the College of Graduate Studies at the time of application.

*Official transcripts are those sent directly from the institution to CSDCAS or the College of Graduate Studies. Transcripts not received directly from the institution will be considered unofficial.

Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) program requirement:

All applicants to the Speech-Language Pathology program, whose native language is not English, must achieve satisfactory TOEFL scores regardless of whether or not the applicant has graduated from (or attended) a U.S. regionally accredited college or university. Additionally, applicants who meet the minimum test score requirement will also be interviewed by the program Admissions Committee. Countries of citizenship for which the TOEFL requirement is waived include Australia, Canada (non-francophone areas), England, Ireland, and New Zealand.

Please note that The University of Toledo does not offer conditional admission for international graduate applicants that have not met the English proficiency requirement.

	<u>SLP Program Minimum Satisfactory Test Scores</u>
TOEFL PBT	600
TOEFL IBT	90

Please note - Test scores for TOEFL cannot be older than 2 years from the first day of the term that students begin their program. In the event test scores are considered invalid and cancelled by ETS, The University of Toledo reserves the right to require submission of new test scores. Please contact the College of Graduate Studies if you have questions regarding this.

Interview:

Upon review of applications completed by the December 15 due date, the admissions committee makes preliminary recommendations regarding the status of the applicants. At that time (usually late-January), the Admissions Committee will invite selected applicants to participate in an interview/open house held in mid-February. The number of applicants varies annually depending upon available positions, program resources, and related factors.

Applicants, who are not invited to the interview/open house, may be wait-listed or denied admission into the speech-language pathology graduate program depending upon their qualifications. Notification of denial is made at that time (usually early February) via email from the University of Toledo College of Graduate Studies; applicants may also check their status via the UT application portal.

Applicants denied admission into the Speech-Language Pathology program may consider other majors for graduate study, may apply to other universities, or may resubmit an application for the following fall. Re-application is only recommended when the applicant is able to demonstrate additional qualifications or new achievements as described above regarding cumulative and major GPA.

Applicants, who meet the criteria for the interview/open house, will be notified by invitation in writing; interviews generally occur in February.

During the interview/open house, applicants will be provided the opportunity to meet faculty/staff, current students and alumni as well as tour the facility and learn about the program. The Admissions Committee will engage each applicant in an interview to learn more about personal characteristics and strengths including communication and pragmatic skills and other desirable traits.

Following interviews, students will be placed into tiers based upon the number of positions available; the first tier will receive a letter of conditional acceptance (pending final approval of the College of Graduate Studies), and others will be placed on a waiting list. In the eventuality that positions become available prior to the academic year, the next ranked candidate will be notified and offered the available position. When it is clear that no additional seats will become available, the remaining applicant pool will be informed. The process takes several weeks (usually occurring between March 1 and late April). The Admissions Committee reserves the right to grant exceptions to this policy.

Additional Considerations for International Applicants

Transcripts:

In addition to the official, final transcripts, applicants must also provide official certified, or attested copies of all graduation certificates, diplomas or degree certificates needed to fulfill admission requirements.

If a degree is earned from a U.S. degree granting institution, simply order a transcript to be sent directly to UT from the school's Registrars' Office. Submitted transcripts become the property of The University of Toledo.

Translations:

Applicants must submit clear and legible photocopies of precise word-for-word English translations of all foreign language documents. English translations must be provided by the issuing institution or a translation service. Please refer to <http://naces.org/members.htm> for a list of acceptable evaluators. All arrangements must be made by the applicant directly with the translation service.