

So you want to be a Speech Language Pathologist... Helpful tips to guide you as you progress through school

High School Preparation

- ❖ GPA (3.0+)
 - Take AP courses if available
 - Strong focus on math and sciences
- ❖ Shadowing Hours
 - Observe multiple health care careers (nursing, SLP, OT, etc.)
- ❖ Community Service Hours
 - 2 to 3 Long Term Commitments
- ❖ Research Colleges/Universities with Communication Sciences and Disorders Undergraduate Studies
- ❖ Consider schools that offer Undergraduate/ Graduate Programs for SLP
 - Marquette University
- ❖ Arrange and Complete Campus Visits
 - Goal: Get Them to Know Your Name
 - People to Meet:
 - Admissions Counselor
 - Dean of College of Health Science/professions or College of Education and Human Sciences
 - Representative from the SLP Program
 - Current Students

Undergraduate Studies

- ❖ GPA (3.3+) – emphasis on math and science courses
- ❖ Strong GRE Scores
- ❖ Shadowing Hours
 - Specific to Speech Therapy
 - Multiple Clinic Specialties if able

- ❖ Community Service
 - 2 to 3 Long Term Commitments
- ❖ Campus Involvement – National Student Speech Language Hearing Association (NSSLHA)
- ❖ Participate in Undergraduate Research
- ❖ Pursue Internship Opportunities
- ❖ Identify a Mentor
- ❖ Consider a Part-Time Job in the Medical Field to Increase Patient Contact Hours
 - CNA (Certified Nurse Assistant)
 - Rehabilitation Aide
- ❖ Research Types of Graduate Programs
 - 3 Year, Post-Graduate Program
 - 2 Year, Accelerated Program
 - Online/Hybrid Programs
- ❖ Make a List of Schools for Application
 - Recommend Applying to 4-8 Programs
 - Recommend applying to at least 1 program with “rolling” admission
- ❖ Identify Prerequisite Courses for Each Program
- ❖ Identify Individuals for Letters of Recommendation
 - College Alumni
 - Mentor
 - College Professors
- ❖ Complete a Mock Graduate School Interview
- ❖ Complete CSD Central Application
- ❖ Arrange and Complete Program Visits
 - Goal: Get Them to Know Your Name
- ❖ Personal Statement/Essay
 - Personal & Unique and Answer the Question Promptly

Graduate Studies

- ❖ GPA (3.24 +)
- ❖ Continue to Utilize Your Mentor
- ❖ Identify Clinical Choices:
 - Acute Care
 - Skilled Nursing Facility
 - Pediatrics
 - Home Health
 - Neurology
 - School-Based
- ❖ Participate in Graduate Research - Publish if you can!
- ❖ Consider options available for practicums in different settings, overseas, or onsite.
- ❖ Consider doctoral programs