

## **Program Description and Enrollment Requirements**

The Speech Language Pathology (SLP) Tuition Support Program provides financial assistance for participants to earn a master's degree in speech language pathology. The program provides tuition support to program participants who are willing to work in a Florida public school with students who have communication disorders. After graduation, participants must work for a minimum of two years for every academic year of tuition support received.

Funding is provided on an annual basis through the Florida Department of Education, Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services (BEESS) under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Part B.

Priority is given to applicants who are currently employed as a bachelor's level SLP, SLA, or SLPA in a Florida public school OR within three semesters of graduating with a degree in speech language pathology and willing to work in a Florida public school. Priority will also be given to students in small and rural districts.

### **Application Criteria**

In order to be accepted into the SLP Tuition Support Program, the applicant **must** meet the following criteria:

- Must be a Florida resident, though attendance at an out-of-state online accredited University is acceptable
- Hold a bachelor's degree (with a major in the field of Communication Science & Disorders or Speech & Hearing Science OR with a related major and completion of pre-requisite coursework)
- Prior to applying for the program, the student must be accepted to or enrolled in a speech language pathology disorders master's degree program
- Submit a letter of recommendation written by a Department of Communication faculty member
- Submit a letter of recommendation written by a current school or district administrator (if applicable)
- Submit completed application and service agreement by deadline
- Submit completed School District Obligations Agreement with teaching certificate (if applicable)

### **Application Requirements**

Applicants must submit all of the following items:

1. Complete application, including writing sample (in response to four questions)
2. School District Obligations Agreement (if applicable)
3. Copy of FDOE temporary teaching certificate in speech language impaired (if applicable)

Application packet should be sent to Dr. Mollie Romano. All applications are accepted on a rolling basis. If you need additional information, please contact Dr. Mollie Romano at [mollie.romano@cci.fsu.edu](mailto:mollie.romano@cci.fsu.edu).

SLP Tuition Support Program



Application

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Race: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_\_\_

Personal e-mail address (not school or work related): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Upper Division Undergraduate GPA: \_\_\_\_\_ Undergraduate Major: \_\_\_\_\_

University attended for bachelor's: \_\_\_\_\_ Grad Date (MM/YY): \_\_\_\_\_

University attending for master's: \_\_\_\_\_ Grad Date (MM/YY): \_\_\_\_\_

District Name (where currently employed): \_\_\_\_\_ School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Department of Education Educator Certificate Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Check the items below that apply:

- I have completed the prerequisite speech language pathology coursework...
I am currently employed as a SLP, SLA, or SLPA...
I am currently within three semesters of graduation...
I am currently enrolled as a consortium student...
I am currently enrolled as a part-time distance learning student.

Attach a typed response to the questions below. Your response should be no longer than one page per question.

- 1. How did you become interested in the field of Communication Disorders...
2. What are your recent experiences with children with communication disorders?
3. What do you see as your strengths that will enhance your success...
4. Where do you see yourself professionally in five years?

I have read and understand the program description and requirements for the Speech language Pathology Tuition Support Program.

Signature of applicant

Date



**School District Obligations Agreement  
(If applicable)**

The Speech Language Pathology (SLP) Tuition Support Program provides financial assistance for participants to earn a master’s degree in speech language pathology. Tuition support is provided to program participants who are willing to work with students who have communication disorders in Florida’s public schools for a minimum of two years for every academic year of tuition support received, after graduation.

Funding is provided on an annual basis through the Florida Department of Education, Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services (BEESS) under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Part B.

\_\_\_\_\_ agrees to provide the following for \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of School District Name of Applicant

- Clinical supervision by an experienced ASHA-certified SLP for at least two semesters.
- Support for implementation and integration of class activities into practice at the school site.
- Allow early release/flex time to attend class or clinic practicum as necessary. (This is not anticipated to interfere significantly with full-time employment.)

**Note: Districts are discouraged from employing participants during the summer as it will interfere with their timely graduation.**

Please contact Dr. Mollie Romano, SLP Tuition Support Program Director, at [mollie.romano@cci.fsu.edu](mailto:mollie.romano@cci.fsu.edu) if you have questions.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of School Principal

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

- or -

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Exceptional Student Education Director  
(or designee)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



## **Program/Service Obligation Agreement**

The Speech Language Pathology (SLP) Tuition Support Program provides financial assistance for participants to earn a master's degree in speech language pathology. Tuition support is provided to program participants who are willing to work with students who have communication disorders in Florida's public schools for a minimum of two years for every academic year of tuition support received, after graduation.

The service obligation period begins after graduation from the student's Master's program. Time in a public school during the graduate program is *not applied* to the obligation period.

Funding is provided on an annual basis contingent on funding through the Florida Department of Education, Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services (BEESS) under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Part B.

By accepting the financial assistance provided by this program, you agree to:

1. Register at least a month prior to the start of each semester. The program will not reimburse for late registration payment or charges.
2. Be enrolled for a minimum of six credit hours for each academic term in which the tuition support is received.
3. Participate in three academic terms per year unless you are part of a summers only program.
4. Participate in courses and clinical practice opportunities during the summers.
5. Maintain an overall 3.0 GPA in all courses and practicum. You must retake (at your expense) any course or practicum in which below a C is earned. If your GPA falls below a 3.0, you will be placed on probation for one semester. Failure to raise your GPA will result in dismissal from the program.
6. Load your grades and paid tuition receipt into the documentation system within the first month of each semester to the SLP Tuition Support Program Director in order to receive funding for that next semester.
7. Pay all other required fees (application/admissions, health, parking, and other non-tuition related university fees).
8. Participate in project evaluation activities.
9. Participate in project evaluation webinars and discussion boards.

Upon completion of the program, you agree to:

1. Show proof of a Florida Department of Education Professional Educator's Certificate in the area of Speech Language Pathology to the SLP Tuition Support Program Director.
2. Teach students with speech language impairments in a Florida public school, for a minimum of two years for every one academic year of tuition support you receive. If you decide not to teach students with disabilities in a Florida public school, you may be required to pay back the funds. Upon completion of the program, you will have up to two years to begin to fulfill your service obligation and up to six years to complete the service obligation.
3. Provide your current work status, address, and telephone number to the SLP Tuition Support Program Director until the period of service obligation is fulfilled.

I have read and accept the terms outlined above.

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Signature of applicant

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Date