

Speech- Language Pathology

Sheila A. Sparling, M.S. CCC-SLP,
Speech-Language Pathologist

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Health and
Human Services



Agenda

Goal

Center of Excellence Team

General introduction to the profession

What speech-language pathologists do

Where to find speech-language pathologists

Speech therapy referrals

A little bit about me

Education

Job History

Current role in the Center of Excellence
since 2024.





Center of Excellence Team

- ▶ Social Worker
- ▶ Behavioral Health Administrator
- ▶ Behavioral Health Professional 1 (Board Certified Behavior Analyst - BCBA)
- ▶ Nurse Specialist
- ▶ Occupational Therapist
- ▶ Physical Therapist
- ▶ 2 Training Specialists
- ▶ Speech-Language Pathologist

Goal

Build an understanding of what speech-language pathology is.

How can a speech-language pathologist help?

How to refer to a speech-language pathologist.



What is a speech-language pathologist?

- ▶ A Speech-Language Pathologist (SLP) is a person who is trained in the areas of communication and swallowing across the life span.
- ▶ Communication includes the speech production of sounds/words, the fluency of the speech, as well as language, cognition, voice, resonance and hearing.
- ▶ Communication is not always verbal.
- ▶ Swallowing includes the passage of food/liquid from the mouth through the pharynx (throat) into the esophagus (tube to the stomach) and subsequently the stomach.
- ▶ We must hold a Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology after a 9-month clinical fellowship year.
- ▶ Speech-Language Pathologists must hold either a master's or doctoral degree.
- ▶ You can not obtain a Certification of Clinical Competence with a bachelor's degree.



Clinical Board Specialty Certification

- ▶ Currently, the American Speech Hearing Association (ASHA) has the following areas:
 - American Board of Child Language and Language Disorders (BCS-CL)
 - American Board of Fluency and Fluency Disorders (BCS-SCF)
 - American Board of Swallowing and Swallowing Disorders (BCS-S)
- ▶ These boards have their own requirements for the specialized certification.



What Speech-Language Pathologists Do

- ▶ Speech-language pathologists work with all ages
- ▶ Focus on the following areas:
 - Speech sounds
 - Language
 - 3 types of language disorders: receptive, expressive and mixed language disorder
 - ▶ Literacy
 - Structural diagnoses such as cleft palate and orofacial myofunctional disorders
 - Social communication
 - Voice
 - Fluency
 - Cognitive
 - Feeding and swallowing or dysphagia
 - Aerodigestive disorders

Where To Find Speech-language Pathologists

Private practice

Physician's office

Hospitals

Schools

Colleges and Universities

Home health

Rehabilitation centers, long-term and residential health care facilities



Speech Therapy Referrals

School setting

- Refer to your SLP assigned to the school. In Iowa, the AEA has clinicians who provide this service to schools. Driven by our teachers.

Hospital setting

- Each facility may differ in its process. Doctors may refer to the SLP if they have a new onset of neurological event (stroke, diagnosis of Parkinson's, ALS, etc.). Typically, a doctor's order will do this; however, it is not required. A doctor must sign off on the plan of care for reimbursement purposes.

Early Intervention/Private Clinician/Clinic

- No referral needed; parents with an understanding of child development can reach out on their own.

Rehab setting

- Skilled and/or nursing home referred by PCP or another member of their care team. Home health is included here as well.



Questions

Sheila A. Sparling, M.S. CCC-SLP
Speech-Language Pathologist
Sheila.sparling@hhs.iowa.gov



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