

# SO YOU WANT TO LEARN ABOUT SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY?

## An Introduction to the Speech-Language Pathology (SLP) Profession

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We'll answer questions like:

- What is a Speech-Language Pathologist (SLP)?
- What do they do?
- Who do they help?
- How much \$\$\$ can I expect to make?
- Is this career right for me?  
... and more!



# Acknowledgements

*Dedicated to high schoolers, youth, and all aspiring Speech-Language Pathologists! We hope this booklet inspires generations of Speech-Language Pathologists to come.*

*We would like to thank our supervisor Dr. Lyn Turkstra for overseeing and encouraging us throughout this project, and our supportive lab team. We would like to thank everyone we reached out to in the making of this booklet, including those who provided testimonials and resources. Thanks as well to Caden, Fernando, Jonathan, Kylie, Olivia, Peter, Sadie, and others who volunteered to review our guide for us. Last but not least, we would like to thank our professors, friends, and of course, our families for supporting us in our endeavours - especially in our pursuit of the Speech-Language Pathologist profession.*

*Special thanks to The Informed SLP team for providing us with wonderful graphics to use in our guide.*

*We are grateful to have had the opportunity to create something impactful. We hope you enjoy and find this helpful!*

— **Evonne & Imad**, McMaster University Class of 2022



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# INTRODUCTION

We take our ability to communicate for granted, but being able to speak, hear, and be heard is more vital to our daily lives than most of us realize. We rarely think about how complex our **speech** and **language** processes really are. Our ability to understand, recognize, and produce speech and language is truly fascinating.

In order to speak, you must accurately and precisely move over 50 muscles to make speech sounds. For **communication** to happen, air carries speech sounds to your ears, and these sounds are then promptly turned into a signal for your brain. Within milliseconds, your brain processes these speech sounds and interprets them for you! In the end, your brain generates a message for you based on what you heard.



Photo source: The Informed SLP

For a number of people, though, communicating through speech and language isn't such a smooth process. These people are affected by **communication disorders**, and they are not uncommon. This booklet will walk you through the role of the Speech-Language Pathologist, who works to support and help these people.



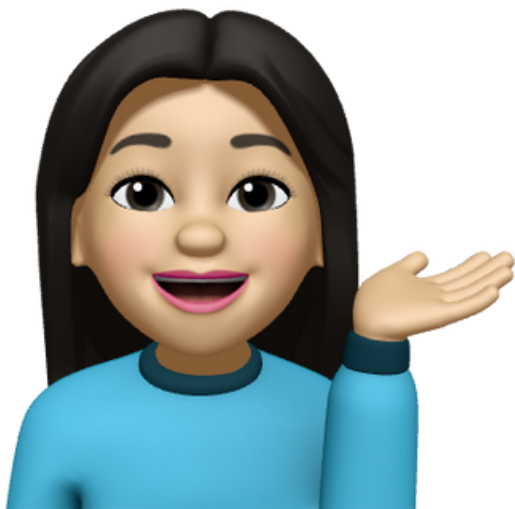
## Key terms to keep in mind:

**Language:** a system of symbols that people use to express themselves

**Speech:** the production of spoken words

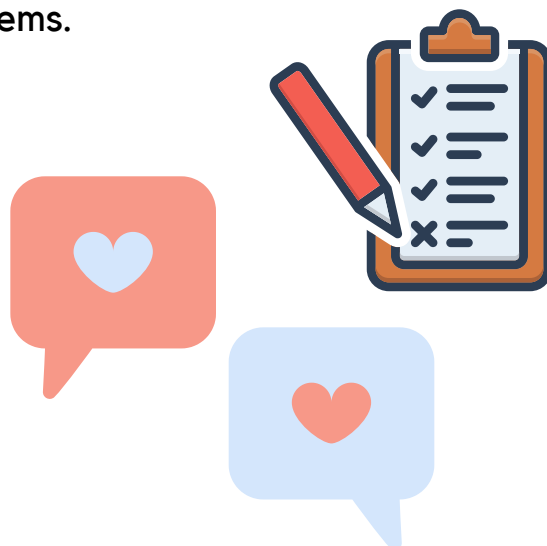
**Communication:** the sharing of information with another person or people in ways they can understand

**Communication disorder:** any disorder that affects your ability to understand, recognize, and produce language or speech and decreases your ability to communicate effectively with others



# ABOUT SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY AND COMMUNICATION DISORDERS

The field of **speech-language pathology (SLP)** is about assessing, identifying, and treating communication and swallowing disorders. A **speech-language pathologist (SLP)** is a licensed professional in this field. They have expert knowledge on how speech and language typically develop, and how to **diagnose** and treat a wide range of communication problems.

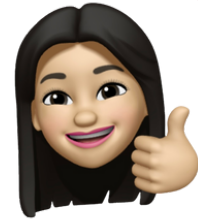


**Communication disorders can be incredibly frustrating to live with**—simple everyday interactions can become challenging, which can significantly impact a person’s physical, emotional, social, and occupational well-being. For example, children who have **speech disorders** often become the target of teasing and bullying in school. These negative experiences can have lasting impacts on the child’s self-confidence, self-esteem, and willingness to speak at all in certain situations. In other cases, a communication disorder may hinder someone from getting a job, understanding a conversation, or even saying something as simple as “I love you”. As a result, many people affected by communication disorders report feeling that they aren’t able to participate in their lives fully because of it.





This section will introduce you to many new terms, so be sure to check the Glossary!



**Communication disorders can affect anyone at any age—male or female, child or adult.**

Although many communication disorders are **developmental** (e.g., have a genetic cause), some can be **acquired** later in life from events such as a **stroke** or **traumatic brain injury**. In addition, there are many different types of communication disorders. Some affect speech production and **articulation**, such as **stuttering** and **apraxia**. Other disorders may affect a person's ability to use language itself. An example of the latter would be **aphasia**; this is a condition that often occurs in stroke patients and it can make it difficult for them to produce or understand language.

**INSPIRING TALE:** Rap star Kendrick Lamar used to **stutter**. Speaking to Spin Magazine, Kendrick said: *"As a kid, I used to stutter. I think that's why I put my energy into making music. That's how I get my thoughts out."*



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# SLPs change lives



## An SLP's work is essential

For every type of communication or swallowing disorder, a speech-language pathologist can help improve or treat the condition. Getting treated by an SLP can be life-changing for people affected by communication and swallowing disorders. It can enable individuals to regain a sense of control over their lives and greatly improve their quality of life as well.

*My teenage daughter had a very serious brain injury when she was a young child that changed her life. She has difficulty remembering words, following conversations, and explaining her ideas clearly. Speech-language pathology has definitely helped her to have strategies to express her ideas more clearly with her friends and in school.*

— J.S. (parent)

Seeing an SLP as soon as possible better a person's chances of improving their communication or swallowing disorder. For example, stroke patients are more likely to recover their swallowing ability when they are treated by an SLP as early as possible following the stroke.



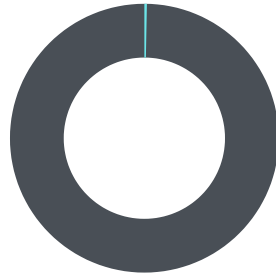


## However, there are not enough SLPs in Canada.

One of the barriers to seeing an SLP as early as possible is the lack of access to speech services.



Approximately **1 in 10** people have a communication disorder of some kind.



However, in Ontario, there are only **23 SLPs** per **100,000** people



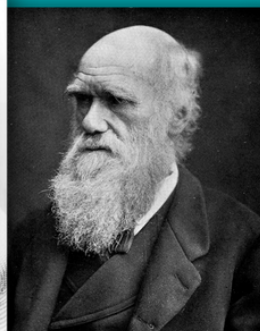
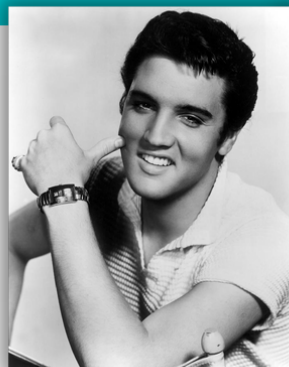
That makes **1 SLP** for **434** potential clients!

Also, although Canada's population totals around **12% of the US population**, the number of Canadian SLPs is around **3% of the number of US SLPs**.

Only around **6000 SLPs** are registered with Speech-Language and Audiology Canada (SAC), compared to around **188,000 SLPs** with American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA). This poses an issue because the number of people with communication and swallowing problems in Canada greatly outnumbers the number of SLPs, and this can be a barrier to receiving quality treatment.

**INSPIRING TALE:** Do the names **Elvis Presley** (King of Rock and Roll) and **Charles Darwin** (British Naturalist known for *On the Origin of Species*) ring a bell? Hollywood's **Marilyn Monroe**? Well guess what, they all stuttered!

[Click here for a wider list of famous people who stutter\(ed\), compiled by The Stuttering Foundation.](#)



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# SLP ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

SLPs provide a wide range of clinical and other professional services.

Primarily, SLPs:

- **Evaluate and diagnose** speech, language, communication, literacy, and swallowing disorders
- **Treat** speech, language, communication, literacy, and swallowing disorders
- **Train and educate** family, caregivers, and other professionals

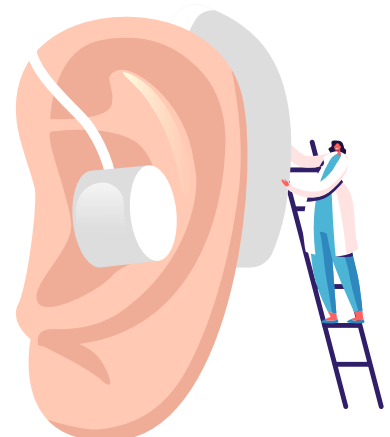
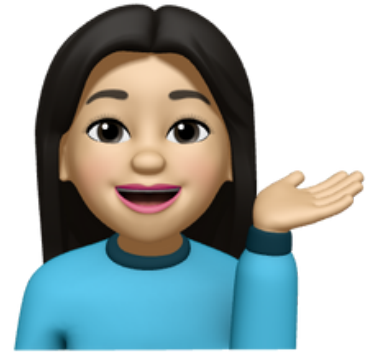
SLPs may also:

- **Engage in research** to enhance knowledge about human communication processes
- **Develop** new and improved assessment and treatment methods
- **Teach and prepare** future professionals in colleges and universities
- **Provide counselling and consultative services**
- **Supervise and direct** public school or clinical programs
- **Train and supervise** support personnel
- **Own or run** clinics or private practices



# Speech-language pathologists often collaborate with professionals from many other disciplines, such as:

- Doctors and nurses
- Psychologists
- Educators and childcare professionals
- Physiotherapists
- Occupational therapists
- Social workers
- Audiologists
- Communication disorder assistants (CDAs)



# What disorders do SLPs treat?



This section will introduce you to many new terms, so be sure to check the Glossary!

## Speech disorders involve difficulties with making sounds when speaking

- **Articulation disorders** are problems making certain speech sounds (e.g., the R sound), or saying words incorrectly such that listeners cannot understand what is being said (e.g., saying “kipem” instead of “kitchen”).
- **Fluency disorders** include conditions like stuttering; the flow of speech is interrupted by unusual stops, partial-word repetitions (“t-t-toy”), or prolonging sounds and syllables (ssssoup).
- **Voice disorders** are problems with the pitch, volume, or quality of the voice that distract listeners from what is being said. These disorders may also cause a person pain or discomfort when speaking.

## Language disorders

- Can involve trouble understanding others (**receptive**), or sharing and expressing their thoughts, ideas, and feelings (**expressive**).
- Can be for spoken or written language (e.g., **dyslexia**)
- Can be developmental (e.g., **Developmental Language Disorder (DLD)**) or acquired (e.g., **aphasia**).
- Include language or learning challenges, such as difficulty identifying words that rhyme or counting syllables in words (e.g., that “kitchen” has two syllables). These are important skills for learning to read.

**INSPIRING TALE:** Amanda Gorman—the poet who read the inauguration poem—struggled with pronouncing the R sound (a condition called **rhotacism**) for most of her life, until a few years ago! Still, the persevering poet recited “*The Hill We Climb*” which had **214 Rs**! Truly inspiring!



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## Social communication disorders

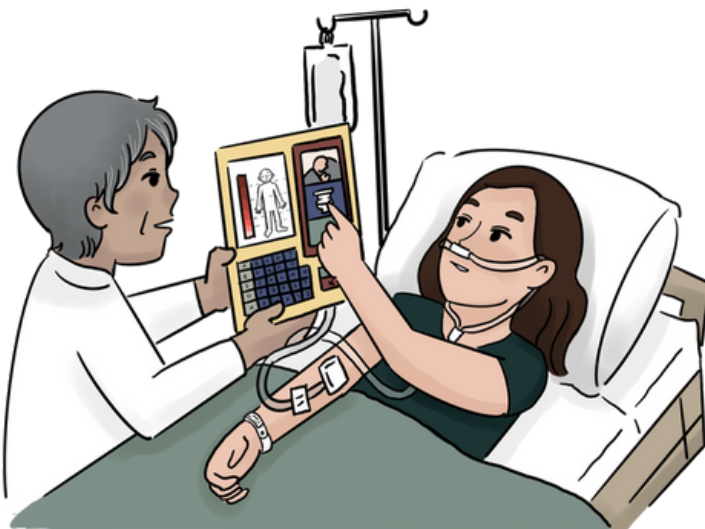
- Occur when a person has trouble using **verbal** and **nonverbal** communication in social contexts.
- Involve problems with communication skills that involve paying attention, remembering, recognizing social cues, and self-regulation.
- All individuals with autism spectrum disorder have difficulties with social communication.
- Social communication disorders also occur with other conditions, such as traumatic brain injury.

## Cognitive-communication disorders

- Communication challenges due to problems paying attention, organizing thoughts, remembering, and/or problem-solving.
- These disorders usually happen as a result of a stroke, traumatic brain injury, or **dementia**, but can also be **congenital** (present at birth).

## Swallowing disorders (**dysphagia**)

- Difficulties with feeding and swallowing, which may follow an illness, surgery, stroke, or injury.
- Include problems with chewing and swallowing, coughing, gagging, and refusing foods.



# Some other common reasons why people are referred to speech therapy and/or may benefit from it are:

- **Pre-literacy and literacy skills**
- **Neurodivergent Conditions:**
  - Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)
  - Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
- **Medical Reasons:**
  - Weak muscles of the speech system
  - **Cleft lip or palate**
  - Respiratory problems
  - **Laryngeal** cancers
- **Neurodegenerative Diseases:**
  - Alzheimer's disease
  - Parkinson's disease
  - Huntington's disease
  - **Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS)**



**DID YOU KNOW?** Singer, songwriter and Oscar winner **Sam Smith** had a **lisp** growing up? In an interview with MTV, Sam said that since overcoming his lisp, he feels more confident in his vocals. How can you overcome it, exactly?

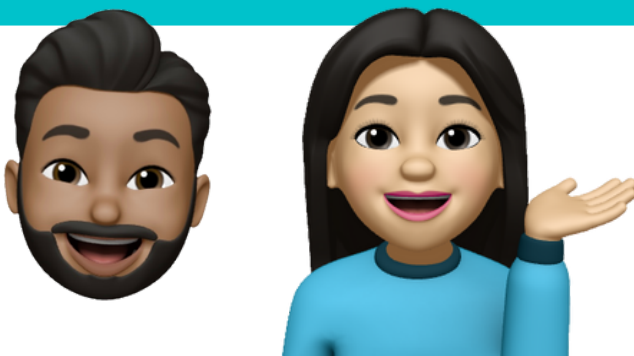
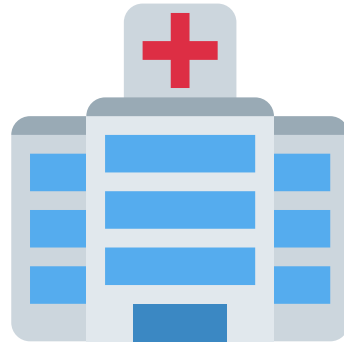
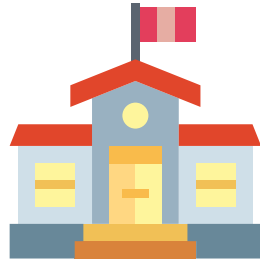


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# Settings: Where do SLPs work?

SLPs work in multiple different settings, some of which are very different from each other! Here are some common settings an SLP can work in:

- Schools
- Hospitals
- Acute care
- Long-term care
- Home healthcare
- Rehabilitation clinics
- Private practice
- Specialty clinics
- Research\*



**NOTE:** \*Although research is an important discipline, only a limited number of SLPs tend to pursue it full-time.

*I love working with adults because every situation is so different, and you get to be really creative in finding ways to support each person's individual goals. It is so rewarding when people can work around their challenges and get back into doing the things that they love.*

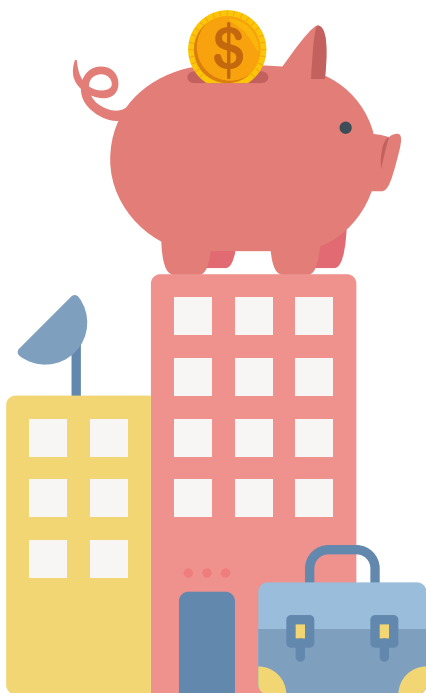
– Miriam Brouwer,  
MSc, SLP, Reg-CASLPO



# WHY YOU SHOULD BECOME A SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST

Being a speech-language pathologist is a rewarding career that helps others, has a growing market, and offers the stability, security, and flexibility one seeks in a career.

- 1. Meaningful and rewarding career:** SLPs find it fulfilling to help others feel comfortable in their own voice, help them be understood and understand others, and enable them to exercise the human right to Communication.
- 2. Versatile employment settings:** SLPs are trained to work in many different settings (e.g. hospitals, clinics, schools) and treat a variety of issues and conditions across all ages.



**3. Stable salary:** The median salary for a Speech-Language Pathologist in Canada is **\$39/hour** 

**4. Job Prospects:** There is an expected increase in demand for Speech-Language Pathologists between now (2021) and 2028. However, there will still be a shortage of workers to fill these jobs. SLPs are in demand because of the increasing aging population in Canada (e.g. baby boomers), a shortage of SLPs in schools, and a strong need for more diverse clinicians. As a result, the employment growth rate for SLP is among the strongest of all occupations!

[Click here](#) for more information about the wage range for a Speech-Language Pathologist specific to each province, as well as information about job prospects across Canada.





# What makes a good SLP?

Speech-language pathology is a great career choice for those who are interested in helping people. According to Truity.com, people who pursue SLP typically have an interest in the Helping, Creating, and Thinking areas.



Photo source: The Informed SLP



**The Helping interest area** focuses on serving, counselling, and teaching others.



**The Creating interest area** involves being original, imaginative, and artistic.



**The Thinking interest area** concentrates on research and investigation.

**Did you know?** In the film **The King's Speech** (2010) based on historical events, **King George VI** turns to **speech therapist Lionel Logue** to help him manage his speech impediment. This way, he gains the confidence to overcome his fears and let his voice be heard.

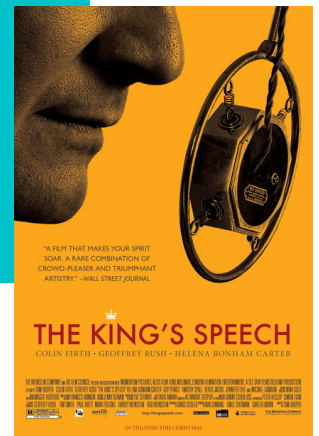


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# Here are some ideal personal qualities of a Speech-Language Pathologist:

**Compassion:** SLPs must be patient, empathetic, and have a strong desire to help others.



**Enthusiasm:** SLPs inspire and motivate patients through challenging treatments and recovery periods.



**Adaptability:** SLPs go through extensive training to evaluate, diagnose, and treat various communication disorders in different settings and populations.

**Persistence:** SLPs work persistently to treat and rehabilitate **clients** and **patients** to improve their overall quality of life.



**Creativity:** SLPs use creative thinking skills to meet and treat the individual needs of a patient in the most effective way.



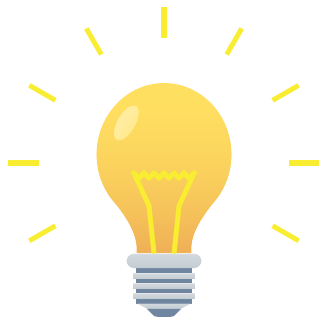
**Intelligence:** SLPs are knowledgeable in many disciplines such as the communication sciences, neuroscience, and linguistics.

**Stellar interpersonal skills:** SLPs have excellent communication skills and are friendly with patients and other healthcare professionals.



**Team spirit:** SLPs typically work with other **rehabilitation science** and healthcare professionals. They may also consult with teachers, parents, and family members to understand a client's or patient's history and circumstances. SLPs explain the client's progress and counsel about how to best support the client or patient after treatment.

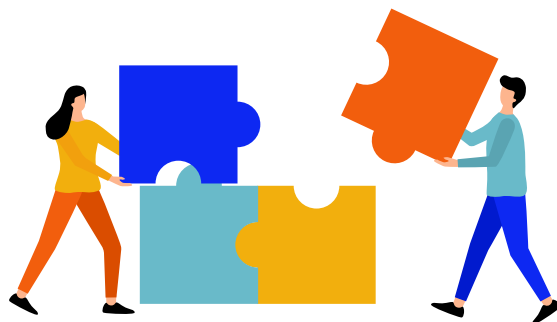
**Proactive approach:** SLPs take initiative to assess the nature and severity of patients' conditions to find the best courses of treatment.



**Innovativeness:** SLPs are always coming up with new ways to evaluate and treat problems more effectively. They may use technological devices in their treatment methods when helpful.

**Versatility:** SLPs are trained to work in public and private schools, hospitals, rehabilitation centers, home settings, research laboratories, and other facilities.

**Resourcefulness:** SLPs keep their knowledge and skills current with the most up-to-date resources. They continue to learn and attend conferences with others in the profession throughout their careers.



# How do you know if SLP is right for you?

As stated on the [Speech-Language and Audiology Canada \(SAC\) website](#), no one can answer this question for you. That is why it is important to do some research on your own about what the SLP profession involves, assess yourself and your strengths, and consider career counselling.

It is beneficial to get some experience doing a volunteer placement or requesting an interview with an SLP before applying to a Speech-Language Pathology Master's program. Make sure you ask lots of questions to find out as much as you can about the SLP profession. Keep in mind that SLPs work in a variety of settings with different disorders across all age groups, so there are many paths to choose from even within the field.

If you're still not sure whether SLP is the right fit for you, [click here](#) to check out a career quiz to learn more about where your interests lie.

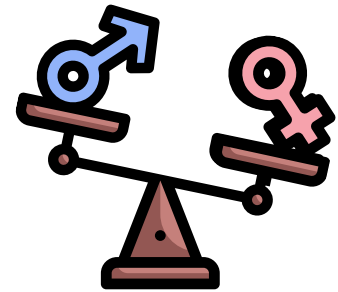


# The need for diversity

Since SLPs work with very diverse populations in a variety of settings, you would think that there is a lot of diversity among the **clinicians** themselves. Unfortunately, that is not the case.

## Gender

- The vast majority of SLPs are female. However, most people affected by communication disorders are male
- The communication needs of clients are heavily influenced by personal and social factors (e.g., culture, gender, language, social class)



According to a survey by ASHA, approximately **96% of SLPs** identify as female.

## Educational Background

- Many SLPs complete their undergraduate studies in subjects such as Linguistics and Psychology
- However, people with different educational backgrounds also successfully enter the SLP field



People have entered the field of SLP with undergraduate degrees in Accounting, Human Kinetics, and even Classical Voice Performance. See our **"For More Information"** section to read some testimonials from people with these backgrounds.





## Ethnicity and Culture

- There is a great need for SLPs who are **Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour**.
  - When the clients of SLPs are so culturally diverse, there should be diversity among the SLP clinicians to best serve them.

## Language

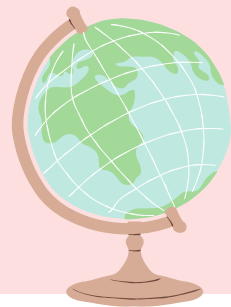
- **Multilingualism is an asset in the SLP field, but more language diversity is needed.** A recent survey showed that more than half of SLPs provide service in only one language

After English and French, the five most common languages spoken by **SLP clinicians** in Canada were:

- Spanish
- German
- Italian
- American Sign Language (ASL)
- Quebec Sign Language (LSQ)

However, the five most common languages spoken by **the clients of SLPs**, after English and French, were:

- Spanish
- Arabic
- Urdu
- Mandarin
- Punjabi



- The difference between the most common clinician and client languages creates barriers for many people needing speech therapy services. For this reason, we need people of diverse cultural and language backgrounds to become SLPs for generations to come!

*It is important to increase diversity in the field of SLP because communication is a basic human right and individuals from various backgrounds can bring differing perspectives to the field in order to improve [our] service.*

— Sukhleen Saroya,  
McMaster SLP, Class of 2021



# Education & Training Requirements



- Meet entry requirements for a Master's program in speech-language pathology (Canada has 11 programs)
- Depending on your undergraduate degree, you may have to take some additional prerequisite courses
- You may have to complete volunteer hours working in a speech-language pathology setting
- Successfully complete a master's degree in speech-language pathology including a **clinical practicum**
- In the clinical practicum, the student must perform supervised assessment and treatment work in seven different **clinical populations**



In Canada, speech-language pathology is a regulated health profession in most provinces, which means that after graduation you must register with the regulatory body in the province where you wish to work. For a list of provincial regulatory bodies, visit the SAC website [here](#).

# SLP Programs in Canada

List of Speech-Language Pathology Masters programs in Canada (as of May 2021)

## SLP Programs

- University of Alberta
- University of British Columbia
- Dalhousie University
- McGill University
- McMaster University
- University of Toronto
- Western University
- Université Laurentienne (French)
- Université d'Ottawa (French)
- Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières (French)
- Université de Montréal (French)
- Université Laval (French)



There are no specific prerequisite courses that you need to take in High School in order to become an SLP. We recommend you pick an Undergraduate program that you are interested in and that will allow you enough elective space to take the prerequisites for the Speech-Language Pathology Masters Program.



For more information on speech-language pathology programs in Canada, visit the SAC website [here](#).



# For more information...

## **SAC - Speech-Language & Audiology Canada:**

**Click here** for the professional association for SLPs and Audiologists in Canada. It includes a lot of helpful information about becoming an SLP as well as great resources for the public to learn more about the profession.

## **Provincial and Territorial Associations in Canada:**

**Click here** for a list of Canada's provincial and territorial professional associations for SLPs and audiologists.

## **ASHA - American Speech-Language-Hearing Association:**

**Click here** for the professional association for SLPs and audiologists in the US. The website includes detailed overviews of every disorder that SLPs should know about (e.g., signs, causes, treatments, etc.) and blog articles advocating for the SLP profession.

## **Essential Skills and Attributes Required for the Study of Speech-Language Pathology:**

**Click here** for the document that contains all the essential skills and attributes that are necessary to have to practice as a speech-language pathologist.

## **More About SLPs:**

**Click here** for a webpage that provides a great overview of what SLPs do and features interviews about what a day in the life of an SLP is like.



## **Want to hear some advice for high schoolers like you, from SLP students themselves?**

You may also be interested in learning more about people's experiences with the Speech-Language Pathologist profession, either from a clinician, an SLP student, or a patient whose life has been positively impacted by receiving an SLP's services.

**CLICK HERE** to read the full testimonials from the people we quoted in this booklet.

**Acquired:** Used to describe a disorder that is not present at birth, and is obtained during life due to an injury or disease.

**Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS):** A rare neurological disease that mostly affects the nerve cells (neurons) that control voluntary muscle movement.

**Aphasia:** A condition that impairs your ability to understand and/or produce language. Occurs due to acquired brain damage such as from a stroke or tumour.

**Apraxia:** (Sometimes Apraxia of Speech) A disorder of the brain that makes it difficult to perform movements on command, even though you want to. Producing clear speech becomes difficult.

**Articulation:** The formation of clear and distinct sounds during speech.

**Cleft Lip/Palate:** An opening or split in the upper lip, the palate, or both. Results when the facial structures of a fetus don't close completely during development.

**Client:** A person who receives a non-medical service from a clinician.

**Clinician:** A healthcare professional who diagnoses, treats, and cares for people.

**Clinical Populations:** A group of people who have a specific condition.

**Clinical Practicum:** A course of study designed for the preparation of clinicians that involves the supervised practical application of previously studied theory.

**Communication:** The sharing of information with another person or people in ways they can understand.

**Communication disorder:** Any disorder that affects your ability to understand, identify, or produce language or speech and hinders your ability to communicate effectively with others.

**Congenital:** A disorder or abnormality present from or before birth.

**Dementia:** A chronic brain disorder caused by brain disease/injury. Dementia typically results in problems remembering recent events and learning new information, which can cause problems with understanding spoken and written information as well as word-finding problems.

**Developmental:** A word used to describe something that arises during childhood, usually due to genetic factors.

**Developmental Language Disorder (DLD):** When a child has problems with language development that continue into school age and beyond.

**Diagnosis:** The identification of a disorder after assessing its signs and symptoms.

**Dyslexia:** A general term for disorders that involve difficulty in learning to read or interpret words, letters, and other symbols, but do not affect general intelligence.

**Dysphagia:** Difficulty swallowing (dysphagia) means it takes more time and effort to move food or liquid from your mouth to your stomach.

**Fluency:** The ability to express oneself easily and articulately.

**Language:** A system of symbols that people use to express themselves.

**Laryngeal:** Of or relating to the larynx.

**Larynx:** A structure in the human speech system that acts as a voice box.

**Neurodegenerative:** Resulting in or characterized by degeneration (breaking down) of the nervous system, especially the neurons (brain cells) in the brain.

**Neurodivergent:** Differing in mental or neurological function from what is considered typical or normal.

**Nonverbal:** Not involving or using words or speech.

**Pathology:** The study of the causes, effects, and treatment of disorders.

**Patient:** A person who receives medical care or treatment from a clinician, usually in a hospital or another medical care setting.

**Rehabilitation science:** The field concerned with maintaining and restoring the ability to move and function in daily life in people affected by an injury or disorder. Physiotherapists, occupational therapists, audiologists, and speech-language pathologists are included in this field.

**Resonance:** (when referring to vocal resonance) the amplification and intensification of the vibrations of the vocal folds (see glossary definition).

**Speech:** The production of spoken words.

**Speech Disorder:** A condition that impacts an individual's ability to speak fluently, correctly, or with clear resonance or tone.

**Speech-Language Pathology (SLP):** The field concerned with assessing, diagnosing, and treating communication and swallowing disorders.

**Speech-Language Pathologist (SLP):** A licensed professional in the field of speech-language pathology, sometimes referred to as a speech therapist. They assess, diagnose, and treat communication and swallowing disorders.

**Stroke:** A sudden change in the blood supply to a part of the brain, sometimes causing a loss of the ability to move, speak, or think.

**Stuttering:** A speech condition in which the flow of speech is interrupted by unusual stops, partial-word repetitions ("t-t-toy"), or prolonging sounds and syllables (sssssoup).

**Traumatic Brain Injury:** A brain injury caused by sudden trauma (e.g., blow, bump, or jolt) to the head that affects normal brain function. Symptoms vary depending on the severity of the brain damage.

**Verbal:** Relating to or in the form of spoken words.



## Evonne Syed, McMaster University Class of 2022

**Program:** Honours Cognitive Science of Language, Minor in French

**How I found out about SLP:** I first found out about SLP while observing a family member receive speech therapy when I was young.

**Why I want to be an SLP:** I saw firsthand the impact of an SLP's role in my own family. I have a longtime love for language, and my personality and interests also align with the profession. I believe communication is essential for nurturing meaningful relationships in life, and I aspire to support others with communication difficulties so that they can have fulfilling lives.

**Why I wanted to create this guide:** Not a lot of people know about the job of SLPs and the importance of their work. I hope that this resource reaches students and the public so that it inspires future generations of SLPs!

**Pastimes/hobbies:** I'm a local poet—I love writing and reading poetry! Some of my favourite moments are also spent enjoying good food with even better people.

**Languages I speak:** English, French, Bengali, and a bit of American Sign Language!



## Imad Ali, McMaster University Class of 2022

**Program:** Honours Neuroscience

**How I found out about SLP:** In my second year at university, I discovered Dr. Lyn Turkstra's research lab! A speech-language pathologist herself, she was the first person to encourage me towards the profession.

**Why I want to be an SLP:** For most of my life, I could not pronounce the R sound. Having that speech impediment, I experienced what it's like to live with communication difficulties. I want to become an SLP so that I can help others going through similar experiences.

**Why I wanted to create this guide:** Many people don't know what SLP is or what communication disorders are. I myself did not know about SLP until my second year at university! With this guide, I want to spread the word about this important profession, and why more people need to become SLPs in future generations!

**Pastimes/hobbies:** My favourite things to do are going for walks in nature and admiring pretty sunsets. I also like learning new languages!

**Languages I speak:** English, Urdu, French, Arabic, and Turkish. Mostly just the first two!

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