



Accelerated Bachelor's-to-Master's Degree Program in Communication Sciences & Disorders (Speech-Language Pathology)

The PennWest Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD) Department enables qualified undergraduates to take graduate courses that apply to both their bachelor's and master's degrees. The accelerated option permits qualified degree-seeking undergraduate students who are approved for this pathway to:

- Take and apply graduate credits as an undergraduate toward the Accelerated Bachelor's-to-Master's Degree Program.
- Apply **up to 33%** of graduate program credits and pay undergraduate tuition to satisfy the requirements of the undergraduate degree.

Qualified undergraduates in the accelerated program gain important benefits that include:

- Earning graduate credits while satisfying requirements for the bachelor's degree
- Saving time and money while completing both bachelor's and master's degrees

Program Requirements

To qualify for the Accelerated Bachelor's-to-Master's Degree Program, undergraduate students must:

- Have at least junior standing (minimum of 60 credits)
- Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5
- Secure the recommendation of CSD faculty and complete all required documentation

Students should also be aware that:

- The number of graduate credits registered per semester while an undergraduate may not exceed 9, and the total number of credits registered in a semester may not exceed 15.
- Grades earned in graduate courses as part of the Accelerated Bachelor's-to-Master's Degree Program will be entered into the overall undergraduate and graduate GPA.
- Students enrolled in the Early Admission or Early Assurance programs may also be eligible to transition into this program.
- Students may be required to participate in a pre-selection interview with CSD faculty.

- Upon acceptance into the program students must meet with their assigned academic advisor to review and accept the requirements of the accelerated program.

Graduate school application process

Students in the Accelerated Bachelor's-to-Master's Degree Program are guaranteed a seat in the in-person MSSLP program (pending requirement maintenance) but will be required to complete the application process (*fees and terms apply*) via an online centralized application site (CSDCAS) prior to enrolling in the MSSLP program. **Standardization of the application process is a requirement for our program's accreditation through the Council of Academic Accreditation of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.**

Students will be provided with timelines for applying for the MSSLP program through CSDCAS by their academic advisor.

Graduate course recommendations*

Students may enroll in **up to 18 credits** of graduate level coursework in a face-to-face modality. These courses **may** include:

- CSD 6100 (3 credits) Speech Sound Disorders
- CSD 6200 (3 credits) Child Language Disorders: Birth to 5
- CSD 6300 (3 credits) Aphasia and other Adult Language Disorders
- CSD 6500 (1 credit) Intro to Clinical Methods-Diagnostics
- CSD 6600 (2 credits) Intro to Clinical Methods-Treatment
- CSD 6700 (3 credits) Fluency Disorders
- CSD 6800 (3 credits) Voice Disorders
- CSD 6900 (2 credits) AAC
- CDS 7100 (3 credits) Research Methods in Communication Disorders
- CSD 7500 (2 credits) Audiology for the SLP
- CSD 7800 (2 credits) Counseling for Communication Disorders

**Acceptable alternative courses may be offered at the discretion of the CSD faculty.*

Students will substitute these courses for comparable undergraduate CSD courses or elective courses in the undergraduate curriculum. In addition, students will meet with their assigned academic advisor at least once every semester to ensure appropriate mapping of the accelerated program curriculum.

Maintaining Good Standing

Students will be required to meet specific standards and benchmarks throughout the program as described below. Failure to meet these standards and benchmarks will result in removal from the program.

Grade Requirements

- Students must maintain a minimum overall GPA of 3.5 to remain in good standing in the program.
- A maximum of six credit hours of 'C' and 'C+' grades for all courses in the graduate program will be accepted toward the MSSLP degree.
- Students must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0 in graduate coursework.
- All grades of 'C-' or below in graduate courses are unacceptable and will require students to repeat the graduate courses in which these grades are earned.
- Students who are unable to maintain a 3.5 overall GPA will be counseled out of the Accelerated Bachelor's-to-Master's Degree Program.

Failure to maintain the requirements listed above and dismissal from the Accelerated Bachelor's-to-Master's Degree Program will forfeit the guaranteed seat in the in-person MSSLP Program. The student may continue along the traditional undergraduate track if the minimum requirements for the customary program are met.

Student Acknowledgment

I confirm that the Accelerated Bachelor's-to-Master's Program has been explained to me by my advisor, and I understand the requirements to remain in good standing in the program.

Print Student's Name

Student's Signature

Date

November 8, 2024