

Alternative Careers in Healthcare

Regulated: Non-clinical Jobs

Speech Therapist/Speech Language Pathologist (S-LP)

Overview	Speech-language pathologists are autonomous health professionals who can evaluate, diagnose and treat a broad range of developmental delays and disorders. They work with speech, language, voice and resonance, stuttering, swallowing, feeding problems, and cognitive-communicative disorders of patients of all ages. They also advocate for preventing those conditions. Speech-language pathologists may work in hospitals, educational institutions, rehabilitation centers, long-term care centers, early intervention programs, research centers and can practice privately. This role works with a multidisciplinary health team of audiologists, psychologists, social workers, doctors, nurses, teacher and educational assistants, and occupational therapists				
NOC Codes	Audiologists and speech-language pathologists (3141)				
Alias Job Titles	Community speech-language pathologist; Educational speech-language pathologist; Human communication disorders specialist; Logopedist; Speech and hearing therapist; Speech pathologist; Speech therapist; Speech-language clinician; Speech-language pathologist; Speech-language pathologist clinician; Speech-language pathologist researcher;				
Qualifications Required	3. M.Sc. (2 to 3 years usually)4. Completion of a 4-year undergraduate program with completion of seven prerequisite courses				
Salary Range	Average hourly \$40.44	Range hourly \$23.83 - \$58.08	Average yearly \$78,851	Range yearly \$46,461 - \$113,256	
Job Demand	Medium Employment outlook is Good to Fair in most provinces. More information is available here .				

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Growth Opportunities	Working as researchers at hospitals, universities or government agencies with further education (PhD) is possible. Managers and supervisors of speech and hearing programs.		
Years' Experience Required	1-3 years		
Training Options (if available)	A number of universities in Canada offers M.Sc. in speech-language pathology. A list of those programs can be found here .		
Personal Qualities	Excellent communication skills; empathetic; ability to work independently; flexible; team player		
Notes/Other Information	The professions of audiology and speech-language pathology are regulated in most provinces of Canada. In order to work in those jurisdictions, you must apply for a license to practice from the provincial regulatory body. The list of regulators may be found here . Audiology and speech-language pathology are currently not regulated in Prince Edward Island or the Canadian Territories of Nunavut, Northwest Territories and Yukon. The https://example.com/canadian-alliance-of-Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Regulators (CAASPR) is the national coalition of eight provincial regulatory bodies for the professions of audiology and speech-language pathology across Canada.		
Steps towards capacity building to become competitive for this job	Probable ways include admission to an M.Sc. program at a suitable university. Some universities such as <u>University of Alberta</u> and <u>University of British Columbia</u> may require certain pre-requisite courses. Some pre-requisite courses can be <u>obtained online</u> . However, some do not require pre-requisite courses, but <u>Dalhousie University</u> requires a <u>Graduate Records Examination</u> (<u>GRE</u>). However, for pre-requisite courses not being required, the M.Sc. in Dalhousie University is 3 years long. For most programs, having volunteer experiences in speech-language pathology programs/ institutes such as <u>Aphasia Institute</u> , <u>Alberta Aphasia Camp</u> , etc. are extremely valued.		
References and resources	vi. Alberta Learning Information Service vii. Job Bank Canada viii. National Occupation Classification ESDC ix. Neuvoo x. Indeed		