

COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS, BSE

HOW TO GET IN

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Admission to the Communication Sciences and Disorders BSE was suspended in the fall of 2023, and the program will be discontinued as of fall 2026. If you have any questions, please contact the department.

PROGRAM ADMISSION OVERVIEW

The School of Education's Communication Sciences and Disorders program currently accepts students during both fall and spring semesters. Prospective applicants typically begin taking the three-course "gateway course" sequence (detailed below) as sophomores.

ENTERING THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Admission to the School of Education as a "Pre-Professional" Student

New freshmen and transfer students interested in communication sciences and disorders are admitted directly to the School of Education with a "pre-professional" classification. This classification indicates that a student is interested in a program offered by the school, but has not applied and been admitted to the professional program. Students interested in communication sciences and disorders receive the "pre-professional" classification of PRS.

On-campus students wishing to be admitted to the school while working on eligibility requirements and application can apply for admission to the school by completing a Pre-Professional Application (<http://www.education.wisc.edu/soe/academics/undergraduate-students/academic-program-admission/>). A minimum GPA of 2.5, based on UW-Madison coursework, is required to transfer into the school. This GPA may be modified by the Last 60 Credits rule (detailed below (p. 2)). It is not necessary to be a "pre-professional" student before applying to a professional program.

It is strongly recommended that students interested in a School of Education program meet with an academic advisor in the School of Education Student Services office, 139 Education Building, 1000 Bascom Mall. Students may call 608-262-1651 to schedule an appointment with an advisor.

Transfer Students

Applicants not already enrolled on the UW-Madison campus must be admissible to the university to enroll in a School of Education program. Admission to UW-Madison requires a separate application and admission process. See UW-Madison Office of Admissions and Recruitment (<http://admissions.wisc.edu/>) for application information. Prospective transfer students are strongly advised to meet with an advisor in the School of Education Student Services office in advance of their application; to schedule, call 608-262-1651.

Students with a Previous Degree

Prospective applicants who already hold an undergraduate degree are strongly encouraged to meet with an advisor in the School of Education Student Services office in advance of their application. Consultations with advisors are available in person or via telephone; to schedule, call 608-262-1651.

Applicants who already hold an undergraduate degree are admitted to the School of Education as either an *Education Special student* or a *second degree student*, depending on their interests and academic background. Admission as an Education Special student indicates that the student has an interest in pursuing certification in a subject area studied during the initial degree; another degree is not awarded for this "certification only" coursework. Second degree students are seeking a second, unrelated degree from the School of Education, which may, or may not, include teacher certification. Candidates for limited enrollment programs must meet all admission eligibility requirements for the program and must compete with the eligible applicants for program admission. More information is available here (<http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/education/#policiesandregulationstext>).

APPLICATION AND ADMISSION

The communication sciences and disorders degree program currently accepts students during both fall and spring semesters. Requirements and selection criteria may be modified from one application/admission period to the next.

Criteria for Program Admission Eligibility for consideration requires:

- Fifty-four (54) or more transferable semester credits (junior standing) completed by the end of the semester prior to admission. Students can first apply during the semester that they will be completing 54 or more credits.
- A cumulative grade-point average of at least a 2.75 (on a 4.0 scale) based on all college-level coursework attempted (as modified by the Last 60 Credits Rule; see below). Grade-point averages are calculated from both Madison campus coursework and coursework taken at any other colleges or universities.¹
- Completion of the "gateway courses," CS&D 201 Anatomy and Physiology of Speech Production (3 cr), CS&D 202 Hearing Science (3 cr), and CS&D 240 Language Development in Children and Adolescents (3 cr). If any "gateway" courses were taken on another campus, then the first three Communication Sciences and Disorders courses taken at UW-Madison become the "gateway" courses.
- A minimum 3.0 GPA across CS&D 201, CS&D 202, and CS&D 240 the first time these courses are attempted. If any "gateway" course was taken on another campus, students must earn a minimum 3.0 GPA on the first three communication and sciences disorders courses taken at UW-Madison. Note that "gateway" courses may **not** be repeated for the purpose of raising the student's "gateway" course GPA.
- A cumulative GPA of at least a 3.0 on all major coursework completed to date, excluding CS&D 110 Introduction to Communicative Disorders.
- Completed program application (see details below).
- Note: In previous years, applicants to teacher education programs were required to submit scores from one of the following exams: ACT, SAT, Praxis I/PPST, Praxis Core, or GRE. Under emergency rules announced by the Wisconsin

Department of Public Instruction, no applicants need to submit scores for any exam as a component of their application to this program. The exam requirement was officially removed by the School of Education on November 15, 2017.

¹ A comprehensive cumulative GPA of all college-level, transferrable coursework attempted on both the UW–Madison campus coursework and coursework taken at any other colleges or universities may be calculated for the exclusive purpose of establishing an applicant’s eligibility for consideration. Both the comprehensive cumulative GPA and the comprehensive cumulative GPA based on a student’s last 60 credits may be calculated. See Last 60 Credits Rule (detailed below). If admitted, students must earn the minimum cumulative GPA for UW–Madison coursework established by their program and the School of Education each semester after admission.

Last 60 Credits Rule

Two grade point averages will be calculated to determine candidates’ eligibility to programs. GPAs will be calculated using

- all transferable college level coursework attempted, and
- the last 60 credits attempted.

The higher GPA of these two will be used for purposes of determining eligibility. If fewer than 60 credits have been attempted, all credits will be used to calculate the GPA. Graded graduate coursework will also be used in all GPA calculations. ("Attempted" coursework indicates coursework for which a grade has been earned.) More information on this rule is available here (<http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/education/#policiesandregulationstext>).

Application Procedures

Submit completed program application materials specified on the School of Education’s Undergraduate Admissions (<http://www.education.wisc.edu/soe/academics/undergraduate-students/academic-program-admission/>) page. Official transcripts from all other colleges or universities attended are required. Applications cannot be processed unless a complete academic record is presented for consideration.