

### **Clinical Observation Requirements**

We ask that all incoming students 1) complete ALL 25 required observation hours prior to the start of their first fall semester and 2) provide the required documentation to the Co-Directors of Clinical Education by the first day of orientation. Many students are able to complete these hours by reaching out to local private practices, hospitals, or school-based SLPs in their area. These settings can offer valuable insights into the day-to-day work of speech-language pathologists and expose students to diverse populations and service delivery models. Other students complete some of their observation hours through video recordings of service sessions. We encourage students to observe a variety of experiences in the field.

If fewer than 25 hours are completed, the student will have to complete these during the first semester on top of other class and clinic assignments. Any observation hours beyond 25 will not count toward the total number of clinic hours required for graduation.

In order for an observation to count, the SLP being observed must have their CCC's and the observation must be guided. The guidance may occur simultaneously during the student's observation or afterwards through review and approval of the student's written reports or summaries. Students may use video recordings of client services for observation purposes. Examples of guided clinical observations with a clinical educator who holds the CCC-SLP may include but are not limited to the following activities:

- debriefing of a video recording
- discussion of therapy or evaluation procedures that had been observed
- debriefings of observations that meet course requirements
- written records of the observations

Please note that there must be communication between the SLP and observer, rather than passive experiences where the student views sessions and/or videos. Students are encouraged to observe live and recorded sessions across settings with individuals receiving services for a variety of disorders.

The form below can be used for documentation of clinical observations, though other forms that contain the required information will also be accepted. All documentation must be legible and include the following:

- The date of the observation
- Time duration
- A description of what was observed (speech/language, pediatric/adult, assessment/therapy, etc.)
- The name of the SLP and their ASHA number
- The signature of the SLP





