

CSASK has adopted the Academic Equivalency Framework (AEF), developed in collaboration with other Canadian audiology and speech-language pathology regulators. The AEF sets out the minimum academic and supervised clinical practice requirements for entry-to-practice audiologists and speech-language pathologists in Saskatchewan.

AUDIOLOGY CURRICULUM COMPONENTS = 765 Hours

SECTION 1: BASIC KNOWLEDGE SPECIFIC TO THE PROFESSION

Clinical experience in assessment, intervention and prevention of auditory and vestibular functions.

At least one course is required in the area of:

- Anatomical, physiological and neurological basis of speech, language and hearing functioning (e.g. Anatomy and Physiology of Speech and Hearing; Introduction to Neurosciences for Communication Disorders, Neuroanatomy for Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology)

At least two courses are required in the area of:

Physical basis and perceptual processes of hearing (e.g. Hearing Science, Acoustics)

Minimum Requirement:
135 Hours

Undergraduate courses are accepted.

SECTION 2: BASIC KNOWLEDGE RELATED TO OTHER PROFESSIONS OR DISCIPLINES

To provide exposure to speech-language pathology assessment, intervention, and/or prevention.

At least two courses are required in the area of:

- Basic principles and methods involved in conducting research in human behaviour (e.g. Statistics, Research Methods)

At least one course is required in the area of:

- Psychological and social aspects of human development. Study must provide information from related fields (e.g. psychology, education) pertinent to communication disorders. Study must include at least one of the following:
 - Theories of learning and behaviour that have application to communication disorders (e.g. verbal learning, behaviour modification, neuropsychology)
 - Study of personality development, abnormal behaviour (e.g. Abnormal Psychology, Child Development)
 - Study of development and education of special populations, psychometric evaluation, school psychology (e.g. Human Development in Education).
 - Counselling and interviewing. (e.g. Counselling in Communicative Disorders)

At least one course is required in the area of:

- Professional practices and issues or administrative organization of audiology or speech-language pathology programs (e.g. Professional Issues; Principles of Clinical Practice).

Minimum Requirement
180 Hours

Undergraduate courses are accepted.

SECTION 3: PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES - AUDIOLOGY

Knowledge, skills, and behaviours which are specifically applicable to the profession.

Coursework must include development of competencies in each of the following areas:

- Hearing measurement;
- Audiological assessment;
- Electrophysiological and other diagnostic measurements;
- Basic and advanced concepts in amplification (systems, selection, fitting, verification and validation);
- Implantable hearing devices;
- Calibration and maintenance of instrumentation;
- Auditory and vestibular disorders involving both peripheral and central pathways of hearing;
- Assessment and management of tinnitus, including hyperacusis;
- Paediatric audiology
- Habilitation and rehabilitation procedures applied to children, adults, the elderly and specific populations (e.g. developmental delay, occupational hearing loss); and
- Professional Practice Issues specific to audiology.

Minimum Requirement
405 Hours

Courses **must** be at the **graduate** level.

SECTION 4: PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES - ALL COMMUNICATION DISORDERS

Knowledge, skills, and behaviours which are applicable to the entire field of human communication disorders.

Coursework:

Speech and language development, delays and disorders (e.g. screening/identification programs and procedures for speech, language and hearing problems throughout the lifespan; potential impact of hearing loss on speech and language acquisition).

Minimum Requirement
45 Hours

Courses **must** be at the **graduate** level.

NOTE:

Every hour of attendance at laboratory exercises/problem-based learning/student-directed coursework hours is equal to one half hour. For example, 30 hours of attendance at a laboratory exercise is equivalent to 15 hours of lecture for theory-based courses.

**CLINICAL PRACTICUM COMPONENTS = 350 HOURS OF SUPERVISED CLINICAL EDUCATION
(maximum 50 hours simulated)**

SECTION 1: PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES - AUDIOLOGY

Must include:

- **Minimum 50 hours with children;**
- **Minimum 50 hours with adults;**
- **Minimum 100 hours of assessment; and**
- **Minimum 50 hours of intervention.**

Minimum Requirement:
300 Hours Direct Contact or Simulation

Must include the following activities:

- **Hearing measurement;**
- **Audiological assessment;**
- **Electrophysiological and other diagnostic measurements;**
- **Amplification (systems, selection, fitting, verification and validation); and**
- **Implantable hearing devices.**

Should include the following activities:

- **Calibration and maintenance of instrumentation;**
- **Auditory and vestibular disorders involving both peripheral and central pathways of hearing;**
- **Assessment and management of tinnitus, including hyperacusis; and**
- **Habilitation and rehabilitation procedures applied to children, adults, the elderly and specific populations (e.g. developmental delay, occupational hearing loss)**

SECTION 2: PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES, ALL DISORDERS

To include exposure to speech-language pathology assessment, intervention and/or prevention activities.

Minimum Requirement:
20 Hours Direct Contact or Simulation

GLOSSARY – CLINICAL PRACTICUM

Direct Contact	<p>A supervised practical learning experience where the student clinician actively participates in patient/client service. The patient/client or significant communication partner (i.e. spouse, parent, work colleague) need not be present for all activities, but these should be focused on the client's specific needs (e.g. team meetings, discussion with supervisor). This category is not meant to capture activities that are of a general nature (e.g. delivering a presentation on a disorder type).</p> <p>The participation may be unaided or assisted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Unaided Participation - Patient/client services provided by student where the student's supervisor is readily available to assist or support the student but does not directly participate in the services provided. ▪ Assisted Participation - Patient/client services provided by student where the student's supervisor directs or guides the services provided.
Graduate Level	University study leading to degrees beyond a bachelor's degree.
Practicum	A supervised practical learning experience conducted in connection with a program of study in audiology or speech-language pathology. The supervisor must be a qualified individual in the area of supervision.
Simulation	A practical learning experience where the student clinician participates in an activity that utilizes a real-life imitation of a patient/client with a set of problems. Simulations may be computerized or may involve an individual who is trained to act as a real patient/client.
Children	Patient/clients from birth to 18 years of age.
Adults	Patient/clients over the age of 18.