



**School Speech and  
Language Pathologist  
Educational Specialist  
Program Presentation for  
Certifying Officers**

Summer 2015

## **Did You Know that...**

1. In 2013-14, PDE issued 111 Type 01 emergency permits for Speech and Language Therapists to teach in Pennsylvania schools?
2. The largest number of Type 01 emergency permits were issued for Speech and Language Therapists?

## **Did You Also Know that...**

3. 13 percent of Pennsylvania's 872\*  
01 emergency permits were issued  
for Speech and Language?

4. 37 percent of Pennsylvania's special  
education 01 emergency permits were  
issued for Speech and Language?

\*Does not include any trade/technical subjects

# To Increase the Pool of Qualified Speech and Language Therapists...

PDE worked with a committee of experts to create Pennsylvania's new School Speech and Language Pathologist Educational Specialist Certificate

# To Increase the Pool of Qualified Speech and Language Therapists...

PDE provided a route for licensed  
speech and language pathologists to  
provide school-based speech therapy  
services without reducing the quality of  
services

# What is the Purpose of the New School Speech and Language Pathologist Educational Specialist Certification Program?

To prepare and support individuals for the speech and language pathology profession who have the knowledge and skills needed to enable PK-21 students to achieve academic success

## Critical roles and functions include:

1. Working across all levels
2. Serving a range of disorders
3. Ensuring educational relevance
4. Providing unique contributions to curriculum
5. Highlighting language/literacy
6. Providing culturally competent services

# What is the Purpose of Pennsylvania's PK-12 Special Education Speech Impaired Instructional Certificate Program?

The purpose of the Instructional Certificate Program is to prepare candidates to demonstrate a knowledge of and competence in the fundamental concepts of speech and language necessary to teach at the preschool, elementary, and secondary levels (PK-12)

# Program Similarities

<b>School Speech and Language Pathologist Educational Specialist</b>	<b>Speech and Language Impaired Instructional I</b>
PRAXIS II Content Test Speech and Language Pathology	PRAXIS II Content Test Speech and Language Pathology
Must culminate in at least a bachelor's degree	Must culminate in at least a bachelor's degree
Basic skills required unless met by completing a post-baccalaureate program or by holding an advanced degree	Basic skills required unless met by completing a post-baccalaureate program or by holding an advanced degree
Eligible to apply for and receive Pennsylvania license*	Eligible to apply for and receive Pennsylvania license*

# Program Differences

<b>School Speech and Language Pathologist Educational Specialist</b>	<b>Speech and Language Impaired Instructional I</b>
Provides speech and language pathology services birth – 21 only	Can also provide direct instruction PreK-12
Supervised in both school and medical settings	Supervised in school internship (student teaching)
Experience with school-aged children in a clinical or school setting	Experience in school setting (student teaching)

# Answers to Your Questions

How does the new certificate impact currently employed speech language pathologists?

**It has no impact. Instructional certificate holders do NOT need the new certificate and may not apply.**

Does a PA Department of State license holder or ASHA CCC holder need to obtain the license to work in schools?

**Yes, they must obtain the Instructional or Educational Specialist certificate.**

# Answers to Your Questions

Must Educational Specialist Speech Language Pathologists complete an induction?

Yes.

Must Educational Specialist Speech Language Pathologists earn Act 48 hours?

Yes. We suggest that the PA and ASHA licensed educators work with their organization to obtain ACT 48 approval for their continuing education to reduce the burden.

How should we evaluate the Speech Language Pathologists?

Speech Language Pathologists performing auxiliary (“pull-out,” “push-in,” “co-teacher”) services may be evaluated using the 82-3 rubric regardless of certificate type. A rubric specifically designed for SLP educators is under consideration.

# Answers to Your Questions

What are the requirements for a person who supervises an Education Specialist in SLP?

Letter of Eligibility certificate holders, Administrative (Principal) holders, Supervisors of Pupil Personnel and Supervisors of Speech Language Impaired holders may supervise. We will update the CSPGs.

What are the requirements to obtain the Educational Specialist certificate for Speech Language Pathologist for PA State Licensed or ASHA CCC certified applicants?

Applicants must apply on-line using the Teacher Information Management System, TIMS. They must supply their official transcripts, a copy of their license, program information, verification of internship with school-aged children, meet good moral character and citizenship requirements. Tests are only required for those not holding the PA or ASHA license.

# Answers to Your Questions

How is the field experience with school-aged children documented if a PDE 430 was not completed in the clinical program?

Applicants may upload a completed PDE 338 A if they attended an out-of-state college or PDE 338 C if they attended a Pennsylvania clinical program before it was approved as an Educational Specialist program provider.

Certifying officers should indicate that the student worked with school-aged children in a clinical or school setting in the comments.

## How Do I Obtain Help from the Bureau of School Leadership and Teacher Quality?

1. Review the Teachers and Administrators >> Certifications section of the [www.education.pa.gov](http://www.education.pa.gov) website
2. Submit a [Service Ticket](#) for a written response within one or two business days. Include your PPID, application ID and specific questions.
3. Contact us via telephone or chat on business days:  
Monday, Wednesday, Friday 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM  
Tuesday 12:00 PM (noon) – 4:00 PM  
Thursday 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM (noon)

Phone: 717 728-3224 (717 PA-TEACH) or [Chat with certification staff](#) using the link on the Certifications website

# Questions?

For more information on the School Speech and Language Pathologist Program please visit PDE's website at [www.education.pa.gov](http://www.education.pa.gov)

*The mission of the department is to academically prepare children and adults to succeed as productive citizens. The department seeks to ensure that the technical support, resources and opportunities are in place for all students, whether children or adults, to receive a high quality education.*