

# CFCC/ASHA Certification Standards

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2020 CHANGES

FOCUS ON COMPLETING GUIDED OBSERVATION HOURS

# Important Links on the ASHA website

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<https://www.asha.org/Certification/Certification-Standards-Change-in-2020/>

Students: What You Need To Know

## **Speech-Language Pathology**

[Apply for ASHA certification](#) any time after you have completed the necessary coursework and graduate clinical practicum, and have received confirmation from your program director that the requirements in 2020 SLP Standard I-V have been met, even if you have not yet finished your Clinical Fellowship (CF).

# Clinical Educators and CF Mentors: What You Need to Know

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WHEN COUNTING GUIDED OBSERVATION AND SUPERVISED CLINICAL PRACTICUM HOURS, REMEMBER THAT HOURS EARNED ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2019, NEED ONLY MEET THE 2014 STANDARDS.

HOURS EARNED ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2020, MUST BE COMPLETED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE 2020 STANDARDS.

# What does this mean for students?

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Clinical supervisors and Clinical Fellowship mentors will have to have a minimum of nine months of practice experience post-certification before serving as a supervisor.

Two hours of professional development in the area of supervision post-certification before serving as a clinical supervisor or CF mentor.

# Changes to documenting observation hours

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<https://www.asha.org/Certification/2020-SLP-Certification-Standards/>

## Standard V-C

**The applicant must complete a minimum of 400 clock hours of supervised clinical experience in the practice of speech-language pathology. Twenty-five hours must be spent in guided clinical observation, and 375 hours must be spent in direct client/patient contact.**

Implementation: Guided clinical observation hours generally precede direct contact with clients/patients. Examples of guided observations may include but are not limited to the following activities: debriefing of a video recording with a clinical educator who holds the CCC-SLP, discussion of therapy or evaluation procedures that had been observed, debriefings of observations that meet course requirements, or written records of the observations. It is important to confirm that there was communication between the clinical educator and observer, rather than passive experiences where the student views sessions and/or videos. It is encouraged that the student observes live and recorded sessions across settings with individuals receiving services with a variety of disorders and completes debriefing activities as described above.

The observation and direct client/patient contact hours must be within the [ASHA Scope of Practice in Speech-Language Pathology](#) and must be under the supervision of a qualified professional who holds a current ASHA certification in the appropriate practice area. Guided clinical supervision 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.

# Summary

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Clinical supervisors, including those supervising your guided observations must:

- Meet the requirements under the 2020 Standards for Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology including the 2 hour CE requirement.

# Summary

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In order for guided observation hours to count towards your certification, you must:

- Complete an observation of activity that falls under the [ASHA Scope of Practice in Speech-Language Pathology](#) under the supervision of a qualified professional who holds current ASHA certification in the appropriate practice area.
- Engage in communication/debriefing with the clinical educator (supervisor).
- Observation must include an active communication component. Just watching the observation without interacting with the clinical educator is not sufficient.

# A word of advice

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Many graduate programs require student to complete the 25 guided hours of observation by the time they finish the undergraduate degree.

Be sure to maintain documentation of your guided observation hours, including the ASHA # of the clinical educator.

If keeping paper records, back up the record by scanning the document into a secure storage medium (e.g. on “the cloud”).

Check the ASHA website frequently to keep up with important information for students.

<https://www.asha.org/students/>