

## Master of Science in Communication Sciences and Disorders

### [At UW-Eau Claire]

The Master of Science in communication sciences and disorders program is designed to prepare students to function independently as speech-language pathologists within the field of communication disorders. The residential program requires a two-year full-time commitment. The online program is part-time, and requires three years to complete. Both programs in speech-language pathology at UW-Eau Claire are accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and are approved by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. By the end of the graduate program, a student can meet requirements for: The Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology; Wisconsin licensure in speech-language pathology; and the Department of Public Instruction license in speech and language pathology.

### Goals

The purpose of the MS degree is to help students develop knowledge and/or competencies in several areas:

- Normal speech, hearing, swallowing and language development and behavior.
- Nature, evaluation and management in various work settings of the disorders of speech, hearing, language and swallowing in children and adults.
- Investigative procedures in communication sciences and disorders.

### Requirements

The student must complete a minimum of 54 credits of graduate course work in communication sciences and disorders prior to earning the MS degree in CSD. A thesis is optional in the residential program. Those who write a thesis



must complete an oral comprehensive examination about the thesis. Students who do not write a thesis must pass a written comprehensive examination. Each student must complete two externships in the final semesters of their graduate program.

Required practicum experiences are planned to serve the needs and interests of students and to allow students to meet credential requirements. Students obtain a diverse clinical experience through the Center for Communication Disorders on campus and/or off-campus practicum sites. Under the supervision of qualified university personnel and on-site supervisors at affiliated practicum sites, students have opportunities to encounter clients ranging in age from infancy to the geriatric population and exhibiting all types of communication disorders. The affiliated practicum sites represent a wide variety of types including hospitals, clinics, community agencies, nursing homes, private practices and schools. Faculty members teach academic courses and supervise clinical practicum experiences within their areas of expertise.

### Apply early

The fact that a student has met the minimum criteria listed does not guarantee admission to the program. Enrollment in the graduate program is limited to a maximum number of students determined annually by the program faculty. In recent years, the number of students admitted annually to the residential program has been 16-18; approximately 16-20 students will be admitted to the part-time online program. Applications for admission to the online program are reviewed in late fall; applications to the residential program are reviewed each winter. Students begin their online program in the summer, while residential

students begin their program in the fall semester following admission.

Students for the residential program are encouraged to schedule a campus visit prior to reaching a decision about whether to apply. Visits should be scheduled through the graduate program coordinator (CSDGraduateCoordinator@uwec.edu). Students for the part-time online graduate program are also encouraged to visit, if possible. Contact the online graduate coordinator for arrangements (CSDOnlineGraduateCoordinator@uwec.edu).

### More advantages

- Our graduates pass the PRAXIS before graduation and obtain employment by or shortly after graduation.
- UW-Eau Claire has an excellent clinical facility with state-of-the-art technology on campus (the Center for Communication Disorders) and affiliation with many off-campus practicum sites where students gain experience working with clients.

## [Pre-requisites]

Students must have a baccalaureate degree, preferably including a major in communication sciences and disorders. Completion of at least 30 semester credits from a specified list of communication sciences and disorders courses prior to entering the graduate program is required. Students who do not have the specific coursework required for the 30 CSD credits may apply as a second-degree seeking undergraduate student to complete any deficit coursework. Students must have an overall grade-point average of 2.75 or better (or 2.90 in the second half of undergraduate course work) and a GPA of 3.0 or better in communication sciences and disorders course work. To be admitted to the program, students also must have a grade of B or better in each graded practicum experience.

## [Application requirements]

Submit the following documents prior to Feb. 1 (residential program) or November 1 (online program):

- A complete application for graduate admission along with the application fee: <https://apply.wisconsin.edu>
- Official transcripts from all postsecondary institutions previously attended. UW-Eau Claire graduates or former students should not request an official transcript.
- Official GRE scores sent directly from ETS. Institution code is R1913. The GRE must have been taken within the past 5 years.
- Communication Sciences and Disorders departmental application, including letter of intent.
- Three letters of recommendation, with the required recommendation form.

Send the CSD application, letter of intent, and 3 letters of recommendation in one envelope to:

Graduate Admissions  
UW-Eau Claire  
Schofield Hall 111  
Eau Claire WI 54702-4004

Residential students **only** may apply for assistantships:  
[www.uwec.edu/Graduate/forms/index.htm](http://www.uwec.edu/Graduate/forms/index.htm).

For information about the residential full-time program contact:  
CSDGraduateCoordinator  
Human Sciences & Services 119  
Phone: 715-836-4919

For information about the online part-time program contact:  
CSDOnline  
GraduateCoordinator  
Human Sciences & Services 113  
Phone: 715-836-4021

## For more information

For more information about graduate programs:  
**GRADUATE STUDIES**  
UW-Eau Claire, Schofield 210  
Eau Claire, WI 54702-4004  
715-836-2721 • [www.uwec.edu/graduate](http://www.uwec.edu/graduate)

For more information about campus:  
**ADMISSIONS**  
Schofield Hall 111  
UW-Eau Claire Eau Claire, WI 54702-4004  
715-836-5415 • [www.uwec.edu/admissions](http://www.uwec.edu/admissions)