



EDUCATIONAL COMPARISON BETWEEN SLP and MUSIC THERAPIST PROFESSIONS:

Education Required:	SLP	Music Therapist
Master's, doctoral, or other recognized post-baccalaureate degree in Speech-Language Pathology or Communication Disorders OR Bachelor's, master's, or doctorate degree in Music Therapy	✓	✓
Program of study (minimum of 36 semester credit hours at graduate level) that includes academic coursework and supervised clinical experience in the following areas: -Statistics; -Biological Sciences, related to human or animal sciences: biology, human anatomy and physiology, neuroanatomy and neurophysiology, human genetics, veterinary science; -Physical Sciences: physics or chemistry -Social/Behavioral Sciences: psychology, sociology, anthropology, or public health; -Human Communication: biological, neurological, acoustic, psychological, developmental, and linguistic and cultural bases; -Swallowing Processes: biological, neurological, acoustic, psychological, developmental, and linguistic and cultural bases; -Knowledge of Communication and Swallowing Disorders and Differences, including the appropriate etiologies, characteristics, and anatomical/physiological, acoustic, psychological, developmental, and linguistic and cultural correlates in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • speech sound production, to encompass articulation, motor planning and execution, phonology, and accent modification; • fluency and fluency disorders; • voice and resonance, including respiration and phonation; • receptive and expressive language, to include phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, pragmatics (language use and social aspects of communication), prelinguistic communication, paralinguistic communication (gestures, signs, body language), and literacy in speaking, listening, reading, and writing; • hearing, including the impact on speech and language; • swallowing/feeding, including structure and function of orofacial myology, oral, pharyngeal, laryngeal, pulmonary, esophageal, gastrointestinal, and related functions across the life span; 	✓	



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cognitive aspects of communication, including attention, memory, sequencing, problem solving, and executive functioning; • social aspects of communication, including challenging behavior, ineffective social skills, and lack of communication opportunities; and • augmentative and alternative communication modalities 		
Integrate information pertaining to normal and abnormal human development across the life span	✓	
Prevention, assessment, and intervention for persons with communication and swallowing disorders, including consideration of anatomical/physiological, psychological, developmental, and linguistic and cultural correlates	✓	
Ethical Conduct	✓	
Processes used in research and research principles into evidence-based clinical practice	✓	
Contemporary professional issues	✓	
Entry level and advanced certifications, licensure, and other relevant professional credentials, as well as local, state, and national regulations and policies relevant to professional practice	✓	
Oral and written or other forms of communication sufficient for entry into professional practice	✓	
Experiences sufficient in breadth and depth to achieve the following skills outcomes: -Evaluation -Intervention -Interaction and Personal Qualities	✓	
Supervised Clinical Experiences: interprofessional education and interprofessional collaborative practice with related professionals	✓	
Minimum of 400 clock hours of supervised clinical experience in the practice of speech-language pathology and supervised practicum must include experience with individuals: -across the life span and from culturally/linguistically diverse backgrounds -with various types and severities of communication and/or related disorders, differences, and disabilities OR Minimum of 1200 hours clinical training between pre-internship and internship experiences: -with a representative range of client populations across the lifespan in diverse settings	✓	✓
Pass national examination adopted by ASHA in speech-language pathology (Mandatory)	✓	



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OR Earn Music Therapy Board Certification (MT-BC) credential examination (Voluntary but some states require for state licensure)		✓
Completion of Speech-Language Pathology Clinical Fellowship (CF): -36 weeks of full-time mentored professional experience or its part-time equivalent of clinical service activities that foster the continued growth and integration of knowledge, skills, and tasks of clinical practice in speech-language pathology consistent with ASHA's current <i>Scope of Practice in Speech-Language Pathology</i>	✓	
Maintenance of Certificate of Clinical Competence (CCC) in Speech-Language Pathology: accumulation and reporting of 30 Certification Maintenance hours (continuing education) with at least 1 hour in ethics during every 3-year maintenance interval OR Maintain Music Therapy Board Certification (MT-BC) with the accrual of 100 continuing education units every five years	✓	✓
Washington State License	✓	
Areas of Study must receive a grade of C- or better in all foundational music therapy courses (120 semester hours for bachelor's degree): -Musical Foundations: music theory and history; composition and arranging skills; major performance medium skills; functional music skills; conducting skills; movement skills -Clinical Foundations: therapeutic applications; therapeutic principles; the therapeutic relationship -Music Therapy: foundations and principles, client assessment, treatment planning, therapy implementation, documentation, termination/discharge planning, professional role/ethics, interprofessional collaboration, supervision and administration, and research methods -General Education: English, math, social sciences, arts; humanities, physical sciences, etc. -Electives OR Master's degree is expected to gain in-depth knowledge and competence in both the following areas with a minimum of 30 semester hours of graduate credits toward advanced competence and a minimum of 12 semester hours of graduate credits in music therapy: -Music Therapy Theory: principles, foundations, current theories of music therapy practice, supervision, education, implications for research		✓



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<p>-Advanced Clinical Skills: in-depth understanding of the clinical and supervisory roles and responsibilities of a music therapist with substantive music therapy fieldwork experiences that focus on clinical practice and occur after the 1200 hours of required clinical training and acquisition of the AMTA Professional Competencies in one or more of the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research: quantitative and qualitative research designs and their application to music therapy practice, supervision, administration, higher education) • Musical Development and Personal Growth: leadership skills, self-awareness, music skills, improvisation skills in various musical styles, music technology • Clinical Administration: laws and regulations governing the provision of education and health services, the roles of a clinical administrator in institutions and clinical settings <p>OR</p> <p>Doctoral degree imparts advanced competence in research, theory development, clinical practice, supervision, college teaching, and/or clinical administration in three years of full-time clinical experience or equivalent</p>	
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Resources/References and Relevant Notes:

1. 2020 Standards and Implementation Procedures for the Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology <https://www.asha.org/Certification/2020-SLP-Certification-Standards/>
2. American Music Therapy Association: <https://www.musictherapy.org/>
Overlap: "What is Music Therapy? Music Therapy is the clinical and evidence-based use of music interventions to accomplish individualized goals within a therapeutic relationship by a credentialed professional who has completed an approved music therapy program. Music therapy interventions can be designed to: ...improve communication..."
 -Definition and Quotes about Music Therapy: <https://www.musictherapy.org/about/quotes/>
"Finally, here are examples what credentialed music therapists do: work with Congresswoman Giffords to regain her speech after surviving a bullet wound to her brain, work with children who have autism to improve communication capabilities, ..."
 -Professional Competencies: <https://www.musictherapy.org/about/competencies/>
 -Standards for Education and Clinical Training: <https://www.musictherapy.org/members/edctstan/>
3. Certification Board for Music Therapists <https://www.cbmt.org/candidates/certification/>
4. Music Therapy Association of Washington <http://www.musictherapywa.org/>



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5. Seattle Pacific University Music
 - Music Therapy (undergraduate major): <https://spu.edu/academics/college-of-arts-sciences/music/undergraduate-majors/music-therapy>
 - Music Therapy: Emphasis in Physical Education and Exercise Science (BA): <https://spu.edu/catalog/undergraduate/20156/degree-requirements?Area=MAJMUSTHPH&Major=1MTH>
 - Music Therapy: Emphasis in Psychology (BA): <https://spu.edu/catalog/undergraduate/20156/degree-requirements?Area=MAJMUSTHPS&Major=1MTH>
 - Music Therapy: Emphasis in Special Education (BA): <https://spu.edu/catalog/undergraduate/20156/degree-requirements?Area=MAJMUSTHER&Major=1MTH>
6. The Certification Board For Music Therapists Board Certification Domains
https://www.cbmt.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/CBMT_Board_Certification_Domains_2015.pdf
Noted overlap between SLP/Music Therapist:
 - Assessment: identify client functioning level, strengths, and areas of need within the following domains...cognitive, communicative,...*
 - Treatment Implementation and Termination...development of speech, executive functions (e.g. decision making, problem solving), memory, nonverbal expression, oral motor control, pragmatics of speech, social skills and interactions, spontaneous communication/interactions, spontaneous communication/interactions, verbal and nonverbal communication, verbal and/or vocal responses, vocal production...*
7. Washington State Department of Health Music Therapy Sunrise Review December 2012
<https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/2000/MusicTherapy.pdf>
"...music therapy is not regulated in Washington. A music therapist uses musical instruments and music making as therapeutic tools to rehabilitate a patient's normal living functions or improve quality of life through studying and promoting measurable change in the patient's behavior...to address physical, emotional, cognitive, or social needs of the patient...work in collaboration with or by referral from a medical, mental health, occupational therapy, physical therapy, or other health care provider."
8. Washington State Department of Health Speech-Language Pathologist License Requirements
<https://www.doh.wa.gov/LicensesPermitsandCertificates/ProfessionsNewReneworUpdate/SpeechLanguagePathologist/LicenseRequirements>