



**Canadian Association of Speech-  
Language Pathologists and Audiologists:  
University Programs Survey:  
Speech-Language Pathology**

Final Report

August 7, 2008

**Confidential**



## Overview

---

The Canadian Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists (CASLPA) recently distributed a survey to the nine universities across the country that offer speech-language pathology and audiology programs. This survey is an update from the 2005 survey. The purpose was to gain insight into the similarities and differences between the programs offered, to monitor any important trends that may be affecting the profession now or in the future, to provide data as part of a larger human resources initiative and to provide a resource for potential students seeking information on the education programs in Canada.

There are nine university programs in Canada that offer programs in communication sciences and disorders. Nine universities offer speech-language pathology programs and five universities offer audiology programs.

## Table of Contents

---

Introduction .....	1
Context .....	1
Mission .....	1
Survey Goals and Objectives .....	1
Method .....	2
Results .....	2
Participating Universities .....	2
Programs Offered .....	2
Important Trends .....	5
Bachelor's Degree .....	5
Clinical Master's Degree .....	6
Non-clinical/ Research Master's Degree .....	17
PhD Degree .....	20

## Tables

---

Table 1 What Degrees do You Offer in Speech-Language Pathology? .....	3
Table 2 Speech-Language Pathology Staffing .....	3
Table 3 Do You Anticipate Recruiting and Faculty in the Next 2 Years? .....	4
Table 4 Mandatory pre-requisite Courses for the Clinical/Professional Master's Degree in Speech-Language Pathology .....	6
Table 5 Minimum GPA Requirement For Entry Into the Clinical/Professional Master's Degree Program .....	7
Table 6 What Information/Documentation is required for a Complete Application to the Clinical/Professional Master's Degree in Speech-Language Pathology? .....	8
Table 7 Due Date for Submitting an Application to the Clinical/Professional Master's Degree in Speech-Language Pathology .....	8
Table 8 Length, in Months, for Completion of the Clinical/Professional Master's Degree in Speech-Language Pathology .....	9
Table 9 Graduation Requirements for the Clinical/Professional Master's Degree in Speech- Language Pathology .....	10
Table 10 Number of Seats Currently Available (2007) for the Clinical/Professional Master's Degree in Speech-Language Pathology (First year) .....	10
Table 11 Year 1 Student Numbers in the Clinical/Professional Master's Degree in Speech- Language Pathology (2007) .....	11
Table 12 Applications in 2006 - 2007 Year to the Clinical/Professional Master's Degree in Speech-Language Pathology .....	11
Table 13 Numbers of Recent and Projected Graduates from the Clinical/Professional Master's Degree in Speech-Language Pathology .....	12
Table 14 Attrition in 2006-2007 from the Clinical/Professional Master's Degree in Speech- Language Pathology .....	12
Table 15 Student Age on Entry to the Clinical/Professional Master's Degree in Speech- Language Pathology .....	13
Table 16 At What Time of the Year do Your Students Normally Complete all Clinical/Professional Master's Degree in Speech-Language Pathology? .....	13

---

Table 17 Average Number of Weeks of Clinical Placements in the Clinical/Professional Master's Degree in Speech-Language Pathology .....	14
Table 18 Total Number of Weeks in the Final Placement .....	14
Table 19 Timeframe for the Final Clinical Placement in the Clinical/Professional Master's Degree in Speech-Language Pathology.....	15
Table 20 Plans to Change the Number of Weeks for the Clinical Placement in the Clinical/Professional Master's Degree in Speech-Language Pathology.....	15
Table 21 Difficulties in Finding Clinical Placements for the Clinical/Professional Master's Degree in Speech-Language Pathology.....	16
Table 22 What Information is Required for a Complete Application to a Non-Clinical/Research Master's Degree Program in Speech-Language Pathology? .....	17
Table 23 Student Numbers in the Non-Clinical/Research Master's Degree Program in Speech-Language Pathology.....	18
Table 24 Applications in 2006 - 2007 Year to the Non-Clinical/Research Master's Degree Program in Speech-Language Pathology.....	18
Table 25 Numbers of Recent and Projected Graduates from the Non-Clinical/Research Master's Degree Program in Speech-Language Pathology .....	18
Table 26 Student Age on Entry to the Non-Clinical/Research Master's Degree Program in Speech-Language Pathology.....	18
Table 27 Title of PhD Degree Program in Speech-Language Pathology .....	20
Table 28 Previous Degrees .....	20
Table 29 Minimum GPA Requirement For Entry Into the PhD Degree Program in Speech-Language Pathology .....	22
Table 30 What Information is Required for a Complete Application to a PhD Degree Program in Speech-Language Pathology? .....	23
Table 31 Due Date for Submitting an Application to the PhD Degree Program in Speech-Language Pathology .....	23
Table 32 Length, in Months, for Completion of the PhD Degree Program.....	24
Table 33 Graduation Requirements for the PhD Degree Program.....	25
Table 34 Number of Seats Currently Available for the PhD Degree Program (Year 1) .....	25

Table 35 Student Numbers in the PhD Degree Program (Year 1) .....	26
Table 36 Applications in 2006 - 2007 Year to the PhD Degree Program (Year 1).....	26
Table 37 Numbers of Recent and Projected Graduates from the PhD Degree Program.....	27
Table 38 At What Time of Year do Your Students Normally Complete all PhD Degree Program Requirements? .....	27

# Introduction

---

## Context

With more than 5,000 members, the Canadian Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists (CASLPA) is the only national body that supports and represents the professional needs of audiologists, speech-language pathologists and supportive personnel inclusively within one organization. Through this support, CASLPA champions the needs of people with communications disorders.

## Mission

To champion and support the professional needs of audiologists and speech-language pathologists, to facilitate the growth and development of our members thereby maximizing the communication potential of Canadians.

## Survey Goals and Objectives

In 2003 and 2005, CASLPA surveyed the nine universities across the country that offer audiology and speech-language pathology programs. The purpose of this survey was to gain insight into the similarities and differences between the programs offered, to monitor any important trends that may be affecting the profession now or in the future, and to provide context as part of a larger research program by CASLPA to assess the current state of the profession in Canada.

The survey included sections on program profiles, entry level requirements, number of positions in programs, number of applicants, number of recent and projected graduates, student profiles and much more.

The purpose of the university survey is:

- to gain insight into the similarities and differences between the programs offered;
- to monitor any important trends that may be affecting the profession now or in the future;
- to provide context as part of a larger human resources research program by CASLPA to assess the current state of the profession in Canada; and
- to provide a resource for potential students seeking information on the education programs in Canada.

## Method

---

One person from each of nine Canadian universities was asked to complete an online survey developed by InfoFeedback in collaboration with CASLPA.

Respondents received a personalized email from Ondina Love, CASLPA's executive director, explaining the rationale for the survey and the benefits to respondents. To access their questionnaire, participants clicked on an encrypted link in the e-mail.

The e-mails were sent out on December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2007 with a reminder on January 10<sup>th</sup> 2008. These e-mails were followed up by telephone calls to universities that had not submitted their survey form. The survey was closed on February 27<sup>th</sup> 2008. Telephone interviews were also conducted to validate and confirm data.

## Results

---

### Participating Universities

- Dalhousie University
- McGill University
- Université de Montréal
- Université d'Ottawa
- Université Laval
- University of Alberta
- University of British Columbia
- University of Toronto
- University of Western Ontario

All nine universities participated in the survey; this constitutes a full census of Canadian universities surveyed about their degree programs in audiology and speech-language pathology.

### Programs Offered

An overview of the speech-language pathology programs offered is presented below. These include two Bachelor's degrees, nine clinical/professional master's degrees, five non-clinical research Master's degree and six PhD programs in speech-language pathology or related science.

The report is organized by program with the results presented primarily in tables. Summary statistics are given for each table. In most cases, the columns summed to represent the total for all universities. In other cases, an average is provided. Zeros are represented as blank cells within the tables.

Table 1  
What Degrees do You Offer in Speech-Language Pathology?

University	Programs			
	Bachelor's	Clinical/ Professional Master's Degree	Non- clinical/ Research Master's Degree	PhD
Dalhousie University		✓		✓
McGill University		✓	✓	✓
Université de Montréal	✓	✓	✓	✓
Université d'Ottawa		✓		
Université Laval		✓		✓ <sup>1</sup>
University of Alberta		✓	✓ <sup>2</sup>	✓ <sup>3</sup>
University of British Columbia		✓		✓
University of Toronto		✓	✓	✓
University of Western Ontario		✓	✓	✓ <sup>4</sup>
Total	1	9	5	8

Table 2  
Speech-Language Pathology Staffing

University	Full-Time			Part-Time		Sessional Contract	
	Master's	PhD	Vacancies	Master's	PhD	Master's	PhD
Dalhousie University	1	6		2		3	
McGill University	1	9				15	2
Université de Montréal	1	11	2			20	
Université d'Ottawa		3	1			6	
Université Laval	1	7	2	3			
University of Alberta <sup>5</sup>	4	12	0	3		1 - 3	
University of British Columbia		5	1	2		3	3
University of Toronto	2	9	0				3
University of Western Ontario	4	9	1	7	3		
Total	14	71	7	17	3	48 - 50	8

<sup>1</sup> Experimental Medicine

<sup>2</sup> The University of Alberta offers non-clinical Master's Rehabilitation Science. Speech-language pathology is one of several possible areas of research focus in these programs.

<sup>3</sup> The University of Alberta offers non-clinical PhD degrees in rehabilitation science. Speech-language pathology is one of several possible areas of research focus in these programs.

<sup>4</sup> PhD in Health and Rehab Science – Hearing Science and Speech-language pathology science

<sup>5</sup> Includes one Master's and three PhD faculty members who hold joint appointments with clinical facilities and one PhD faculty member with administrative responsibilities outside of the department; Also includes one audiology faculty member who teaches in the MScSLP program.

Most university programs plan on recruiting faculty in the next 2 years, one identified in child language and one identified in stuttering, evidence-based practice and resonance.

The University of Alberta reported that they are recruiting a new audiology research position (joint position with the U of A and the Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital).

Table 3  
Do You Anticipate Recruiting and Faculty in the Next 2 Years?

University	Yes
Dalhousie University	No
McGill University	No
Université de Montréal	✓
Université d'Ottawa	✓One (1) in speech science
Université Laval	✓Three (3) plus one (1) in Child Language Disorders
University of Alberta	✓
University of British Columbia	✓
University of Toronto	No
University of Western Ontario	Stuttering, Resonance, Evidence Based Practice
Total	6 programs plan on recruiting faculty

## Important Trends

Respondents were asked to comment on "Changes that are occurring (or are anticipated within the coming academic year) at your university that will have an impact on the Speech-Language Pathology Profession." The University of Ottawa reported that they will be conducting a review of curriculum.

## Bachelor's Degree

The Université de Montréal is the only one offering a Bachelor's degree in speech-language pathology.

- Applicants must have a GPA of at least 3.0 (normal range is 3.2 to 3.3). Mandatory courses are mathematics, physics, chemistry and biology, the CEGEP Science Profile mandatory for admission in all programs at the Faculty of Medicine.
- Applicants are required to submit their transcripts, an application fee and a language proficiency test, if necessary.
- March 1<sup>st</sup> is the due date for submitting an application.
- The university offers French courses for applicants who require them.
- The actual length of the program is 12 months; information is not available for the average time it takes part-time students to complete the program.
- Graduation requirements include mandatory courses and a clinical practicum.
- The program has 60 seats available and they are currently filled by full-time first year admissions.
- The number of applications in 2006-2007 was 307.
- The number of graduates in 2006-2007 and anticipated in 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 are 50, 41 and 49, respectively.
- Five students left the program by attrition in 2006-2007.
- Almost all students were between 20 and 25 years of age (N=54); six fell into the 26 to 30 year old category.
- Students normally graduate in the spring of the year.
- The program does require a clinical placement: 1 week in the second year; 5 weeks in the third year. The plan is to keep the number of weeks "as is." The university reports difficulties in finding clinical placements for this program.
- Graduates from universities outside of Canada are accepted to the program.
- Other speech-language pathology degrees are offered at the university.

## Clinical Master's Degree

All programs require mandatory pre-requisite courses and the University of Toronto requires 14 hours of supervised placement with an S-LP (preferably including hands-on experience).

### Mandatory Courses

Table 4  
Mandatory pre-requisite Courses for the Clinical/Professional Master's  
Degree in Speech-Language Pathology

Courses	Universities
Linguistics	McGill University, University of Alberta, University of Toronto
Psychology	McGill University, Université Laval
Statistics	McGill University, University of Alberta, University of Toronto, University of Western Ontario
Intermediate Statistics or Quantitative Methods	Université d'Ottawa, Université Laval
Physiology or Human Anatomy	Université d'Ottawa, Université Laval
Linguistics	Université d'Ottawa, Université Laval
Basic Principles in Physics or the Analysis of Sound	Université d'Ottawa
Preference for courses in general phonetics or phonetics-phonology	Université d'Ottawa, Université Laval
Relevant course in psychology such as child development, ageing or perception.	Université d'Ottawa, Université Laval
Phonetics	University of Alberta, University of British Columbia, University of Toronto
Child Development	Université Laval, University of Alberta
Physiology	Université Laval, University of Toronto
Developmental Psychology	Université Laval, University of Alberta, University of British Columbia, University of Toronto, University of Western Ontario
Theories of Learning	Université Laval
Neuroanatomy or Neuropsychology	Université Laval, University of Alberta, University of British Columbia
Sensation/Perception	Université Laval
Research Methods	University of British Columbia
Other courses	Université de Montréal, University of British Columbia, University of Western Ontario

### Other Courses

#### McGill University

Courses in neuroscience, physiology, anatomy and physics may be counted toward 3 of 18 credits required in linguistics and psychology provided 6 Linguistics credits and 6 psychology credits have been completed.

#### Université de Montréal

Students admitted to our Master's program must have completed a Bachelor's degree in speech pathology or it's equivalent (for foreign students.)

**Université d'Ottawa**

Syntax in morphology or morphosyntax (3 credits) at the 3000 level or courses in linguistics preferably in semantics, language acquisition, bilingualism, neurolinguistics or psycholinguistics (3 credits.)

**University of Alberta**

Child Language Development/Acquisition or First Language Development; Cognitive Psychology (replaces a previous requirement of Theories of Learning.)

**University of British Columbia**

Cognitive Psychology or Psycholinguistics; Syntax; Speech Science; Language Acquisition; Neurolinguistics. Courses should be at the 300-400 level when possible.

**University of Western Ontario**

Full preparatory year for student entering without an undergraduate degree in communication sciences - courses include: Phonetics, Speech Science, Language Acquisition, Intro to Communication Disorders, Intro to Audiology, Hearing Science, Anatomy, Theory to Practice.

Table 5  
Minimum GPA Requirement For Entry Into the Clinical/Professional Master's Degree Program

University	
Dalhousie University	3.0
McGill University	3.0
Université de Montréal	3.0
Université d'Ottawa	Minimum B average (70%)
Université Laval	3.5
University of Alberta	3.5
University of British Columbia	Minimum B average
University of Toronto	3.0
University of Western Ontario	Minimum B average

Table 6  
What Information/Documentation is required for a Complete Application  
to the Clinical/Professional Master's Degree in Speech-Language Pathology?

University	Transcripts	Letters <sup>6</sup>	Application Fee	Personal Statement	Language Proficiency <sup>7</sup>	Other
Dalhousie University	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ <sup>8</sup>
McGill University	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ <sup>9</sup>
Université de Montréal	✓		✓		✓	
Université d'Ottawa	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓ <sup>10</sup>
Université Laval	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓ <sup>11</sup>
University of Alberta	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ <sup>12</sup>
University of British Columbia	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
University of Toronto	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ <sup>13</sup>
University of Western Ontario	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ <sup>14</sup>
Total	9	7	9	7	9	7

Table 7  
Due Date for Submitting an Application to the Clinical/Professional Master's Degree  
in Speech-Language Pathology

University	Due Date
Dalhousie University	Mid January
McGill University	Feb 1
Université de Montréal	Feb 22
Université d'Ottawa	Feb 5 or anytime
Université Laval	Feb 22
University of Alberta	Feb 15
University of British Columbia	Feb 28 <sup>15</sup>
University of Toronto	Mid January
University of Western Ontario	Mid January

<sup>6</sup> Academic letters of reference

<sup>7</sup> Language proficiency test if necessary

<sup>8</sup> Applicants must provide a resume with their application.

<sup>9</sup> Pre-requisite form Information form

<sup>10</sup> Electronic form - admission checklist

<sup>11</sup> Interview

<sup>12</sup> GRE

<sup>13</sup> Clinical letter of reference based on volunteer experience

<sup>14</sup> Clinical letter of reference from the 14 hours of supervised volunteer clinical experience.

<sup>15</sup> Qualified applicants wishing to apply for financial support should submit their application by mid-January

**Other Program Entry Issues or required information for the Clinical/Professional Master's Degree in Speech-Language Pathology**

Dalhousie University - Affirmative action admission policy

Université de Montréal – the university offers French courses

Université Laval - Admission in complementary schooling (admission en scolarité complémentaire)

University of British Columbia - In exceptional circumstances, candidates who have not fulfilled the minimum course requirements by the time they submit their application are allowed to fulfill their minimum requirements before the beginning of the first term in September.

University of Toronto - Language proficiency test for non-native speakers of English/French, if necessary

University of Western Ontario - Provide information about how to meet the deficient portion of the application process, provide guidance

Table 8  
Length, in Months, for Completion of the Clinical/Professional Master's Degree  
in Speech-Language Pathology

University	Actual Length of Program	Average Time for Part-Time Students
Dalhousie University	23	n/a
McGill University	15	n/a
Université de Montréal	not reported	n/a
Université d'Ottawa	24	n/a
Université Laval	20	n/a
University of Alberta	23	n/a
University of British Columbia	26	n/a
University of Toronto	22	48
University of Western Ontario	20	n/a
Average	21.6	n/a

Table 9  
Graduation Requirements for the Clinical/Professional Master's Degree  
in Speech-Language Pathology

University	Mandatory Courses	Clinical Practicum	Research Project	Comprehensive Literature Review	Thesis (Optional)
Dalhousie University	✓	✓			✓
McGill University	✓	✓			✓
Université de Montréal	✓	✓		✓	
Université d'Ottawa	✓	✓	✓		
Université Laval	✓	✓	✓	✓	
University of Alberta	✓	✓	✓		✓
University of British Columbia	✓	✓		✓	✓
University of Toronto	✓	✓			
University of Western Ontario	✓	✓		✓	✓
Total	9	9	3	4	5

Table 10  
Number of Seats Currently Available (2007) for the Clinical/Professional Master's  
Degree in Speech-Language Pathology (First year)

University	Seats
Dalhousie University	23
McGill University	27
Université de Montréal	55
Université d'Ottawa	18
Université Laval	36
University of Alberta	44
University of British Columbia	23
University of Toronto	45
University of Western Ontario	30
Total	301

Table 11  
Year 1 Student Numbers in the Clinical/Professional Master's Degree  
in Speech-Language Pathology (2007)

University	Full-Time
Dalhousie University	23
McGill University	28
Université de Montréal	55
Université d'Ottawa	18
Université Laval	36
University of Alberta	44
University of British Columbia	22
University of Toronto	45
University of Western Ontario	30
Total	301

The University of Alberta was the only program reporting one part-time student.

Table 12  
Applications in 2006 - 2007 Year to the Clinical/Professional Master's Degree  
in Speech-Language Pathology

University	Applications
Dalhousie University	not reported
McGill University	233
Université de Montréal	65
Université d'Ottawa	71
Université Laval	168
University of Alberta	153
University of British Columbia	146
University of Toronto	269
University of Western Ontario	248
Total	1353

Table 13  
Numbers of Recent and Projected Graduates from the Clinical/Professional Master's  
Degree in Speech-Language Pathology

University	2006 -2007	2007-2008	2008-2009
Dalhousie University	23	23	25
McGill University	19	21	28
Université de Montréal	48	55	56
Université d'Ottawa	17	16	18
Université Laval	24	26	34
University of Alberta	40	40	44
University of British Columbia	18	19	22
University of Toronto	40	41	39
University of Western Ontario	30	36	36
Total	259	277	302

Table 14  
Attrition in 2006-2007 from the Clinical/Professional Master's Degree  
in Speech-Language Pathology

University	Number of Students
Dalhousie University	0
McGill University	2
Université de Montréal	0
Université d'Ottawa	0
Université Laval	3
University of Alberta	0
University of British Columbia	0
University of Toronto	0
University of Western Ontario	0
Total	5

Table 15  
Student Age on Entry to the Clinical/Professional Master's Degree in Speech-Language Pathology

University	20-25	26-30	31-35	36-40	41-45	46-50	50 and over
Dalhousie University							
McGill University	21	3	2		1	1	
Université de Montréal	48	6					1
Université d'Ottawa							
Université Laval	12	20	4				
University of Alberta	28	8	3		2		
University of British Columbia							
University of Toronto	32	4	3				
University of Western Ontario	24	6					
Total	165	47	12	0	3	1	1

Table 16  
At What Time of the Year do Your Students Normally Complete all Clinical/Professional Master's Degree in Speech-Language Pathology?

University	Time of Year
Dalhousie University	Spring & Summer
McGill University	Fall
Université de Montréal	Summer
Université d'Ottawa	Summer
Université Laval	Summer
University of Alberta	Summer
University of British Columbia	Summer
University of Toronto	Summer
University of Western Ontario	Summer

All programs reported a clinical placement requirement for the Clinical/Professional Master's degree in speech-language pathology. Clinical placements ranged from 16 to 40 weeks.

Table 17  
Average Number of Weeks of Clinical Placements in the Clinical/Professional Master's Degree  
in Speech-Language Pathology

University	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Dalhousie University		32	12	44
McGill University	4	12		16
Université de Montréal	16			16
Université d'Ottawa	4	22		26
Université Laval	2.5	16		18.5
University of Alberta	7	25 - 33		32 - 40 (36)
University of British Columbia	13	12		25
University of Toronto	12	18		30
University of Western Ontario	28	28		56
Average	10.8	20.6 <sup>16</sup>	12	29.7 <sup>17</sup>

All programs have a final full-time clinical placement (i.e. externship) after the student has completed all academic coursework in the Clinical/Professional Master's degree in speech-language pathology.

Table 18  
Total Number of Weeks in the Final Placement

University	Weeks
Dalhousie University	12
McGill University	12
Université de Montréal	10
Université d'Ottawa	12
Université Laval	11
University of Alberta	24-32
University of British Columbia	8
University of Toronto	10
University of Western Ontario	12
Average	12.3 <sup>18</sup>

<sup>16</sup> This calculation is based on 25 weeks of clinical placement for the University of Alberta.

<sup>17</sup> This calculation based on 36 weeks of placement for the University of Alberta

<sup>18</sup> This calculation is based on 24 weeks of placement at the University of Alberta.

Table 19  
Timeframe for the Final Clinical Placement in the Clinical/Professional Master's Degree  
in Speech-Language Pathology

University	Timeframe
Dalhousie University	Winter
McGill University	Summer
Université de Montréal	Spring
Université d'Ottawa	Spring
Université Laval	Spring
University of Alberta	All external placements are undertaken after all academic courses are completed (Jan – Aug of Year 2)
University of British Columbia	Summer
University of Toronto	Summer
University of Western Ontario	Summer

Table 20  
Plans to Change the Number of Weeks for the Clinical Placement in the Clinical/Professional  
Master's Degree in Speech-Language Pathology

University	Increase	Keep As Is
Dalhousie University		✓
McGill University		✓ <sup>19</sup>
Université de Montréal		✓ <sup>20</sup>
Université d'Ottawa		✓
Université Laval	✓	
University of Alberta		✓
University of British Columbia		✓
University of Toronto		✓
University of Western Ontario		✓ <sup>21</sup>
Total	1	8

<sup>19</sup> Our students receive ample quality and quantity clinical placement (i.e. hours and experiences) in the current situation.

<sup>20</sup> Altogether in their training in speech pathology our students get 110 days of practicum - 105 days in speech pathology and 5 days in audiology.

<sup>21</sup> Students may take additional optional weeks of clinical placement

Table 21  
Difficulties in Finding Clinical Placements for the Clinical/Professional Master's Degree  
in Speech-Language Pathology

University	Yes
Dalhousie University	No difficulty
McGill University	Competition with Université de Montréal (same city) and Université de Laval - competition with other programs in Canada, 2/3 of our students are from out of province - often students are unilingual or not sufficiently bilingual to undertake a practicum in province of Quebec, or in Montreal -not enough access to specialty placements (e.g. dysphagia, fluency, voice, etc.)
Université de Montréal	In Quebec there are three universities offering a speech pathology program so we are competing for clinical placements. There is also a shortage of speech pathologists in Quebec. To add to the situation we have no financial support to provide distance placements.
Université d'Ottawa	Yes
Université Laval	Yes
University of Alberta	We have most difficulty finding placements with adult clients in rehab settings (e.g., adult neurogenics, voice, fluency, aural rehab).
University of British Columbia	There is a general shortage of placements. There is a particularly severe shortage of adult/hospital placements for our students.
University of Toronto	We have difficulty finding voice, fluency, and audiology/aural rehabilitation placements
University of Western Ontario	Difficulty if student seeks placement in a particular location/city. Competition for clinical placements in Toronto/Vancouver areas
Total	8 answered "yes" to difficulty finding clinical placements

All programs reported accepting applications from graduates of universities outside of Canada for the Clinical/Professional Master's degree in speech-language pathology.

University of Alberta, University of Toronto and McGill University reported offering a non-clinical/research master's degree program. The Université d'Ottawa offers a certificate in auditory verbal therapy.

## Non-clinical/ Research Master's Degree

The University of Alberta's non-clinical/research master's degree is the M.Sc. in rehabilitation science. Speech-language pathology is one of several possible areas of research focus. Students who possess a recognized clinical practice credential at the time of entry or who, after admission and prior to graduation, acquire such a credential on the basis of their work in a previous degree program will be able to denote their area of emphasis on their M.Sc.-RS degree with the following specific designations under Field of Specialization: Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology or Aging.

The University of Alberta and the University of Toronto require a Minimum GPA of 3.0. for entry into the Non-Clinical/Research Master's degree program in speech-language pathology.

McGill University has five seats currently available for the Non-Clinical/Research Master's degree program in speech-language pathology.

Table 22

What Information is Required for a Complete Application to a Non-Clinical/Research Master's Degree Program in Speech-Language Pathology?

University	Transcripts	Letters <sup>22</sup>	Application Fee	Personal Statement	Language Proficiency <sup>23</sup>	Other
McGill University	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ <sup>24</sup>
University of Alberta	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ <sup>25</sup>
University of Toronto	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ <sup>26</sup>
Total	3	3	3	3	3	3

There is no specified due date for submitting an application to the Non-Clinical/Research Master's degree programs in speech-language pathology.

The length for Completion of the Non-Clinical/Research Master's degree program in speech-language pathology at the University of Toronto is 24 months.

Both the University of Toronto and the University of Alberta require mandatory courses and a thesis to graduate from the Non-Clinical/Research Master's degree program in speech-language pathology.

<sup>22</sup> Academic letters of reference.

<sup>23</sup> Language proficiency test if necessary

<sup>24</sup> Detailed statement of research goals and interests

<sup>25</sup> GRE

<sup>26</sup> Examples of written work

Table 23  
Student Numbers in the Non-Clinical/Research Master's Degree Program in Speech-Language Pathology

University	Full-Time
McGill University	1
University of Alberta	
University of Toronto	2
Total	3

There were no part-time students reported.

Table 24  
Applications in 2006 - 2007 Year to the Non-Clinical/Research Master's Degree Program in Speech-Language Pathology

University	Applications
McGill University	2
University of Alberta	
University of Toronto	2
Total	4

Table 25  
Numbers of Recent and Projected Graduates from the Non-Clinical/Research Master's Degree Program in Speech-Language Pathology

University	2006 -2007	2007-2008	2008-2009
McGill University			1
University of Alberta		1	
University of Toronto	2		
Total	2	1	1

Table 26  
Student Age on Entry to the Non-Clinical/Research Master's Degree Program in Speech-Language Pathology

University	20-25	26-30	31-35
McGill University	Information not available		
University of Alberta	Information not available		
University of Toronto	2		3
Total	2		3

There was no attrition reported in 2006-2007 from the Non-Clinical/Research Master's Degree Program in Speech-Language Pathology.

Students at the University of Toronto and McGill University normally complete all Non-Clinical/Research Master's degree program requirements in speech-language pathology in the spring.

None of the universities reported having a clinical placement requirement.

The universities of Toronto, Alberta and McGill accept applications from graduates of universities outside of Canada for the Non-Clinical/Research Master's degree program in speech-language pathology.

## PhD Degree

Table 27  
Title of PhD Degree Program in Speech-Language Pathology

University	Speech-Language Pathology
Dalhousie University	Interdisciplinary Studies
McGill University	Communication Science and Disorders
Université de Montréal	The "Sciences biomédicales" program of the faculty of Medicine, so is the audiology PhD program.
Université Laval	Experimental medicine
University of Alberta	PhD in Rehabilitation Sciences — students may concentrate in any one of a number of professional disciplines, including SLP and audiology, or they may come from a non-clinical background.
University of British Columbia	Audiology and Speech Sciences
University of Toronto	Speech-Language Pathology
University of Western Ontario	Speech-Language Pathology and Rehabilitation Science

Table 28  
Previous Degrees

University	Bachelor's not in Speech-Language Pathology	Bachelor's in Speech-Language Pathology	Clinical/Professional Master's in Speech-Language Pathology	Non-Clinical/Research Master's in Speech-Language Pathology
Dalhousie University		✓	✓	
McGill University	✓			
Université de Montréal		✓	✓	✓
Université Laval			✓	✓
University of Alberta	✓	✓	✓	✓
University of British Columbia	✓	✓	✓	
University of Toronto		✓	✓ <sup>27</sup>	
University of Western Ontario		✓	✓	
Total	3	6	7	3

<sup>27</sup> With qualifying research paper

University of British Columbia and Western Ontario require volunteer experience. University of British Columbia also requires evidence of research ability as shown by a Master's thesis or equivalent, and positive evaluations of research potential by three referees, who are themselves researchers. The University of Toronto requires a Master's thesis or equivalent in research publications.

### **Mandatory Courses**

Université de Montréal

- Statistics (6 credits each)
- Intermediate Statistics or Quantitative Methods (3 credits)
- Research Methods

### **Other Courses**

University of Alberta

Students must have a Master's degree in a discipline of rehabilitation or a related field (engineering, ergonomics, kinematics, public health, psychology, nursing or medicine), or the equivalent of an honours baccalaureate degree in rehabilitation or a related field.

University of Toronto

One required half-course in research methods plus one half-course in statistics; two additional half courses in related field.

Table 29  
Minimum GPA Requirement For Entry Into the PhD Degree Program  
in Speech-Language Pathology

University	No Minimum
Dalhousie University	Interdisciplinary PhD candidates must achieve the entrance requirements specific to the program as mandated by the Faculty of Graduate studies.
McGill University	3.0
Université de Montréal <sup>28</sup>	They have to have a GPA of 3.3. Students have to identify their research topic and their supervisor. The supervisor must have an accreditation by the faculty of Graduate studies.
Université Laval	No minimum
University of Alberta <sup>29</sup>	3.0 Admission is also contingent upon the availability of a doctoral supervisor on the academic staff.
University of British Columbia	A first-class (A) average based on relevant graduate and senior undergraduate courses, with first-class standing in at least 18 credits of graduate work.
University of Toronto	3.0
University of Western Ontario	No minimum specified

<sup>28</sup> They have to have a GPA of 3.3. Students have to identify their research topic and their supervisor. The supervisor must have an accreditation by the Faculty of Graduate Studies.

<sup>29</sup> Admission is also contingent upon the availability of a doctoral supervisor on the academic staff.

Table 30  
What Information is Required for a Complete Application to a PhD Degree Program  
in Speech-Language Pathology?

University	Transcripts	Letters <sup>30</sup>	Application Fee	Personal Statement	Qualifying Test <sup>31</sup>	Language Proficiency <sup>32</sup>	Other
Dalhousie University	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓ <sup>33</sup>
McGill University	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓ <sup>34</sup>
Université de Montréal	✓	✓	✓				
Université Laval	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓ <sup>35</sup>
University of Alberta	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ <sup>36</sup>
University of British Columbia	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓ <sup>37</sup>
University of Toronto	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓ <sup>38</sup>
University of Western Ontario	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Total	8	8	8	7	1	6	7

Table 31  
Due Date for Submitting an Application to the PhD Degree Program in Speech-Language  
Pathology

University	Mid January
Dalhousie University	Anytime
McGill University	Feb 22
Université de Montréal	Mid-January and June 1
Université Laval	Anytime
University of Alberta	Anytime
University of British Columbia	Anytime
University of Toronto	Anytime
University of Western Ontario	Anytime

Dalhousie University has an affirmative action admission policy for the PhD degree program in speech-language pathology, i.e. for Aboriginal students, African-Canadian students, etc).

<sup>30</sup> Academic letters of reference

<sup>31</sup> SAT or other qualifying test

<sup>32</sup> Language proficiency test if necessary

<sup>33</sup> Applicants must submit all information required by the Faculty of Graduate Studies. Funding is required for all PhD candidates. All admissions are managed by the Faculty of Graduate Studies.

<sup>34</sup> Detailed statement of research goals and interests

<sup>35</sup> Detailed statement of research goals and interests

<sup>36</sup> Admission is also contingent upon the availability of a doctoral supervisor on the academic staff.

<sup>37</sup> Application should be submitted using the online application process at: <http://www.grad.ubc.ca/apply/online/>

<sup>38</sup> Examples of written research manuscripts or papers

Table 32  
Length, in Months, for Completion of the PhD Degree Program

University	Actual Length of Program
Dalhousie University	No response
McGill University	49
Université de Montréal	37
Université Laval	36
University of Alberta	Varies
University of British Columbia	61
University of Toronto	48
University of Western Ontario	37
Average	44.7

Only the Université de Montréal reported part-time students in the PhD program.

Table 33  
Graduation Requirements for the PhD Degree Program

University	Mandatory Courses	Research Project	Comprehensive Literature Review	Thesis	Dissertation
Dalhousie University	✓		✓		✓
McGill University	✓	✓	✓		✓
Université de Montréal	✓	✓	✓		✓
Université Laval	✓	✓	✓		✓
University of Alberta	✓				✓
University of British Columbia	✓	✓	✓		✓
University of Toronto <sup>39</sup>	✓			✓	✓
University of Western Ontario	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Total	8	5	6	2	8

Table 34  
Number of Seats Currently Available for the PhD Degree Program (Year 1)

University	Seats
Dalhousie University	None specified
McGill University	Open
Université de Montréal	5
Université Laval	Variable
University of Alberta	Open
University of British Columbia	3
University of Toronto	11
University of Western Ontario	None specified
Total	19

<sup>39</sup> The University of Toronto has comprehensive examinations.

Table 35  
Student Numbers in the PhD Degree Program (Year 1)

University	Full-Time
Dalhousie University	
McGill University	2
Université de Montréal	4
University of Alberta	4 <sup>40</sup>
Université Laval	
University of British Columbia	1
University of Toronto	14 <sup>41</sup>
University of Western Ontario	5
Total	30

No part-time students were reported.

Table 36  
Applications in 2006 - 2007 Year to the PhD Degree Program (Year 1)

University	Applications
Dalhousie University	
McGill University	5
Université de Montréal	1
Université Laval	
University of Alberta	2
University of British Columbia	2
University of Toronto	1
University of Western Ontario	5
Total	16

<sup>40</sup> Reflects number of PhD-RS students with research focus in S-LP.

<sup>41</sup> Refers to all students in years 1 through 5.

Table 37  
Numbers of Recent and Projected Graduates from the PhD Degree Program

University	2006 -2007	2007-2008	2008-2009
Dalhousie University			
McGill University		3	3
Université de Montréal	1		1
Université Laval			
University of Alberta		1	1
University of British Columbia	3	1	2
University of Toronto	1	1	1
University of Western Ontario			
Total	5	6	8

There is very limited attrition reported from the PhD programs with only one reported from McGill University.

The Université de Montréal reported having three students between 31 and 35 years of age in the PhD program. No age data was available for other programs.

Table 38  
At What Time of Year do Your Students Normally Complete all PhD Degree Program Requirements?

University	Fall
Dalhousie University	
McGill University	Summer
Université de Montréal	Fall
Université Laval	Varies
University of Alberta	Varies
University of British Columbia <sup>42</sup>	Fall or Spring
University of Toronto	Varies
University of Western Ontario	Summer

All programs reported accepting applications from graduates of universities outside of Canada for PhD Degree Programs.

<sup>42</sup> Graduation date is either spring or fall.



# InfoFeedback

1916, Tupper  
Montreal, Quebec  
Canada, H3N 1N5  
[www.InfoFeedback.com](http://www.InfoFeedback.com)  
[Info@InfoFeedback.com](mailto:Info@InfoFeedback.com)  
Tel: 514.932.9961  
Fax: 514.932.1196

