



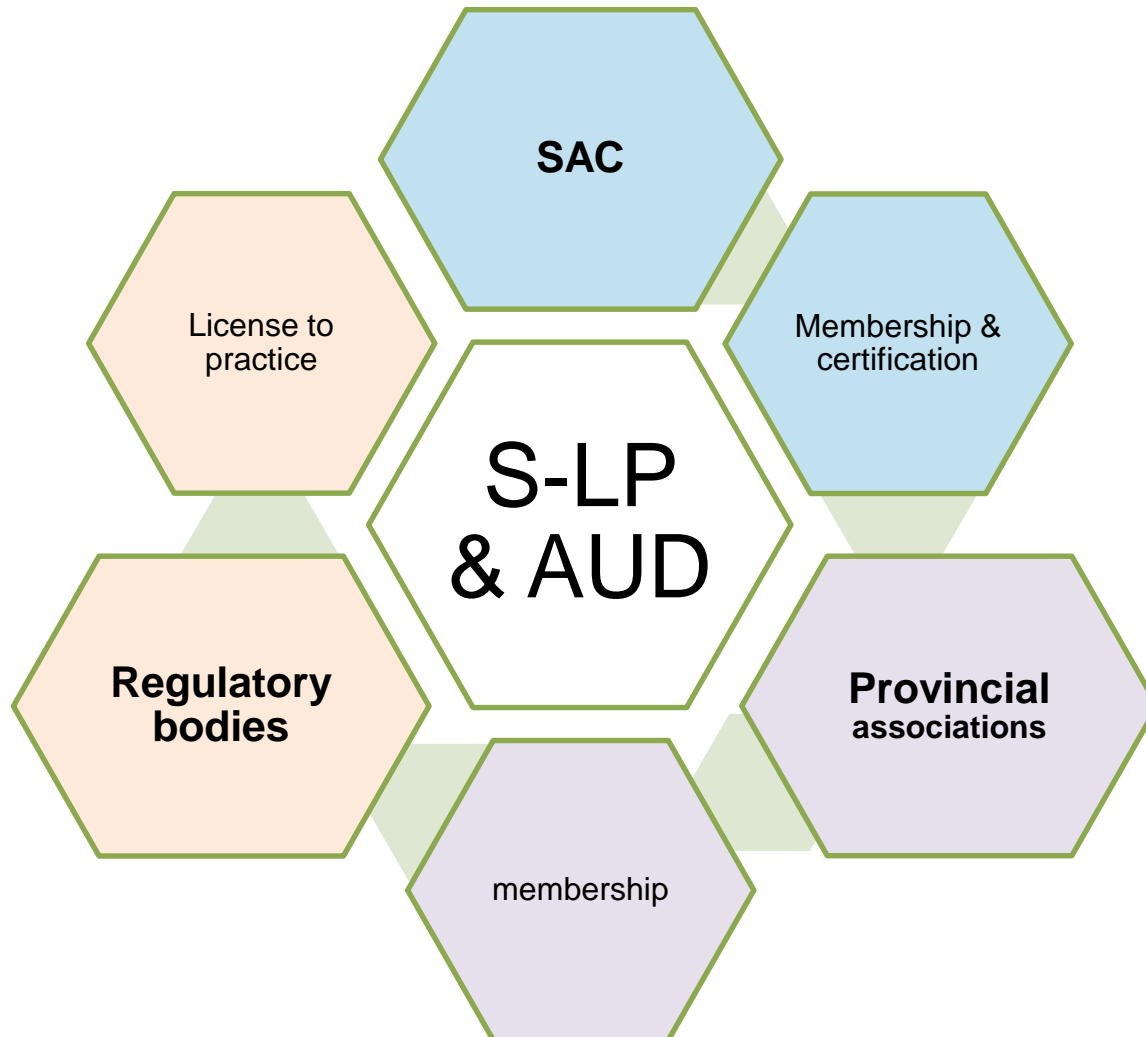
Speech-Language &
Audiology Canada
Communicating care

We are Speech-Language and Audiology Canada (SAC), a member-driven organization that supports, promotes and elevates the professions of our members. We are the only national organization passionately supporting and representing Canada's speech-language pathologists, audiologists and communication health assistants inclusively.

Lauren Mann
Manager of Clinical Certification and Exams

Your profession...your future

The big picture



CCUP

Canadian Council of University Programs

CAASPR

Canadian Alliance of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Regulators

CACUP

Council for Accreditation of Canadian University Programs in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology

PCA

Pan-Canadian Alliance of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Professional Associations

SAC is a member-driven organization that ***supports, promotes*** and ***elevates*** the professions of our members and associates.

We are the only national organization passionately supporting and representing speech-language pathologists, audiologists and communication health assistants inclusively. Through this support, we champion the needs of people with communication disorders.

- \$33,000+ in scholarships for SAC student associates every year
- Annual awards given out to students across Canada with cash prizes
- The ability to present your research at our national conference (with funds available to get you there!)
- Become a student rep, working group member or even our next Director-Student

- Contribute to *Student Speak* (national student newsletter), *Communiqué* (award-winning blog), or even CJSLPA (National Professional Journal)
- Career Development Program - get paired up with a mentor after graduation
- 50% off your first full year of membership with SAC (\$150+ in savings)
- 1 year FREE professional liability insurance (\$700+ in savings)

Joining SAC



Speech-Language &
Audiology Canada
Communicating care

Student Associate fee

\$75

It's not too late!

What else does SAC do?



Speech-Language &
Audiology Canada
Communicating care

- Your voice on Parliament Hill
- Public campaigns to raise awareness and promote the professions
- Industry-leading continuing education
- Professional resources and tool kits
- Professional publications and policy statements
- Networking opportunities
- Professional liability insurance

SAC Public Awareness Campaign



Speech-Language &
Audiology Canada
Communicating care

"I'll never forget the look on Sara's face when she heard her mom's voice for the first time. Audiology isn't just my job; it's my privilege."

– SAC Member



Audiologists help children with hearing loss.
CommunicationHealth.ca



"When Paul could finally say 'I love you' to his wife again, we all cried a little bit. Speech-language pathology isn't just my job; it's my privilege."

– SAC Member



Speech-language pathologists help people express themselves after a stroke.
CommunicationHealth.ca



SAC Public Awareness Campaign



Speech-Language & Audiology Canada
Communicating care



LET'S TALK

about swallowing disorders

Swallowing disorders, also known as *dysphagia (dis-fay-juh)*, affect a person's ability to safely swallow drinks, food & medication.

Left untreated, swallowing disorders can have devastating effects on a person's physical and emotional wellbeing.

Speech-language pathologists are the professionals who assess and treat swallowing disorders.

The second Wednesday in May is

SWALLOWING AWARENESS
Day

This checklist may help identify a swallowing disorder:

- I have had choking episodes when drinking or eating.
- It is difficult for me to swallow my medication.
- It feels as though food is stuck in my throat.
- I am embarrassed to eat in public. Eating is no longer pleasurable.
- I avoid certain foods or drinks because I know they will cause me difficulty.
- It is hard for me to chew my food.
- Food, drinks or saliva fall from my mouth during meals or when sitting quietly.



DO YOU HEAR
Ringing?
Buzzing?
Chirping?
Whistling?

It's probably
TINNITUS.

Tinnitus affects about 17% of the population.

Tinnitus is the perception of sound when no external source is present.

In severe cases, tinnitus is debilitating and may cause headaches, tiredness, insomnia, anxiety, irritability and depression.

Tinnitus can be caused by hearing loss, noise exposure and medications; however, in about 40% of cases, the cause is unknown.

AUDIOLOGISTS CAN HELP.



Speech-Language & Audiology Canada
Communicating care

Find a speech-language pathologist near you at
communicationhealth.ca



Speech & Hearing Month
Speak well. Hear well. Live well.

May is Speech and Hearing Month
maymonth.ca

If you, or someone you know, is experiencing tinnitus, contact an audiologist today for an assessment.

Find an audiologist near you at communicationhealth.ca



Speech-Language & Audiology Canada
Orthophonie et Audiologie Canada
Communicating care | Lacommunication.ca



Speech & Hearing Month
Speak well. Hear well. Live well.
maymonth.ca

Clinical Certification by the numbers



Speech-Language &
Audiology Canada
Communicating care

1964

Start of SAC (CASLPA)

1987

**Start of Certification
Programme**

80

**Number of candidates who
wrote first exam**

6927

**Number of exam candidates
since 1987**

In 2017

90%

Of SAC members are clinically
certified

What is SAC Clinical Certification?

- A nationally and internationally recognized credential for Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists.
- A credentialing programme that is backed by 30 years of knowledge and clinical expertise.
- Those who earn this credential meet the highest standards of excellence in their professions.

Clinical Certification... Why?



Speech-Language &
Audiology Canada
Communicating care

Clinical Certification can be an important step in your career development.

Indicates to employers and patients/clients that the professional is committed to;

- **Achieving quality and excellence in their profession**
- **Going beyond the minimum requirement**
- **Meeting rigorous academic and professional standards**
- **Maintaining currency through continuing education**

Clinical Certification... Why?



Speech-Language &
Audiology Canada
Communicating care

Clinical certification

- Is a standard that consumers may prefer in a private practitioner
- Can differentiate you in the workplace
- Can be required by some private insurers for reimbursement
- Can set you apart from the crowd!

Clinical Certification... Why?



Speech-Language &
Audiology Canada
Communicating care

HELPING YOU GO GLOBAL!

Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) signed in 2009 between SAC and;

- American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA)
- Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists (RCSLT)
- Speech Pathology Australia (SPA)
- New Zealand Speech-Language Therapists' Association (NZSLTA)
- Irish Association of Speech and Language Therapists (IASLT)

What are the requirements for clinical certification?



Speech-Language &
Audiology Canada
Communicating care

Steps to Achieving SAC Clinical Certification

Write and pass the SAC clinical certification exam

Submit your signed clinical hours form to SAC

Submit your master's degree transcripts to SAC

These steps must all be done within the same year of passing the exam.

Clinical Certification: What does it mean?



Speech-Language &
Audiology Canada
Communicating care

The SAC Clinical Certification Credential shows employers and clients that the professional;

- has completed a master's or doctoral degree from an accredited academic programme
- completed 350 hours of supervised clinical practice
- passed an entry-to-practice level examination and
- engages in annual continuing education in order to maintain SAC clinical certification.

The Credential



Speech-Language &
Audiology Canada
Communicating care

S-LP(C)
Aud(C)

A professional's name will appear with one the above credentials to indicate that the professional is an SAC certified speech-language pathologist or audiologist.

Then What?

To maintain clinical certification, you must;

- Maintain your annual membership with SAC
- Meet the required 45 continuing education equivalents (CEEs) for each three-year cycle

What type of professional development activities are accepted?

- Conferences and workshops
- University level courses
- Interest groups
- Clinical education (student supervision)
- Professional publications
- Presentations
- Committee participation
- Conferences and workshops in related areas
- Online learning

Clinical Certification



Speech-Language &
Audiology Canada
Communicating care

is...

- An investment in your future
- A commitment to excellence
- Important to your career development
- A highly-valued qualification
- An internationally recognized credential
- A voluntary program

The Certification Exams



Speech-Language &
Audiology Canada
Communicating care

What you need to know...

- 200 multiple choice questions
- 4 hour exam
- available in French and English
- Based on the SAC ***Foundations document***
- Clinically based questions
- Tests knowledge and critical thinking

More facts...

- Exams are designed to examine broad, entry-level clinical knowledge
- Exam questions are revised and reviewed annually
- Exams are developed by committees of audiologists and speech-language pathologists

Exam Blueprint Audiology



Speech-Language &
Audiology Canada
Communicating care

Basic Requirements.....	4–8%
Prevention, Evaluation and Diagnosis.....	30–40%
Client Management.....	30–40%
Neonatal and Infant Populations.....	6–8%
Pre-school and School Populations.....	6–8%
Profoundly Hearing Impaired.....	3–5%
The Aging Population.....	6–8%
Occupational Hearing Loss.....	1–3%
Professional Practice.....	1–3%

Exam Blueprint Speech-Language Pathology



Speech-Language &
Audiology Canada
Communicating care

Basic Requirements.....	8–10%
Principles of Clinical and Professional Practice.....	4.–6%
Developmental Articulation/Phonology.....	11–15%
Neurologically Based Speech Disorders.....	7–9%
Developmental Language Disorders.....	20–23%
Acquired Language Disorders.....	10–12%
Voice Disorders.....	7–9%
Resonance Disorders.....	3–5%
Fluency Disorders.....	7–9%
Augmentative/Alternate Communication.....	3–5%
Hearing and Related Disorders.....	3–5%
Dysphagia.....	7–9%

Question Types



Speech-Language &
Audiology Canada
Communicating care

- One answer multiple choice
- Case-based scenarios

The Questions

- Single answer multiple choice questions have a stem and four options, of which only **ONE** is correct.
- Remaining alternatives called distractors are not necessarily wrong
- Distractors are less correct than the best answer
- Candidate must differentiate between the alternatives and choose the best answer

Example # 1

Velopharyngeal inadequacy may compromise the ability to build up intra-oral air pressure during speech. Which consonant sound will be most noticeably affected?

1. /j/
2. /r/
3. /m/
4. /s/

And the answer is?



Speech-Language &
Audiology Canada
Communicating care

Velopharyngeal inadequacy may compromise the ability to build up intra-oral air pressure during speech. Which consonant sound will be most noticeably affected?

1. /j/
2. /r/
3. /m/
4. /s/

Example # 2

Which of the following conditions places a child at greater risk for otitis media?

1. **Apert syndrome**
2. **Cleft palate**
3. **Congenital rubella**
4. **Usher's syndrome**

And the answer is?



Speech-Language &
Audiology Canada
Communicating care

Which of the following conditions places a child at greater risk for otitis media?

1. Apert syndrome
- 2. Cleft palate**
3. Congenital rubella
4. Usher's syndrome

Exam Results



Speech-Language &
Audiology Canada
Communicating care

- Exams are marked at Yardstick Assessment Strategies Inc. (YASI)
- Results are kept confidential
- University programmes are notified on performance of students as a group
- Results are received 4-6 weeks post-exam
- Certificates are sent to successful candidates who have completed all the requirements for certification

Passing Score



Speech-Language &
Audiology Canada
Communicating care

- The scores are standardized
- The passing score is 330 on a scale ranging from a minimum of 100 to a maximum of 550
- You have passed if your overall score is 330 or above
- You have not been successful if your overall score is less than 330.

Passing Rates



Speech-Language &
Audiology Canada
Communicating care

Passing rates for the last 5 years

2012 : 91.5 %

2013 : 89.8 %

2014 : 87.1 %

2015 : 82.9 %

2016 : 87.5 %

Who is eligible to write the exam?

- Student associates of SAC
- Students in a Canadian Communication Disorders programme, or
- Full members of SAC, or
- Candidates identified by a regulatory body

What are the criteria?

- Academic coursework must be completed
- Clinical practice hours should be completed

Suggestions for Exam Preparation

- Review sample questions (SAC website)
- Review exam blueprint
- Review the ***Foundations Document***
- Group study
- Praxis sample examination

When?



Speech-Language &
Audiology Canada
Communicating care

Upcoming Exam Dates

March 24, 2018

September 8, 2018

When and How?



Speech-Language &
Audiology Canada
Communicating care

Deadlines for application

January 31 for the spring exam
June 30 for the fall exam

www.sac-oac.ca

When and How?



Speech-Language &
Audiology Canada
Communicating care

Deadlines for changes, postponements & cancellations

Spring:
February 15

changes/postponements
cancellations (\$50 refund)
cancellations (50%refund)

March 10

Fall:
July 31

changes/postponements
cancellations (\$50 refund)
cancellations (50%refund)

August 20

Where?

Exam sites

- 16 designated sites in Canada

Alberta

- Calgary
- Edmonton

British Columbia

- Vancouver

Manitoba

- Winnipeg

New Brunswick

- Moncton

Newfoundland

- St. John's

Nova Scotia

- Halifax

Northwest Territories

- Yellowknife

Ontario

- London
- Ottawa
- Toronto

Prince Edward Island

- Charlottetown

Quebec

- Montreal
- Quebec City

Saskatchewan

- Regina

Yukon

- Whitehorse

Where?

Exam sites

- Non-designated sites (examples)
 - Canada
 - The United States
 - The United Kingdom
 - Australia
 - South Africa

How Much?



Speech-Language &
Audiology Canada
Communicating care

Exam fees

Designated site

Members and student associates.....	\$587.00
Non-members (requested by regulatory body).....	\$1,050

Non-designated site (Canada and international)

Members and student associates.....	\$787
Non-members (requested by regulatory body).....	\$1,250

New Canadian Entry-to-Practice Exam (CETP) Exam



Speech-Language &
Audiology Canada
Communicating care

Speech-Language & Audiology Canada (SAC) is proud to announce that it has reached an agreement with the Canadian Alliance of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Regulators (CAASPR) to develop and administer Canada's first entry-to-practice exam for speech-language pathologists and audiologists.

As the national professional association of speech-language pathologists, audiologists and communication health assistants, SAC welcomes the establishment of national professional standards in Canada and is pleased to support the professions by administering the CETP Exam.

Questions?

Send us an email: certification@sac-oac.ca



Speech-Language &
Audiology Canada
[Communicating care](#)