



# PROGRAM SPONSOR ALERT

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**DATE:**

March 7, 2025

**NUMBER:**

25-02

**SUBJECT: ADOPTED PROGRAM STANDARDS AND PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS FOR  
PRELIMINARY SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY SERVICES CREDENTIAL PROGRAMS**

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**Summary:**

New [Preliminary Speech-Language Pathology \(SLP\) Services Credential Program Standards and Performance Expectations \(SLPEs\)](#) were adopted at the [February 2025 Commission meeting](#) (see agenda item 4C) as part of the comprehensive effort to strengthen and streamline the Commission's accreditation system. These four new standards replace the current eight program design standards and eight SLP standards. In addition, nine performance expectations (SLPEs) were developed to address the necessary skills needed to enter the California public school setting as a new SLP. This PSA provides information on the expectations for institutions to transition from the current SLP standards to the newly adopted SLP standards and SLPEs.

**Background:**

The Commission's Preliminary SLP Services Credential program standards apply to institutions approved to offer, or seeking to offer, educator preparation programs leading to a California Preliminary SLP Services Credential. In continued efforts by CTC to better align program standards with national accrediting requirements, an advisory panel of school-based SLPs and higher education faculty was convened in 2024. After two virtual meetings, draft program standards and performance expectations were made available to the public for feedback in October 2024. Subsequently, changes and additions were made based on the feedback received. In February 2025, the Commission acted to adopt revised standards and performance expectations for this credential and approved the proposed transition timeline for approved programs. The revised standards document recognizes and builds on the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association's (ASHA) Council on Academic Accreditation (CAA) standards which all California SLP Master's degree programs are required to meet. The program standards and SLPEs focus on the knowledge, skills, and abilities of what is required to work in the California public school setting which eliminates duplication with the CAA standards. This

alignment to the national standards reduces redundancy while still maintaining high expectations and will eliminate the need for a Commission - ASHA CAA standards crosswalk. It is expected that all California approved SLP credential programs must maintain good standing with ASHA.

The chart below provides information on the transition to the new Preliminary SLP Services Credential program standards and performance expectations.

**Important Dates: Timeline for Implementation**

| Activity  | Timeline                  |
|---|---------------------------|
| Commission adopts proposed draft SLP program standards and performance expectations.  | February 2025             |
| Staff issues Program Sponsor Alert notifying institutions of revised standards, post changes on website   | March 2025                |
| Technical assistance is provided to programs to understand the revised SLP program standards and performance expectations.                      | Beginning July 1, 2025    |
| Technical assistance is provided to programs as they transition to the revised SLP program standards and performance expectations.              | September – December 2025 |
| Institutions submit a Transition Plan identifying the planned modifications to meet the updated program standards and performance expectations. | January – March 2026      |
| No new candidates may be enrolled in programs under the former SLP standards.   | July 1, 2026              |
| All programs are aligned with the revised SLP program standards and performance expectations.   | Academic Year 2026-27     |

**Sources:**

[ASHA CAA Standards for Accreditation of Graduate Education Programs in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology \(updated 2023\)](#)

**References:**

[Title 5 CCR 80048.9](#)

**Contact Information:**

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The Professional Services Division provides a full list of topic- and program-specific dedicated email addresses on the [Contacts webpage](#).