

May 2007



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It was great to see you at CSHA!



We enjoyed meeting so many fellow SLPs, SLPAs and students of the profession at CSHA.

Did you miss out on our handy IEP calculation wheels? Send us an e-mail with your contact information and we'll send you a wheel. They are a great tool this time of year.

Congratulations to our CSHA Raffle Winners: Megan Williamson, Christina Smith and Shari Seigworth! Enjoy shopping at Nordstrom and taking long trips with your gas cards.

We experienced an e-mail problem with our host server right around the time of CSHA, which resulted in a loss of e-mail. The problem has now been rectified. We apologize if you sent any mail that was not answered. Please try again at lvalente@epccs.net or acrotty@epccs.net.

Featured Website-Parents Helping Parents



Wow! Some terrific parent articles on a variety of diagnoses, a lending library of special education materials, and articles on demand on special

education topics.

We are impressed with the quality of sample materials we received on student self advocacy, ADHD, and keeping records for IEPs. May be a great source of information to refer parents who want more information. Great links section for many special education diagnoses including low incidence issues. Worth investigating!

<http://php.com/>

Featured Website-Speech Accent Archive



<http://accent.gmu.edu/>

The speech accent archive, from George Mason University, presents a large set of speech samples from a variety of language backgrounds. Native and non-native speakers of English read the same paragraph and are carefully transcribed. The archive can be used to compare and analyze the accents of different English speakers.

We have used this site for a quick reward for students in artic groups, or to quickly and clearly hear a variety of demographic and linguistic samples. The archive also contains a set of native language phonetic inventories so that you can perform some contrastive analyses.

Featured DVD-Speech, Language and Hearing Milestones, Birth to age Five

Available from ASHA



Covering children from birth to age five, this one-of-a-kind DVD is full of examples of normal speech, language, and hearing development and tips on when to seek treatment from speech-language pathologists and audiologists. Cost, \$15.

<http://www.asha.org/bhsm/resources>

Welcome to the field Clinical Fellows!

Job opportunities abound: How in the world do you make a good choice?

Answer: Ask good questions when interviewing, and listen hard between the lines!

Here are some suggestions for initial probes:

1. Who would be my supervisor? Can I talk with him/her directly prior to accepting the contract? What responsibilities is she giving up to work with me? Will her caseload be adjusted?
2. How many hours of supervision would you expect that I will receive? Will the hours be given on or off site? Will the hours be during school hours? What kind of IEP support will I receive?
3. Who is your current CF? May I speak with her? How many of your CFs are still with you?
4. What is my anticipated caseload? What is your average caseload this year for K-5 assignments (make sure preschool only assignments are not averaged in, as these should be substantially lower in numbers).
5. What kind of contact do your clinicians have with each other? Are there in-services during the school year?

As a comparison point, Pacific Coast Speech Services, Inc. has one CF at this time. She met with her supervisor prior to signing with our agency and choosing a contract. Our staffing coordinator, the supervisor, and the CF chose the best assignment to meet her personal and professional goals.

Her supervisor committed to being available eight hours a week initially during school hours, and reduced her other responsibilities accordingly. All of her reports are reviewed, and IEPs are attended on request. The supervision level she has received began at double the ASHA standard, with her salary increasing as her need for supervision decreased.

This level of supervision has taken an excellent CF candidate to superior in skills, and benefits us all professionally. We are proud to honor our profession by serving CFs as well as we possibly can, and encourage you to talk further to us about opportunities with Pacific Coast Speech Services, Inc. or visit our website at www.pacificcoastspeech.com for feedback from our clinicians and information on the "nuts and bolts" of contracting.

Opportunities Available

Pacific Coast Speech Services, Inc. has begun gearing up for the Fall! We have already been offered some wonderful contracts that we are considering for our contractors.

A sampling of some upcoming ideas include:

- * Full time assignment working with preschoolers, both speech only and in a collaborative SDC class.
- * Full time assignment working with high school students in a progressive district with wonderful collaboration models.
- * Part time assignment working in a K-5 environment close to the beach.
- * Part time assignment working with emotionally fragile students in a non-public school setting - small caseload and tight teamwork.

Most of our clinicians are independent contractors, which offers substantial tax advantages and the flexibility to set your own schedule around personal/professional needs.

In the past four years, we have worked for 27 out of 29 of the local school districts, which means we have maximum flexibility in choosing an assignment that fits your geographic and caseload desires.

Low bureaucracy - controlled caseloads - full or partial year commitments -cherry-picked settings - can't beat it! If you have further questions about contracting with us, or just want to explore your options, please call us at 714-731-6630 for visit our website at www.pacificcoastspeech.com.

Jokes for Kids

What do you call a fish with two knees? *A tu-nee fish!*

Why did the banana go to the doctor? *Because it was not peeling well.*

What building has the most stories? *The library!*

What bone keeps getting longer and shorter? *The trombone!*

Why do sharks only swim in salt water? *Because pepper water makes them sneeze!*

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