



SUMMARY OF CERTIFICATION/LICENSE REQUIREMENTS IN CALIFORNIA JOB SETTINGS FOR PROSPECTIVE GRADUATES TRAINED OUT OF STATE

It is strongly recommended that clinicians new to the field obtain and maintain all three to maximize future employment options. Regulations and supervision are similar, however, refer to each governing body and the [PCSS CF/RPE Flow Chart](#) for further information.

ENTRY LEVEL CERTIFICATION

PRIVATE PRACTICE

HOSPITAL OR REHAB

PRIVATE SCHOOL

PUBLIC SCHOOL

APPLICATION LINKS AND INSTRUCTIONS

APPROVAL PROCESS

WHEN CAN I BEGIN WORKING

CREDENTIALS FOR SCHOOLS (CTC)

Begin with Preliminary Speech-Language Pathology Services Credential. Upon completion of 9 months supervised experience in any setting, may move to SLP Services Credential.

Not Required

Not Required

May be required: must have either SLP Services Credential or license. Most SLPs have both.

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[Credential Application Packet](#)

Check the last page of this application link to see whether your state's training is equivalent to CA. If your state is "non-equivalent", collect the required statement from your Department Chair before you leave the program, if you might move to California. Submit this statement with your application a month before your degree is conferred.**

Your degree must be conferred before your credential can be granted. Processing is 4-12 weeks after all materials are submitted and Master's Program is complete. In some cases, the County Department of Education can expedite this process after you have been hired.

Upon approval of a preliminary credential or temporary license, you may work in a school setting.

CERTIFICATION (ASHA)

Begin as a Clinical Fellow. Requires 36 weeks of supervision after an accredited graduate program. After clinical fellowship completed, applicants can apply for a Certificate of Clinical Competence.

Required

Required

Preferred

Preferred

[ASHA Guide to Clinical Fellowship Experience](#)

There is no formal application, but follow the ASHA guidelines carefully to ensure your supervision meets ASHA requirements.

Supervision begins when you begin working. Requires either a preliminary credential (if you are in the schools) or a temporary license (generally any setting).

Dependent on your temporary license and preliminary credential approval.

CA LICENSURE (SLPAB)

Begin with RPE Temporary License. After approval of plan and a 9 month supervision period, applicants can apply for a CA Speech Pathologist License.

Required

Required

Not required if you have a California SLP Services Credential

Not required if you have a California SLP Services Credential

[Application Package for RPE Temporary License](#)

You may apply for a temporary license up to 75 days before you graduate, but you must have an assigned employment site and signed supervisor statement. You cannot work as a speech pathologist without an approved temporary license (or preliminary credential if your practice type allows this).

Submit materials as soon as they are available. Processing is 8-12 weeks after submission of the application.

Private practice, hospital, and rehab settings require temporary license approval. Schools generally require license or credential approval.

**Credential Statement Sample wording: "This letter verifies that Marissa Rivera completed a practicum with school-aged children with a grade of 'C' or better as indicated by the transcript grade for Course # XXX. Upon completion of her Master's Degree (date), she will be eligible to provide service in the K-12 public schools in our state as a speech language pathologist."