

Frequently Asked Questions (and Answers) about Graduate School Applications

1. *What is the minimum GPA and GRE score necessary to be accepted to the UGA Communication Sciences and Disorders program?*

The College of Education and Graduate School require a minimum GRE of 400 verbal and 400 quantitative. We do not have a minimum GPA, since we look at the entire application packet (letters of reference, personal statement, experiences, etc). The average GRE and GPA of students enrolled in UGA's CMSD graduate programs for the last 3 years are as follows:

Fall 2007 - GRE 1112, GPA 3.64

Fall 2006 - GRE 1039, GPA 3.55

Fall 2005 - GRE 1090, GPA 3.60

Please note that means some individual's scores are below these numbers, and some are above. They are **not** a 'standard' or 'minimum' for applying to our program.

2. *How do you get an assistantship?*

Assistantships tend to be awarded to truly top-tier students, because there just isn't enough money to go around. They also tend to be awarded on the basis of academic/scholarly criteria, including grades, GRE scores, and demonstrated interest in research or teaching (and awarded only to people who apply for them, so apply for everything for which you qualify). Complete the assistantship application page entitled "Financial Aid Application."

3. *If there's an area that really interests us, like cochlear implants, can we specialize or focus on that area?*

The majority of your master's level coursework will be dictated by the certification and licensing requirements that your program is designed to prepare you to meet. On the other hand, you can 'specialize' by doing thesis research in a given area, by selecting certain optional courses, by doing directed reading or research with a given professor, or by requesting certain types of clinical placements. When selecting a graduate program and you know you are interested in a particular topic, find a department that has active researchers and/or clinicians working in that area. Take a look at our faculty web page to see if our faculty are doing research in an area you are interested in pursuing.

4. *What if you have an undergraduate degree in something other than CSD? Are you able to apply to UGA's program?*

Yes. If you have completed a bachelor's degree in any field and do not have any undergraduate CSD courses, you would apply to our "3-year" program, which includes 1 year of undergraduate required courses in the field. If you have completed a bachelor's degree in any field AND also have completed undergraduate courses in CSD (<http://www.coe.uga.edu/csse/csd/masters-slp/index.html>), you may qualify to apply for the "2-year" program.

5. *What if you're interested in the PhD program?*

Great! There is a shortage and need of Ph.D.s in the field. Take a look at the consecutive MA/PhD program we (and other) Universities offer or look at other related fields (i.e., neuroscience or linguistics).

A final note: Good luck! Please feel free to contact me or any of the CSD faculty if you have other questions – we'd be happy to talk with you.

Rebecca Shisler Marshall, PhD
Associate Professor & Graduate Coordinator
Communication Sciences & Special Education
University of Georgia
Athens, GA 30602
706.583.0737(v)
www.coe.uga.edu/csse

Page last updated 2-18-09